

Hambledon Hill Access Statement

Hambledon Hill

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Introduction

1. Hambledon Hill National Nature Reserve NNR is an Iron Age Hillfort rising to 192 metres above sea level- as recorded from the adjacent Triangulation Point on the neighbouring land to the southern boundary (not National Trust owned) with a Neolithic Long Barrow at the highest point within the hillfort. The property is largely herb rich chalk grassland with uneven ground and informal paths across the 47 hectare site. A narrow plateau at the summit with numerous earthworks and ramparts present- difficult terrain to traverse from all of the main entrances with steep ground encountered. A waymarked Bridleway runs alongside the south west and eastern boundaries which is used by a range of users from horse riders, mountain bikers to pedestrians. On clear days there are great 360 degree views to be enjoyed. Mobile reception is generally good depending on individual service providers
2. Dogs are welcome with the condition that they are kept under close control and supervision at all times and in particular when sheep are grazing (between 1st November and the 1st of March) when dogs must be kept on a lead (when red signs are in place advising visitors that sheep are grazing).
3. Hambledon Hill can be very wind swept and exposed.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

There is no car park present. The nearest places to park are street parking in Child Okeford Village and in local laybys.

WCs

1. There are no toilets at the property. The nearest toilets would be at Compton Abbas Airfield which is closed on Mondays

Visitor Reception

1. There is no dedicated visitor reception

House

1. There is no house

Catering

1. There are no catering facilities

Retail

1. There is no retail facility

Chalk grassland

1. There are 2 step over stiles present which provide access to the steep bank which is also challenging terrain
2. The informal paths are mostly grass surfaces with overlying chalk and uneven chalk paths with rutting and puddles present in places crossing steep slopes.
3. The gradients of the paths across the plateau and on the top of ramparts are mostly shallow gradients. The steep slopes below the ramparts are very challenging mostly derived from old sheep tracks. The Bridleways which run along the western and eastern boundaries are very steep and rutted.
4. There are no steps
5. There are 4 access gates and one step over stile at the property

Contact details for more information

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Date12/02/18 **Clive D Whitbourn**