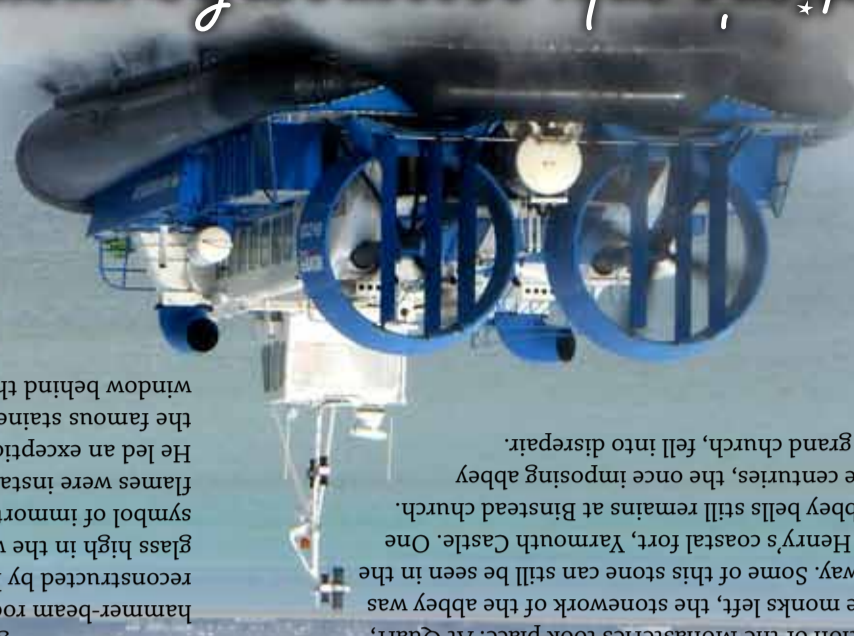


# Ryde Sands

where the nation's only passenger hovercraft service links Ryde with Southampton



A concert pavilion was constructed at the pier head in 1895, and from then until 1911, the wooden piles were gradually replaced with iron. The lifeboat station closed in 1922 and, in June 1924, Southern Railway took over the pier. In the early 1930s the pier was rebuilt in concrete. After the Second World War, the pavilion concert hall was used as a ballroom.

In 1969 the nave was severely damaged by a fire which broke out in the gallery. The gallery panelling and hammer-beam roof, both copies of the original, were reconstructed by local craftsmen. The glorious stained glass high in the west windows depicting a peacock, a symbol of immortality, and a phoenix rising from the flames were installed in the 1970s by Lawrence Lee. He led an exceptional group of artists who designed the famous stained glass at Coventry Cathedral. The window behind the pulpit was also by Lawrence Lee.

In 1907 the monks returned to Quarr, the Benedictine "black monks" – so-called because of the colour of their habit – of the French Solismes congregation. A new, more modern Quarr Abbey has arisen – Our Lady of Quarr, this time built in brick, designed by Dom Bellot. The small community of Benedictines grew and is now well established; they have worked hard to bring life to both the new and old abbeys.

## Pier to Creek Ryde to Wootton

**Description** A linear walk along very good paths which are suitable for families. There is an opportunity to visit Binstead Church and Quarr Abbey. **Distance** 3.6 miles. **Start** Bus station at Ryde Esplanade. **Access information** There are no stiles, some inclines. Most of the paths are suitable for cyclists and families with buggies. **Refreshments** Ryde pubs, and cafes. Tea room at Quarr. Pub at Fishbourne. **Toilets** Patrons of pubs and cafés. **Internet** All walks in this series can be downloaded from this website [www.iowramblers.com/page44.htm](http://www.iowramblers.com/page44.htm) or [www.islandbuses.info/things-do/rambles-bus/](http://www.islandbuses.info/things-do/rambles-bus/)



Front cover Quarr Abbey  
This page Westfield Park Lodge

In 1969, the tramway closed and the pier was partly dismantled, leaving gaps between the promenade and railway piers.

In December 1976, a five year re-planing operation was completed. In the early 1980s, a covered waiting area, replacing the Victorian waiting rooms, was constructed on the pier-head. More parking spaces were also provided.

Trains still leave from the pier-head and ferries maintain a regular service from this 2,305-foot pier to Portsmouth harbour.

**Quarr Abbey**  
The Cistercian abbey was founded in 1132, and was a flourishing farming community – it took its name from the local quarrying of limestone. The site was well chosen to have access to the Solent and the monks traded with northern Europe and the North Sea coast. The abbey became the largest religious house on the Isle of Wight. In the 16th century, on the orders of Henry VIII, the Dissolution of the Monasteries took place. At Quarr, after the monks left, the stonework of the abbey was taken away. Some of this stone can still be seen in the walls of Henry's coastal fort, Yarmouth Castle. One of the abbey bells still remains at Binstead church. Over the centuries, the once imposing abbey with its grand church, fell into disrepair.

- Countryside Code**  
**Respect Protect Enjoy**
- Respect other people*
- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
  - Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available
- Protect the natural environment*
- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
  - Keep dogs under effective control
- Enjoy the outdoors*
- Plan ahead and be prepared
  - Follow advice and local signs

Leave the car at home – take a Southern Vectis bus to the Isle of Wight's most inspiring walks. Just use the handy QR code inside to find your bus route

## Pier to Creek Ryde to Wootton



A linear walk linking the transport hub at Ryde Pier with Wootton Creek, passing the Church of the Holy Cross and Quarr Abbey.



# Pier to Creek

## Ryde to Wootton

### Information







**Bus times**  
0871 200 22 33  
calls from landlines cost 10p per minute

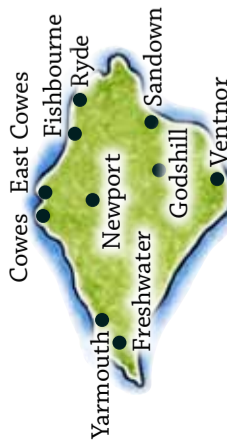
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[talk2us@southernvectis.com](mailto:talk2us@southernvectis.com)

**Lost property**  
01983 528831

### Key

-  Tea rooms
-  Public house
-  Bus stop
-  Car park
-  Public footpaths
-  Walk route



Scan this code with your smart phone to access the Southern Vectis timetable applicable to this walk.

**Route** From the bus station walk past the pier **1** and continue to a roundabout. Continue into St Thomas Street, following the Coastal Path signs. Turn right into Buckingham Road **2**. Follow this as it goes left and at a road junction at the top of the hill go right. Go along Spencer Road to Westfield Park Lodge **3**.

Continue along the road and go along a footpath on a "private road" which leads to the main road. Turn right onto the footpath to the right of clubhouse at Ryde Golf Club **4**. The path descends over a bridge and up into Binstead village.

Go by the Church of the Holy Cross **5**. Follow the



**Pictured, left to right**  
Holy Cross Church; Binstead; peacock stained glass at Holy Cross; Ryde Pier; remains of the original abbey walls at Quarr; [what is this building?](#)

road left and after 30 yards turn right into Church Road. Follow the coastal path R45 signs towards Ladies Walk and Quarr Abbey **6**. Take the path to the left of Kingarth. At a lane, go right. After houses, the path goes through a wooden gate. The track is an upgraded path which passes the ancient ruins of Quarr Abbey.

Just before the main abbey entrance road, turn right onto a woodland path **7**. Pass wooden sculptures and a wildlife hide. The path re-emerges onto an entrance road. Here, go right to Quarr Abbey.

Feel free to explore the abbey, bookshop and tea rooms. Turn left and follow a path towards the main car park.

At a track turn right **8**. Continue along the path where there are views across the Solent. Go through a wooden gate and continue on the lane past houses to emerge by The Fishbourne pub **9**.

Go right to explore the estuary views. Retrace your steps along Fishbourne lane passing the pub and ferry terminal. Turn right onto footpath R1 **10** and follow this left into Ashlake Copse Road. Go straight ahead on the coastal path through woodland and emerge on the main Ryde road at Kite Hill at a bus stop **11**. This is the end of the walk, but Wootton can be explored by following the footpath right down Kite Hill. Bus stops to Ryde can be found here.

