

Nine Barrow Down Loop From Ulwell

A stunning walk including views across Purbeck and to Poole Harbour, plus an opportunity to explore the Bronze Age barrows that give this hill its name.



AVERAGE TIME

2 hrs 10 mins



DISTANCE

5.3 miles



ASCENT

803 ft



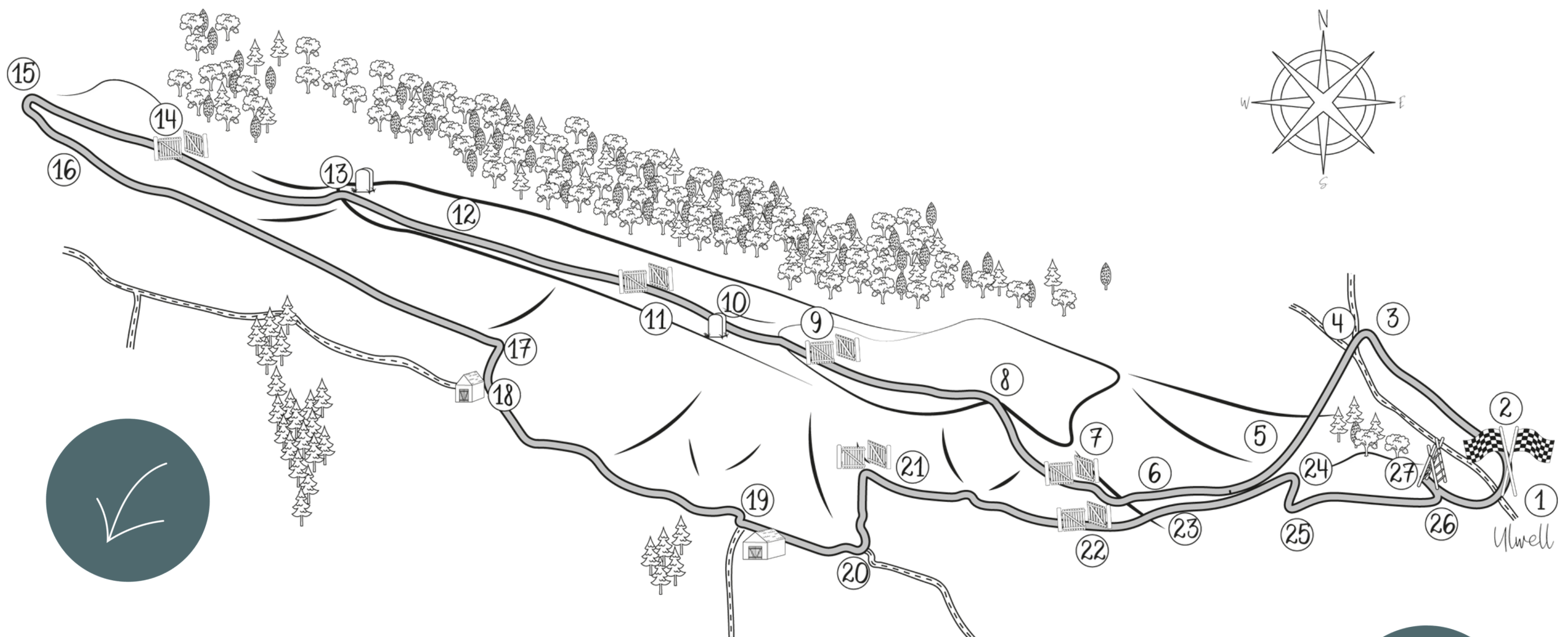
TERRAIN

Fields & Paths



DOG FRIENDLY

Yes - woof!*



The Basic Steps

1. Start at Ulwell SZ 0205 8098

Park in the first layby on your right as you head out of town. Find the footpath in top right the corner of the layby, at the public footpath sign. Follow the path along the base of the hill with the road on your left.
Dist to next: 0.06

2. Follow the path bearing left SZ 0204 8093

Dist to next: 0.23mi

3. Turn left at Purbeck Way milestone SZ 0163 8088

Go through gate and follow the path to another Purbeck Way sign and go through gate on your left. Cross over the road and pick up the path on the opposite side, slightly downhill after road junction.

Dist to next: 0.02mi

4. Alternative start point - bus stop SZ 0181 8122

The no. 50 bus stops here, making this an alternative start point.
Dist to next: 0.21mi

5. Go through the gate and follow the path straight on SZ 0164 8093. Take the main path up the hill, following the milestone signed to Corfe, and continue to where there is a fork in the path.

Dist to next: 0.11mi

6. Take the right fork in the paths SZ 0148 8088

You will take the right-hand path but before you head any further uphill, why not take a rest on the wooden bench and admire the view over Swanage Bay and Ballard Down? Then continue uphill to the next gate.
Dist to next: 0.28mi

7. Go through the gate and bear right SZ 0103 8089

Once you head through the gate keep following the path uphill to the right - you're nearly at the top! To the left you will see the path zigzags down to the underhill path, which can make a shorter loop back to the start if you prefer.

Dist to next: 0.17mi

8. Keep following the path SZ 0087 8110

Follow the path as it bends to the left. This is almost the highest point of the hill, which is classified as a Marilyn. On your left there are the remnants of an OS trig point, which has been dismantled. Continue to the next gate.

Dist to next: 0.20mi



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9. Go through the gate SZ 0054 8115

Continue through the gate to the field beyond. After the fence on the right, take a brief detour to the right and admire the view over towards Poole Harbour and Studland. Please note that there are often cattle and sheep in these fields so keep your dog on a lead.

Dist to next: 0.27mi

10. Continue straight ahead SZ 0015 8131

Follow the path straight on, past the milestone, towards Corfe Castle. You will note there is also a path on the left, which tracks back to the underhill path and Knitson Farm. Again, if you want a shorter walk then take this left-hand path and follow it all the way back to Ulwell.

Dist to next: 0.08mi

11. Go through the gate SZ 0002 8136

Once you head through the gate onto Ailwood Down continue along the path towards Corfe Castle. Once again, if you take a detour to the right, you can enjoy the views over towards Poole Harbour and Studland.

Dist to next: 0.35mi

12. The Barrows SY 9948 8152

At this point take a few moments to investigate the barrows, to your right, that give the down its name - apparently there are more than nine!

Dist to next: 0.18mi



13. Milestone to Corfe SY 9921 8162
keep going straight on, past the milestone, towards Corfe.
Dist to next: 0.19mi

14. Go through the gate SY 9890 8168

Having dipped downhill slightly go through this double gate, continue following the path.

Dist to next: 0.37mi

15. Turn left at the finger post SY 9835 8188

At this point turn left at the signpost towards Woolgarston and follow the chalk path down the hill, doubling back towards Swanage in the distance.

Dist to next: 0.19mi

16. Bear left off the track and up onto the grassy path SY 9858 8169

Follow the underhill path, ignoring the right turn, which takes you down to the road - keep going to the next gate.

Dist to next: 0.68mi

17. At the Underhill Road sign, turn right through the gate SY 9958 8125

It is possible to keep going on the underhill path, but it is very muddy most of the year, due to a natural spring close to Knaveswell farm, so turn right here and walk down to the road.

Dist to next: 0.06mi

18. Turn left onto the road SY 9955 8116

You will join the road at Ricketts Farm.

Dist to next: 0.50mi

19. Bear left at the Triangle junction just after Knaveswell Farm SZ 0021 8078

At the triangle of land keep to the left.

Dist to next: 0.21mi



20. Turn left at Knitson Old Farmhouse SZ 0052 8072

Continue up the track with the houses on your left.

Dist to next: 0.11mi

21. Turn right at the gate SZ 0053 8090

Continue along the path until it becomes grassy and you reach a metal gate.

Dist to next: 0.34mi

22. Go through the gate SZ 0105 8078

Keep following the path on the other side of the gate until you get to the wooden bench on your left.

Dist to next: 0.38mi

23. You're back at the fork in the paths SZ 0147 8087

Take a rest on the wooden bench before going straight on.

Dist to next 0.11mi

24. Turn right at the milestone to Ulwell, towards a gate. SZ 0164 8093

Dist to next 0.04mi

25. Turn left SZ 0164 8087

Before the gate and close to the milestone to Ulwell, take one of the tracks on the left, on the side of the hill, to bring you to a wooded area.

Dist to next: 0.25mi

26. Turn left at milestone to Studland Road SZ 0204 8092

Follow the path until you find a stile, with the road on your right.

Dist to next: 0.03mi

27. Climb over the stile & cross the road SZ 0202 8097

Walk downhill a short distance to the layby.

Dist to next: 0.08mi

Finish at car park at Ulwell SZ 0205 809

Well done, you have reached the end of the walk. For more walks come and visit us at www.islewalkpurbeck.com

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