

Footpaths and Open Access

Footpaths are for the use of pedestrians only and will be signposted by yellow symbol: or arrows



Some parts of this route are mapped as open access land. Look out for the new access symbol shown right. For more information visit gov.uk/right-of-way-open-access-land.



Useful contacts:

Dorset Countryside Rangers/Rights of Way Team	01305 221000
Discover Purbeck Information Centre (Wareham)	01929 552740
Environment Agency	03708 506506

Keeping Purbeck Special

While out on your walk, 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 on a short lead during bird nesting season (March to August) and near farm animals (all year).
- Consider other people

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.

Other walking leaflets available: Purbeck Way, Purbeck Way West, Wareham Forest Way and The Lawrence of Arabia Trail.

Large print leaflets are available on request.
Please call 01258 456970 for further information.



Photo credits: Environment Agency and Ian Cross. Designed by Purbeck District Council, updated by Dorset Council 2019.



THE WAREHAM TWO RIVERS WALKS



Ragged Robin



Reeds at River Frome



Damselfly



River Frome

Spend a couple hours walking one of the routes in between the rivers Frome and Piddle.

Frome to the Piddle with History in the Middle

The rivers Frome and Piddle flow through Wareham into Poole Harbour, one of the largest natural harbours in the world.

Before Poole Harbour became the busy port of today, Wareham Quay was the main place for trading. The Frome carried all sorts of goods to and from Wareham including leather, salt, corn and clay pipes.

Wareham Quay is still used for trading as it hosts the Saturday market. It is also a popular place for fishing, rowing boats or simply watching the rippling river flow by.

Following the walks

We have suggested two circular routes for you to follow, which start at Wareham Quay. You can walk in either direction, following footpaths and quiet roads. Look out for the lapwing logo or Two Rivers Walks signposts showing you which way to go.



Wareham Common



Cetti's warbler



River Piddle

Suggested circular routes

Frome to the Piddle – 2¼ miles or 3.75km. Approx. 1½ hours.

Stroll along quiet roads, then up onto Wareham Walls. Look down onto the River Piddle and Wareham Common from one of the many benches on top of the Walls, then follow the banks of the River Piddle through Wareham Common.

Pigs and Piddle – 3¼ miles or 5.25km. Approx. 1¾ hours.

Follow quiet roads and farm tracks to Swineham. In old English, Swineham means 'where the swine are kept'. There are no pigs here now, but the saltmarshes, reedbeds and mudflats of Poole Harbour stretch out before you.

The route then travels through grassland and later woodland, back towards Wareham.

Make sure you wear suitable footwear and clothing for the weather – wellington boots are best in winter or after heavy rain. Long sleeve tops and trousers are best to guard against brambles and nettles in summer.

Where cattle, sheep or ponies are grazing, take notice of signs about closing gates and keep dogs on short leads.



Wareham Quay

Public Transport Information

Wilts and Dorset buses - hourly service (No 40) between Poole and Swanage, stopping at Wareham.
Tel: 01202 338420

First Dorset buses – 2 hourly service (No X54) between Poole and Weymouth, stopping at Wareham. Tel: 0333 014 3490
South Western Railway train stations are located at Wareham on the Weymouth to London Waterloo line. Tel: 0345 6000 650. The Northport Greenway provides a walking route between Wareham Station and The Quay.

The Wareham Two Rivers Walks

