

Pedal Around Purbeck

'Out of Car Experience - Cycling in Purbeck'

Cycle routes around Purbeck between 8 & 47 miles



Corfe Castle
Clouds Hill
Lulworth Castle

*Seven cycle rides through
Purbeck and the Dorset
Area of Outstanding
Natural Beauty*



Information

Safe Cycling

- Check your cycle is in good working order
- Always carry refreshments and a cycle repair kit
- Wear reflective material, carry lights and take waterproofs
- It is advisable to wear a cycle helmet
- Increase the gap between cycles and cycle slowly when going downhill, especially on narrow lanes
- On narrow lanes always ride in single file and be ready for fast traffic as well as when crossing main roads
- Follow the Highway Code at all times

Please follow the Countryside Code:

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Photographic credits: Richard Elston - English Nature, John Farman and Mark Simons.

Parking

Long stay car parking is available at Stretche Road - off West Street, Wareham.
Norden Car Park - Steam trains leave regularly for Corfe Castle and Swanage.
For opening times ring Purbeck or Swanage Tourist Information.

Railway Stations

There are railway stations on the London to Weymouth line at Wareham, Wool and Moreton. Telephone 08457 48 49 50 for train times or visit www.southwesternrailway.com

Maps

These routes can be followed on the Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure Map No.15 (Purbeck and South Dorset)

Tourist Information Centres

Free leaflets on where to eat and drink, beaches and events happening in Purbeck as well as guidebooks, maps, postcards, stamps and a small selection of gifts are available from:

Discover Purbeck Information Centre,
South Street, Wareham
Tel: 01929 552740
Website: www.visit-dorset.com
Email: discoverpurbeck@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Swanage Information Centre
Shore Road, Swanage
Tel: 01929 766018
Website: www.swanage.gov.uk
Email: welcome@swanage.gov.uk



Designed 2008. Updated by Dorset Council 2019.
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Produced by the Purbeck Action for Cycling Team (PACT) which was a group of representatives from British Cycling, Dorset AONB, Dorset Cyclists Network, CTC, Dorset Rough Riders, Forestry Commission, Sustrans and local authorities to tackle cycling issues in Purbeck.

Whilst every care has been taken in the production of this leaflet, Dorset Council cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information and accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions.

Purbeck Cycle Routes

Distance: 8 miles to 47 miles

Route 1 - Priory Ride 8 miles

A pleasant, gentle cycle route through the Frome Valley from the historic walled town of Wareham to the villages of East and West Holme.

Suggested starting point: Purbeck School and Sports Centre
Time needed: Average, 1 hour
Degree of difficulty: No hills or off-road sections

Route 2 - Rempstone Ride 12 miles +

An exhilarating, mainly off-road route from Norden to Studland and Shell Bay via the Rempstone Estate, passing through fields, wood, sand and heathland, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest with rare flower species and wildlife habitats.

Suggested starting point: Norden Car Park
Time needed: 3 hours to a full day
Degree of difficulty: Conditions vary from easy to difficult. Some sandy and muddy sections. Suitable for families with children over 10 years old.

Route 3 - Castle Ride 12 miles

Explore this route across Hartland Moor, enjoying the fantastic views of Corfe Castle, then cycle on through leafy lanes to the village of Church Knowle and the tranquil Blue Pool.

Suggested starting point: Norden Car Park
Time needed: 2-3 hours
Degree of difficulty: No off-road sections. Steep hill between Church Knowle and the Blue Pool.

Route 4 - Lawrence Ride 22 miles

A medium length route through the Frome Valley, taking in Moreton Church, Lawrence of Arabia's last resting-place and looping to the north of Purbeck across Bere Heath.

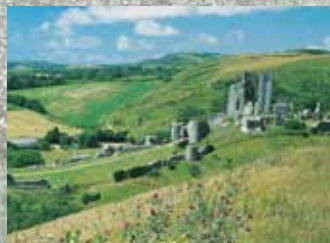
Suggested starting point: Purbeck School and Sports Centre
Time needed: 4-5 hours
Degree of difficulty: Some light off-road sections near Moreton and Briantspuddle.



Wareham Quay



Studland heath



Corfe Castle



Clouds Hill cottage

Route 5 - East Lulworth Ride 18 miles +

An invigorating ride through the beautiful countryside surrounding Lulworth Castle with an extended route down to Lulworth Cove. Some of the hills may be steep but the views are definitely worth the effort.

Suggested starting point: Wareham Quay
Time needed: 3-4 hours +
Degree of difficulty: No off-road sections. Hilly in parts, particularly around Coombe Keynes.

Route 6 - Purbeck Ride 47 miles

A long distance route for the dedicated cyclist, encompassing stunning coastal views, beautiful rural landscapes and interesting historic landmarks.

Suggested starting point: Wareham Quay
Time needed: All day/weekend for entire route. Alternatively can be ridden in small sections.
Degree of difficulty: Mainly on road, some very steep hills to the south west of the route around Lulworth.

Northport Greenway and Sika Cycle Trail 8 ½ miles

A great opportunity to cycle from Wareham Quay into Wareham Forest for an off-road experience. The Northport Greenway runs through the quiet streets of Wareham and onto Northmoor Park via the train station, where it then joins the Sika Cycle Trail.

Suggested starting point: Wareham Quay or Train Station
Time needed: 1-2 hours or all day (picnic areas provided)
Degree of difficulty: Easy route into Wareham Forest with tracked routes through heath and woodland on the Sika Cycle Trail.



Lulworth Cove



Bluebell woods



Sika Deer

Individual route leaflets are available from Tourist Information and Visitor Centres in Purbeck for a small charge or download them for free from www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/cycling/purbeck

Cycle Parking in Purbeck

Arne

RSPB Reserve x 10

Bovington

Tank Museum x 8

Corfe Castle

Corfe Castle Railway Station x 5

Entrance to Castle
(chain on wall opposite ticket office)

Norden Car Park x 15

Harmans Cross

Village car park x 4

Holton Heath

Holton Heath Railway Station x 4

Lulworth

Lulworth Castle x 5

Lytchett Matravers

Library x 5

Ridge

Sunnyside Farm x 3

Moreton

Moreton Railway Station x 6

Studland

National Trust Car Parks at Shell Bay, Knoll,
Middle and South Beach

Swanage

Mowlem Theatre x 4

In front of Stone Quay x 4

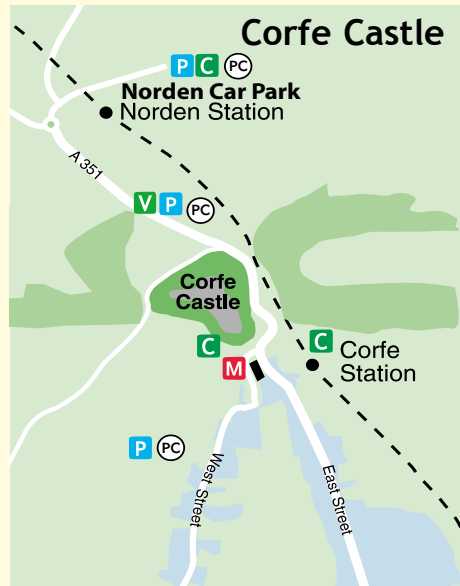
Post Office x 2

Swanage Railway Station x 4

Swanage Library x 2

King George Playing Field x 2

Durlston Country Park x 2



Wool

Wool Railway Station x 10

Wareham

Outside the Old Granary Public House on
Wareham Quay x 2

St Mary's Church x 12 (concrete blocks on
ground, not lockable)

St John's Square x 3

Howards Lane car park x 4

Bonnets Lane East car park x 2

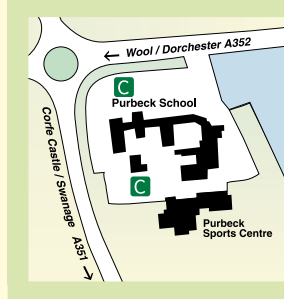
Sports Centre x 5 (outside reception)

Purbeck School (approx
50 under cover)

Wareham Station x 5
(next to ticket office
on platform)

Sainsbury's car park x 6
Outside Library, South
Street x 4

Dorset Council x 4
(outside reception)



Bike Shops & Hire

Cycle Experience

Norden Car Park, Near Corfe Castle, BH20 5DW
Tel: 01929 481606 www.cycllex.co.uk/hire-dorset

Hints to Keep Your Bike Safe

- 1 Use 2 or 3 different types of lock
- 2 Lock your bike to something which won't move
- 3 Don't rest D-locks on the ground, as they are easier to break
- 4 Ask someone to keep an eye on your bike if possible
- 5 Remember to lock your bike up at home, even if it's within a locked garden shed or garage
- 6 Ask police to postcode stamp your bike, make a note of the serial number and take photos of your bike in case of theft
- 7 It is advisable to insure yourself and your bicycle in case of an accident.

Hints to Keep Yourself Safe

Helmets

Cycle helmets should fit snugly and rest a little above the eyebrows. The straps should be adjusted so that there is no slackness. Helmets should meet at least one of the following standards - BS EN 1078:1997 (European standard), BS 6863:1989 (British standard) or Snell B.95 (American standard).

Visibility

In poor visibility conditions it is important to be seen. Bikes being ridden on a public road in the dark must be fitted with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. Lights should conform to BS 6102/3. Wearing reflective and fluorescent clothing helps to make cyclists more conspicuous.

Please note: The representation of a track or path is no evidence of a public right of way. This is not a Definitive Map of Rights of Way and has no legal status. Users of all routes shown in this leaflet do so entirely at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety, and the safety of others using the same route. We cannot guarantee that all routes will be passable, particularly in wet weather.

Cycle Clubs & Groups

Dorset Cyclists' Network - Purbeck Branch

A campaign group working with other organisations to promote cycling, improve cycle network conditions and also organises bike rides through Purbeck Freewheelers.

Web: www.dcn.org.uk

Purbeck Freewheelers

Organised guided cycle rides around Purbeck every Wednesday from April to August, starting at Purbeck Sports Centre. Contact John Thraves for details. Tel: 01929 554550.

Wessex CTC - West Dorset and other Wessex sections

A division of the National Cyclists Touring Club of Britain, catering for all types of touring and recreational cycling. Campaigns for facilities for cyclists and organises a programme of events.

Web: www.wessexctc.org

Dorset Rough Riders

Mountain biking/off-road cyclists club. Organises a programme of events.

Web: www.dorsetroughriders.com

Sustrans

The UK's leading sustainable transport charity. Works on practical projects to give people the choice to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment. Sustrans Information Line: 0845 113 0065.

Web: www.sustrans.org.uk

U3A (University of the Third Age) - Purbeck Branch

Membership open to those over 50 years. Meets in Wareham and Swanage, and organises a programme of events featuring cycling.

Web: www.purbecku3a.org.uk



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