



Isle of Wight
area of outstanding
natural beauty

Celebrating our Landscape 1^o in association with the IW Ramblers

ramblers
at the heart of walking

Arreton and St George's Down Sandstone Hills and Gravel Ridges

Part of a series of 11 walks to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the Island

Landscape: The high Greensand hills (Sandstone Hills), in general support pasture except on steeper slopes. These slopes are often planted with mixed forestry.

Description: Undulating walk over St George's Down.

Distance: 6.3 miles

Start: Lay by near Arreton Cross.

Access Information: Hilly walk over the downs and a level return along a cycleway. Several stiles and steps.

Refreshments: Walker friendly pubs in Arreton

Toilets: Patrons of pubs in Arreton

Route: From the lay by (1) walk to the road bend and carefully cross this busy road. Go on the by-way A28 towards St George's Down. At the top of the hill at a path junction Great East Standen (2), go right on a bridleway to pass through the gated manor grounds. Opposite Rose Cottage (3) go left over a stile and half left up a field, then left following the hedge to a stile at the rear of the manor (4).

Go right and cross the field to find a stile into a copse (5). Cross the next stile into access land and descend to another stile. Cross the field descending steeply to a stile in a hedge line to the left of a corner. (6) Cross the bridge and keep to the left path. After a stile go right following the fence to a golf course.

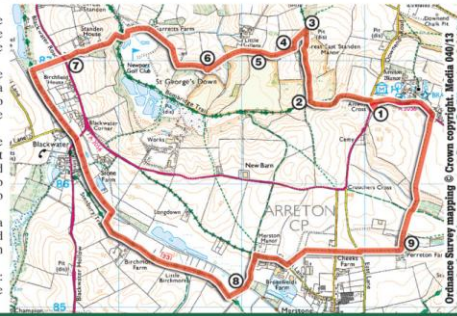
Cross the fairway and go right to the end of a line of trees. Continue across a fairway to a waymark post and continue ahead. At the 9th tee follow the track right and continue towards the clubhouse taking the left path across two fairways and crossing a lake.

Descend through woodland passing Standen House to reach the main road (7). Cross and take the permissive path just to the left of a green gate. After the cricket ground go left on the long cycle path no 23 and follow this to cross the main road at Blackwater and to Little Birchmore.

The path goes left and here leaves the cycleway (8). Continue straight ahead to pass a farm and reach Merstone Manor. Go right past industrial units and then left to follow footpath A1 to cross a field corner, lanes, stiles and then two fields to reach Perreton Farm (9). Go through the farm and through three farm gates to reach a pond. Go left around the pond, up a slope and over a stile.

Cross a field, go right and soon left to follow the outside edge of a wood, over a stile and half left up a steep slope to a stile. Cross a field to reach the main road at Arreton. Follow the footway left and then return to the lay by.

GPS Users: Waypoints for this walk can be found at our website: <http://www.iowramblers.com/page5.htm>. All walks in this series can be downloaded from this website.



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