

## Postern Hill CITF Woodland wildlife walk



### Route Summary

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Lovely ancient woodlands dotted with oaks, pools, deer, birdlife, as well as plenty of history and beauty.

### Route Overview

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Category: Walking  
Rating: Unrated  
Surface: Undefined  
Date Published: 23rd June 2018  
Difficulty: Hard  
Length: 10.130 km / 6.33 mi  
Last Modified: 9th July 2018

### Description

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There's a huge network of criss-crossing trails in fascinating Savernake Forest, and one of the joys is grabbing one of the excellent maps from reception and choosing your route as you go.

But this long walk in ancient woodlands (on a variety of different paths) is dotted with lovely oaks, woodland pools, deer, plentiful birdlife, several historical monuments and some beautiful stretches of trees.

## Waypoints

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**1** (51.41081; -1.71701)

From the Camping and Caravanning Club Site's gate go straight ahead. Take a left turn through the woods (pictured), a brief shortcut, to reach another lane. Turn left.

**2** (51.41215; -1.71277)



Go past car parking spots and toilets, and past a wooden traffic barrier (pictured), and stay on a broad stony track.

**3** (51.40820; -1.70577)

At a crossroads, go straight over.

**4** (51.40629; -1.70175)





The path goes downhill and becomes tarmac. Just after it starts to rise, a small footpath crosses the track. Turn left onto it.

**5** (51.40737; -1.70152)



You soon reach the excellently named oak tree, Old Paunchy. Continue uphill on grassy track.

**6** (51.41021; -1.70158)



At a crossroads by a wooden waymarker with a blue arrow, turn right.

**7** (51.40565; -1.69548)

At a junction, turn right.

**8** (51.40494; -1.69594)



A minute or two later, turn left onto a broader, stonier track.

**9** (51.40680; -1.68860)



At the Grand Avenue, turn right.

**10** (51.39976; -1.67736)





After around 10 minutes you reach a clearing with six path options. Take the third right (the Twelve O'Clock Drive).

**11** (51.39130; -1.67749)



The path starts to rise, then flattens out. As it crests a hill you can see a turning into the woods to your right, just before a rotting old tree lying on the ground.

There's a junction soon after, take a left.

You'll reach the Spider Oak on your left, then the Original Queen Oak on your right.

**12** (51.38685; -1.68232)



Shortly after passing the Original Queen Oak, turn right at Charcoal Burners' Road, a broader, stony track.

**13** (51.38825; -1.68938)



At a crossroads, go straight on.

**14** (51.38819; -1.69145)





Continue on along the track. Just as a road and a wooden vehicle barrier come into view ahead, look for a sometimes hard to spot footpath (pictured) on the right. Turn right on it, into the trees.

**15** (51.39679; -1.69884)



Just after some private grounds on the left, the grassy trail reaches a gravel drive. Turn right, onto the Great Lodge Drive.

**16** (51.39926; -1.69852)



As the track swings round to the right and starts to rise, turn off the track, heading in the same direction, down a

grassy path (pictured).

**17** (51.40192; -1.69803)



At a junction with another grassy path, turn left.

**18** (51.40107; -1.70104)



At a fork, turn right, going slightly uphill. At the next junction, turn right again and continue uphill. When the path splits again, take a left, going uphill.

**19** (51.40614; -1.71003)





At a junction with White Road, continue straight on.

**20** (51.41015; -1.71441)



You're soon back among parking spots and picnic areas. From here, follow the main tracks back to the campsite.

