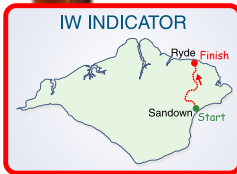
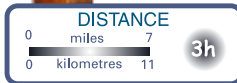


Nunwell Trail



This walk starts in Sandown, finishes in Ryde, passes water meadows and crosses the spine of chalk downland that runs the length of the Island.



View to Sandown

Nunwell Trail Sights

From the Nature Reserve Bird Hide, it is possible to see the only regular colony of Sand Martins on the Island. Other birds include Blackcap, Garden Warbler, Chiffchaff and Willow Warbler.

From the top of Brading Down there are panoramic views which encompass the whole of the East Wight, Solent and Spithead.

The Isle of Wight Steam Railway runs from Havenstreet, West to Wootton and East to Ryde. The railway crosses the trail near Smallbrook. There is a station at Smallbrook Junction.

There are a selection of pubs, restaurants and eateries on Sandown Esplanade.

- 1 Start from Sandown Railway Station. Leave the station on the South-side and turn right out of the station courtyard. Follow through the underpass and at the exit, take the footpath signed 'Adgestone'. Continue North West through the Sandown High School playing fields. Pass left of the water works then along the bridleway (SS47), keeping the golf course on the left.

After leaving the golf course continue along the path over the bridge, through the 5 bar wooden gate and continue straight ahead to another gate.

- 2 Continue along the well-defined bridleway, which turns sharp right but follows a semi-circle pattern on your left. Ignore the signed path to Adgestone and do not cross the stream. Continue to the sign marked 'Footpath NC17 Alverstone'.

Follow this direction through the woods to the gate passing the Nature Reserve Bird Hide on the right. Bear right to the stile; continue to the second stile, then over the decking to the stile leading to the road. Turn right along the road, over Alverstone Bridge and through the village. Continue North for about 100 metres where the road through the village turns a sharp right. Leave the road at this point proceeding straight ahead up a lane, which becomes a bridleway after passing two houses.

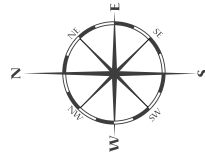
- 3 This path climbs gradually, then steeply up to the top of Brading Down to meet the Newport - Brading Road.

Turn right along this road for 500 metres, before passing through a gate on the left. Follow the track (B30) through a field gate, keeping to the left of the fence. Continue over the rise then downhill and bear right to a further gate.

- 5 Go through the gate, keeping the hedge on your right and proceed to another gate. Go through the gate and turn left. Keep the woodland to your left and proceed to the gate in the corner of the field to Whitefield Farm. Pass through another farm gate and turn right to walk between building stock yard, through another gate out of the farm and then along farm track, bearing slightly right and sharply left around field boundary to crossing of steam railway line. After crossing the railway follow bridleway to join Ashley Road. Always take care when crossing railway lines.

- 6 Turn right and follow the road approximately 150 metres and turn right into Smallbrook Stadium. Follow footpath R50 that runs behind the stadium and along the edge of the Council yard, turning right onto Smallbrook Lane.

- 7 After passing over the railway bridge take the path on the left beside the railway track (taking care especially with small children), continuing until the built-up area is reached. Bear right immediately past Oakfield Football ground, then left into Oakfield High Street. Turn right into St Johns and left down St Johns Hill to St Johns Railway Station where the trail ends and you will see The Hole in the Wall pub with family beer garden.



Adgestone



Esplanade at Ryde

Turn left through the gate and continue, with the wood on your right to join the road at Nunwell West Lodge. Nunwell House is on the right.

- 4 Turn left along the road past Nunwell Farm to the road junction. Turn right at the road junction then left at the fork onto Harding Shute after a few metres. Continue along the road for about 400 metres, turn left just past the farm pond at Hardingshute Farm, and follow farm track with hedge on your right to the corner of the copse.

The walk can be continued into the centre of Ryde by turning right over the bridge into Monkton Street. Continue down the hill 800 metres and turn left into East Street. Continue until you reach Dover Street, turn right and cross over the Esplanade to the seafront, where you will find bus stops for connections around the Island.

For Red Funnel ferry information and places to stay, visit www.redfunnel.co.uk or phone the Travel Centre on 0844 844 9988

