



ACCESS GUIDE – BINSTEAD WOOD

Address

Hillrise Avenue, Ryde, Isle of Wight

Postcode for Sat Nav: PO33 3UH

What 3 Words for site entrance: [///mass.detail.translated](http://mass.detail.translated)

How to get there:

By car

There is no road access to this site. The nearest road is Hillrise Avenue. There is a 85 metre woodland path in a southerly direction from the road to Binstead Wood. The path is on average 1 metre wide.

By public transport

Hillrise Avenue stop (Route 37) is adjacent to the site entrance. Then take the path as described above.

By foot and bike

Public footpath R112 leads through the woods from Hillrise Avenue to Play Lane and adjoins Footpath R113,

which eventually links to Newnham Road. Bridleway R38 skirts the south of the site.

Nearest public toilets

There are no nearby public toilets. The nearest toilets are in the town of Ryde.

Car and bike parking

There is no car park. Parking is roadside on Hillside Avenue, there are usually spaces available. There are cycle racks at the centre of the site.

Site entrance

There are three site entrances. The main one is from Hillrise Avenue, the other two are from the Rights of Way described below.

Hillrise Avenue (north) entrance: There is no site entrance and no gate or stile. The woodland path from Hillrise Avenue leads to a glade where there is a seat and a sign for the Right of Way paths through the site.

South entrance: This entrance is on the well-used Bridleway R38 linking Dame Anthony's Common, Play Lane and Newnham Road. There are no gates or stiles.

East entrance: Footpath to Newnham Road, there is a post but no gates or stiles.

Getting around the site

All the paths are woodland paths and of varying width and quality. The bridleway through the site averages 2 metres wide. There are informal paths as well as the Rights of Way. All paths are clay and interspersed with tree roots, so caution should be taken at all times.

There are two benches within the site. One is at the centre of the site where several paths meet the bridleway.

There are cycle racks and an Information Pillar at this point. The site Information Pillar has a QR code that links to an audible description creating a mind's eye view of the area to allow a visually impaired person to enter with confidence. The information pillar also has a QR code that links to a map and activities. There is also a site map on the Information Pillar.

Binstead Stream skirts the eastern edge of the site. There is a plank bridge crossing the stream, it is 1 metre wide and has no handrails.

What you can see

- In spring look for lords-and-ladies, also known as 'cuckoo-pint. It has large, arrow-shaped leaves, and leaf-like flower heads that curl around a long inner spike carrying tiny, yellow flowers. This spike eventually produces an upright stalk of bright red berries,
- Look out for nuts! There are red squirrels and dormice in Binstead Wood and they leave distinctly different marks from gnawing the nutshells,
- There are a lot of fallen trees in Binstead Wood. We leave them on site as they are excellent habitats for mammals and insects,
- You can see shiny hart's tongue fern as well as maiden hair fern,
- There are lots of mosses and lichens on the trees – usually a sign of clean air,

What you can hear

- Rooks love the trees by the glade at the site entrance,
- Listen to Binstead Stream babbling through the woodland,
- Blackbirds, robins, great tits and bluetits are all commonly heard,

What you can smell

- Stinking iris is one of two iris species native to Britain, the other being the Yellow Iris. It is known as "stinking" because some people find the smell of its leaves unpleasant when crushed or bruised, an odour that has been described as beefy,

What you can touch

- Poke our celandine – lesser celandine has between 8 and 12 petals. It is a member of the buttercup family and flowers in early spring. Greater celandine is a member of the poppy family with four petals that do not overlap. Despite the name, they are not related!
- Hug our trees, particularly the old oaks,
- Collect holly, ivy and bay for your winter wreaths

We look after Binstead Wood for the benefit of the plants and animals that live here and for you as visitors...we hope you enjoy your visit.