

NO. 8 – HIGHCLIFFE BEACH

From Wortley Road car park (1) head towards Highcliffe Shops via the Lymington Road entrance between the Bay Tree Café and Somerfield. Turn right onto Lymington Road.

Walk towards the traffic lights at the crossroads (2) where you turn right into Waterford Road. After passing a post box and just before reaching the cliff top car park, take a left turn onto a tarmac track (3) that crosses Chewton Bunny. If you look out to sea you can admire excellent views of the Isle of Wight and the Needles. Continue along the track as it bears to the right and descends towards the sea.

As you approach the sea turn to the right just before the tarmac track comes to an end and follow the (higher) gravel track (4) that runs parallel to the beach. After you have passed some steps and a turning leading to the cliff top, the track begins to level off. Continue for another 300m and turn sharply to the right past some litter bins (5) and follow the track as it climbs to the cliff top. This is quite a steep hill so take your time!

On reaching the cliff top (6), make a left turn along the gravel path. Hengistbury Head and Christchurch Harbour can be seen in the distance. Continue to the end of the path and turn right onto an alley way (7). When you meet Wharncliffe Road, turn left and follow the road until you reach the recreation ground (8). Go through the first gate on the right and head towards the white bollards on the opposite side of the recreation ground. Pass between the bollards and make your way down Wortley Road and back to the car park.

Well done...you have completed a walk with hills! Next time why not explore the network of paths below the cliff and come up with your own route.

Shortcut avoiding the hills:

Some sections of the gravel promenades near the beach are quite steep. To keep the walk on the flat do not turn left at point (3) but continue straight ahead towards the cliff top car park. Go through the bollards to the left of the green barrier, then turn right before the public toilets and up 3 steps. Make your way towards the shelter and then bear right to follow the cliff top path until you reach point (6).

NO. 8 – HIGHCLIFFE BEACH

GRADING: 2
TIME: 30 - 40 minutes
DISTANCE: 1.6 miles (shortcut 1.3 miles)
SURFACES: Tarmac/Gravel/Hills
(shortcut avoids hills)

This health walk includes a short steep climb to reach the cliff top from the beach. A shortcut route between points 3 and 6 avoids the hills.

