Northern Forest Circular

A ride through the open expanses of the northern New Forest.

The views in the north of the Forest are some of the best in the National Park. With beautiful rolling hills you can see for miles over heathland and woodland. This unique and special landscape lends itself to an inspiring cycle.

**Be Forest Friendly:** When approaching people and animals on your bike please call out a warning and pass slowly and wide.

1. Exit car park

Exit Appleslade Bottom car park and take a right at the main road.

2. Past Red Shoot Inn

At waymarker 45, take a left towards the Red Shoot Inn and Red Shoot Campsite. Follow the road round to the left and downhill until a ford where the track turns to gravel.

3. Left-hand fork

Shortly after the gravel track begins, there is a split in the track. Take the left-hand fork.

4. Take left fork again

Continue straight on at waymarker 44 past a small collection of buildings. The track splits again at waymarker 43, take the left fork.

5. Left past low wooden gate

Continue following the track past a few more buildings and waymarker 42. On a right-hand bend there is waymarker 41, take a left past a low wooden gate.
6. Through a gate

Continue on the track and through a gate at waymarker 40.

7. Through another gate

At waymarker 38 go through another gate.

8. Bear left

As you pass waymarker 37 bear around to the left.

9. Right-hand bend

Take a right around the bend at the waymarker 36 crossroads, then head through an open gate at waymarker 54 and up a hill.

10. Heathland

Bear around left following the track at waymarker 53 as the heathland opens out.

11. Onto minor road

At waymarker 52, turn left onto the minor road and continue straight on.

Caution: the road is quite narrow here.

12. Left towards Stoney Cross

At the next junction take a left towards Stoney Cross and Fritham.

13. Left towards Fritham

Continue along this road for a long while past waymarkers 56 and 55, then along a straight section of road that used to be a runway in WWII at Stoney Cross Airfield. At the T-junction at the end of the long straight, take a left towards Fritham.

14. Left turn

Pass waymarker 33 on your left and Janesmoor Pond car park on the right. After passing two entrances to Janesmoor Pond car park on your right, a few hundred meters on the left is a tarmaced road into Fritham, take this left.

15. Left by barns

Follow the road into the village.

Caution: the road narrows downhill. At the next T-junction by some barns and waymarker 18, take a left.

16. Onto cycle network
Follow the road straight ahead until you reach Fritham car park at waymarker 15. There is a right turning through a low green gate. Go through the gate at waymarker 14 onto the cycle network.

17. Long downhill

Follow the cycle track down a long hill. Continue on this track for a while passing waymarker 13.
Continue on past waymarkers 12 and 11.

18. Hills and bunkers

**Caution:** at waymarker 10 there is a steep uphill section to climb. Take care here and good luck. This is one of the steepest hills to cycle in the Forest!

At the top take a break at waymarker 9. If you walk along the track to the right a few paces you can see an old WWII bunker that was used during fragment bomb testing.

19. Grand Slam

Continue along the cycle track until waymarker 8. Enjoy the great views as the Forest opens out to heathland.

Take the left fork at waymarker 8. Shortly after to the right there is a distinct mound. If you walk to the top of it you can see some of the WWII bomb craters tested at Ashley Walk Bombing Range.

20. Aiming arrow

Continuing along the cycle track keep an eye out on the left for the WWII concrete arrow used to point towards an illuminated bombing target. The arrow is a little tricky to spot, if you see a trig point to the right you have missed it. The best way to find it is to look for a walking path leading down the hill shortly before it appears.

21. The last track

Continue along the track past waymarkers 7 through to 4.

22. Abbots Well Road

At waymarker 4 join the quiet road and head uphill along Abbots Well Road towards Frogham.

Take the left turn shortly after the Foresters Arms (not the turning opposite) down Blissford Hill.

23. Hyde

At Hyde Primary school, with the village green on your right, take a left turn down Gorley Lynch.

Continue over a crossroads and past Hyde Garden Shop, there is a tea room here.

As the road bends round to the left take care on the sharp bend.
24. Valley bound

Continue into the valley and follow the road as it bends around to the right, over a small bridge and then take a right at the crossroads towards Gorley.

Enjoy following the bubbling Huckles Brook beside the road for some time.

25. South Gorley

Eventually you will pass a village green triangle in South Gorley, continue on the road around to the left there, following a sign towards Ringwood.

26. Ford

Continue along this road for a while over any junctions until you can see Moyles Court School on your right.

Caution: there is a ford to cross here.

After you cross the ford, follow the road to the left as it forks. Then at the T-junction turn left.

27. Back to Appleslade car park

Follow this road for a long while through the valley until you reach Linwood.

Appleslade car park is on the right.

Did you enjoy this route? Then let others know by rating it on our website