

Introduction

This is one of a series of routes that may be enjoyed by all including wheelchair users, families with pushchairs, those wanting a more gentle walk and walkers who are less mobile. The route has been selected as it has no barriers, such as stiles or steps. Detailed information on the route is provided - it is up to the user to decide what is suitable for them. Every effort has been made to ensure the information is correct at the time of publication, however things change over time. West Sussex County Council would like to thank John and Jenifer Fox for providing the inspiration to publish easy countryside trail information.

Other routes can be found on the West Sussex County Council website: www.westsussex.gov.uk



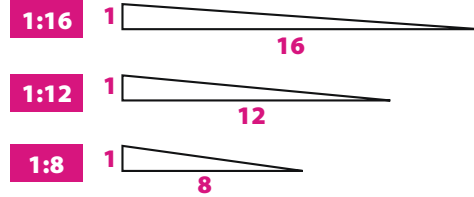
Public Travel



Some of the routes are accessible by public transport, for further information please visit www.westsussex.gov.uk or contact Travel line on 0871 200 22 33



Gradients



Gradients of slopes have been shown to help you decide if a route is suitable. To help you relate to these gradients we have attempted to describe them below assuming an average wheelchair user with an averagely strong pusher.

1:16
Gentle slope. Extra effort may be required over long distances. Gradients less than 1:16 have not been measured as they are considered easy going.

1:16 - 1:13
Fairly gentle slope, extra effort will be noticeable over longer distances.

1:12
Slope noticeable but not particularly steep, extra effort will be required over medium to long distances.

1:11 - 1:8
Steeper slopes, will require extra effort even over short distances. Only short sections of gradients of this steepness are found on any of the routes in this booklet.

> 1:8
Steep slope - nothing of this steepness will be encountered on these walks.

Please follow the Countryside Code and respect the local area you are visiting.



Key to maps Please note that some symbols may not be used on this walk.

- Easy Access Trail
- Extension to Easy Access Trail
- Public Footpath or Bridleway
- Permissive Path
- River/Stream/Canal
- Waterway/Water Channel
- Parkland/Wooded Area
- Urban/Built-up Area
- Parking
- Gradient Information
- Seating or Picnic Area
- Refreshments
- Church
- Caravan Park
- Gate
- Marshland



Chichester Canal

<i>Distance</i>	1km (0.6 miles) round trip
<i>Terrain</i>	Tarmac Maximum gradient: 1:8, undulating with a few steeper sections
<i>Start/finish</i>	Visitor Centre car park Grid reference: TQ 160 258 Post code: RH13 9UN
<i>Directions</i>	Southwater Country Park is 5.5km/3.4 miles south of Horsham, and is signed from the A24
<i>O.S. Maps</i>	Explorer 120, Landranger 197
<i>Public Transport</i>	Bus stop: Cripplegate Lane, Horsham
<i>Points of interest</i>	Wildlife including birds and butterflies, water activities
<i>Facilities</i>	The Park is open every day of the year, 8am to dusk, and is free to enter. The Visitor Centre, which offers information, toilets (including disabled toilet), a café and a play area, is open every weekend and most days during the school holidays, with limited opening times during the winter months
<i>Other</i>	Well behaved dogs are welcome at the Park. They must be on a lead from April to September when wildlife is breeding and the Park is at its busiest. Dog bins are provided and poop must be scooped

The Country Park, situated on the site of an old brickworks, was opened in 1985. The site is managed by Horsham District Council.

Nestled in the heart of Southwater Village, this 70 acre Country Park, with its three lakes, species rich grassland, easy access paths and range of facilities is a very appealing spot. Cripplegate Lake is the focal point of the Park. The slightly undulating path follows the perimeter of the lake and can be followed in either direction around the lake. The reed beds, sloping grasslands, pockets of coppice and mature woodland make this busy park a haven for wildlife such as lizards, kingfishers, butterflies and dragonflies. There is seating at various locations around the lake and at the far end there is a large open area of grassland overlooking the lake which is great for a picnic.



Southwater Country Park

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