

BHS Paralympic Legacy Access Project

Route 20 – New Forest



PLAP Route 20 – New Forest

Distance: approximately 9.5 miles

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer Map Number OL22 (Map 1:25000)

This route is easily accessed from the end of the M27 Junction 1 which continues as the A31, west of Southampton, east of Ringwood. The drive consists of approximately 5.5 miles of off-road sandy tracks and four miles of quiet tarmac lanes.

To access the enclosures on the route, a key has to be bought from the Forestry Commission. Please contact Jane Albery on 02380 283141 for your permit and allow two weeks for your application to be processed. The permit costs £15 for one month.

This route has been researched by Roger Page, BDS, assisted by Gail Johnson, BDS Access representative for Hampshire.

Route Description

Leave the parking area, turn right on the tarmac road, and continue for about 200 yards. This is the only busy road on the route. Take the first junction on your left signed Fritham. At the T-junction turn left and continue past the Royal Oak pub then turn left at the far end of the green.

Keep straight ahead to the wooden locked barrier, unlock it and continue across Fritham Plain down Ragged Boys Hill and across the ford at Holly Hatch Cottage (caution: there are no sides on the bridge). Continue on the gravel track and bear left into Holly Hatch enclosure.

At the crossroads of gravel tracks, turn right along the track and continue straight through Broomy enclosure to Woodford Bottom. Unlock the bar/barrier and turn left to High Corner Inn.

On leaving the Inn turn right up the gravel track to a tarmac road, then left along the tarmac road. After about 1.25 miles turn left on a sharp right-hand bend, then turn left on a gravel track. After a few hundred yards take the right fork past Broomy Lodge and continue on the track in Broomy enclosure until you reach the crossroads on gravel tracks.

Turn right in wooded area (Holly Hatch enclosure), then in about 100 yards go through the gate and continue right up the hill, on the least used gravel track. After about 150 yards go through the locked gate then turn immediately left onto open forest track which is followed by a concrete road towards and past Cadman's Pool, then go through the barrier and after a few yards turn left at the T-junction on to a tarmac road. After approximately one mile you will reach the original road, you started on (turn left at the T-junction). The parking area is a short distance ahead on your right-hand side.

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General Information

Please note: animals roam freely in the forest. You may meet donkeys, cattle and ponies (however, pigs are not usually found in this part of the forest). Stallions are turned out only in spring.

Parking: Parking is available at Janesmoor Pond (north of A31) (grid reference SU 248134). This cannot be accessed from the A31 when travelling from the east (Southampton). To reach the pond from this direction, take the B3078 signed Fritham (last exit) off the roundabout at the end of the M27 Junction 1. After three miles, turn left at the junction signed Fritham. After approximately one mile there is a large car park at Janesmoor Pond on the left-hand side. If you are coming from the West turn left off A31 at Stoney Cross. Parking is approximately one mile from this junction on the right-hand side.

Insurance: The BHS recommends that before undertaking any part of this route, both horse and rider should be adequately insured against public liability. The British Horse Society can provide public liability and personal accident insurance cover as well as many benefits if you join as a member (terms and conditions and territorial limits apply). For more information or to join, visit www.bhs.org.uk/membership.

Feedback: These routes are kept to the standard that the local authority can afford. They were all accessible at the time of launch and are on definitive public rights of way. If you experience any problems with the routes or wish to raise any concerns, please contact the local authority, your local BHS Access Officer or the Access Team at BHS HQ via access@bhs.org.uk.

About the Paralympic Legacy Access Project

In 2013, the BHS launched the Paralympic Legacy Access Project (PLAP), dedicated to identifying and promoting 20 off-road routes across Britain. The 12-mile circular routes were recognised to suit the needs of carriage drivers with physical limitations.

The project was inspired by an anonymous donation to commemorate the achievements of the Paralympics and Para World Carriage Driving Championship in 2012. Launched by BHS President, Martin Clunes, the 20 routes were all tested prior to launch.

A huge thank you to those who volunteered their time, knowledge and input to create the routes of the Paralympic Legacy Access Project.

Discover more at www.bhs.org.uk/carriagedriving

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Contact Us

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Find out more

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