

The New Forest



The New Forest National Park is a unique landscape of ancient woodland, heather-covered heath, wide lawns, boggy mires, gentle farmland, coastal saltmarsh and mudflats and picturesque villages such as Burley and Lyndhurst.

It is one of the last places in the south-east of England to offer a sense of wildness and tranquillity. As the largest remaining area of lowland heath in Europe, it gives the flavour of a landscape that was once much more extensive.

Today it is a wonderful area to explore. It is especially rich in wildlife and visitors can enjoy a host of sights that make a trip special, including ancient oaks, wild flowers, fungi, deer, reptiles, birds of prey and dragonflies.

Christchurch

Few places in the country can boast two rivers, two castles, an 11th century Priory Church, a mill of Saxon origin, a medieval bridge and the site of a civil war siege in 1645, so it's no wonder that people have been visiting Christchurch for hundreds of years.



The historic Priory Quarter is right in the heart of the town centre so you won't have to walk far to enjoy the fascinating heritage. Close to the Priory Church is the Red House Museum and Gardens, the Convent Walk and the ruins of the Norman Hall and Christchurch Castle.

There's fun and activity on Christchurch Quay where you will find Place Mill, the Bandstand, motor boat hire, ferry trips to Mudeford Sandbank and Tuckton, a children's play area and the new Splashpark.

Highcliffe and the Beaches



Highcliffe's attractive coastline, with its panoramic views of the Isle of Wight to the east and the Purbecks to the west is just a few minutes' walk from the award-winning village centre. The unspoilt beaches are great for water sports, swimming and body boarding or for just lazing around and can be accessed through a series of zig zag paths from the large cliff top car park.

The 2.4 mile Christchurch Coastal Path extends from Highcliffe cliff top to Highcliffe Castle, a magnificent Grade 1 listed mansion set in attractive cliff-top grounds, and then through Steamer Point Nature Reserve to Mudeford Quay.