

Welcome...

... to the Downs on your Doorstep

Not only can you walk between Stanmer Park & Ditchling Beacon you can cycle and horse ride too.



And if you want to discover more of the South Downs you can now walk freely across newly created open access land.

As you explore you will become aware of the many ways humans have changed the landscape over the past 6000 years. Discover the past and enjoy yourself!

Open Access



Since September 2004 you have the right to walk over areas of open country. Three of these areas can be found on the map overleaf: Dencher Bottom, Big Bottom and Moon's Bottom.

In addition Brighton & Hove City Council has created 200 hectares of new open access in and around Stanmer Park to compliment the access we already enjoy through Stanmer Woods.

This means you can now walk freely across much of the Stanmer estate! The map overleaf gives you endless opportunities to create your own Stanmer and Ditchling Beacon walk.

Rights and Responsibilities

The access land symbol shows land that may be open for public access on foot.

Access may also exist for other activities such as riding a horse or bicycle responsibly on the open access land in Stanmer Park to the north of Stanmer Village.



Dogs must be kept on a fixed lead (2 metres or less) on most areas of open country between 1st March and 31st July (ground nesting birds) and at any time near livestock.

Occasionally the land may have restrictions or closures. Please follow any signs or visit www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk

How to Get There



Falmer railway station about 0.25 mile or 500 metres (10 minute walk) to the main park entrance at Lower Lodges.

78 to Stanmer Park (stops on request anywhere in the park up to the Church) and 79 to Ditchling Beacon. Run Sundays and Bank Holidays (not Xmas Day) all year, plus spring and summer Saturdays.

25, 25c, 28, 29 to bus stop on main road adjacent to the main park entrance.

5b, 24, 26, 46, 46a, 55, 56, 86, 88 to Asda at Hollingbury, then about 0.5 mile or 1 km (15 minute walk) to Upper Lodges park entrance off Ditchling Road.

Public Transport Officer
01273 292480
www.jourmeyon.co.uk

Brighton & Hove Bus Company
01273 886200
www.buses.co.uk

National Rail Enquiries
08457 484950
www.nationalrail.co.uk



Healthwalks



Getting involved in regular walking can help you feel less stressed, keep you flexible, and halve the risk of a heart attack or stroke.

It can also reduce the risk of certain cancers and diabetes and improve blood pressure. Walking even burns the same amount of calories as jogging!

Healthwalks are a series of short social walks across Brighton & Hove, including Stanmer Park. For further details or for a copy of the full Healthwalks programme contact:

Tel: 01273 292564
e-mail healthwalks@brighton-hove.gov.uk
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/healthwalks

Easy Access



We are constantly working to improve access to the countryside by replacing stiles with easy access gates, installing seats, and surfacing paths.

Stanmer's easy access route sweeps 5 miles around the park along the ridge, through the woods and back down into the park. If you are using a pushchair or wheelchair you may appreciate being dropped off near the top at Upper Lodge Wood and picked up back down in the park itself.

The Countryside Code



Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs

Leave gates and property as you find them

Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home

Keep dogs under close control

Consider other people

For more information visit:

www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk

Historic Parkland



It is believed that Stanmer was the domain of Aedwulf, King of the South Saxons (765AD).

'Stanmer' comes from the Saxon 'Stæn Mere' meaning stony pond.

This probably refers to Stanmer Church pond which is surrounded by large stones.

It was also recorded in the Domesday book 1086.

Since then it has had many owners. It was the Pelham family (1700s) who commissioned the building of the large house, landscaped the gardens and planted the woodlands.

A recent historic landscape study has highlighted the importance of this 18th century parkland.



Open Views

The open downland landscape you see today is a result of 6000 years of human activity.



Before this the Downs would have been covered by a wildwood.

The woods were cleared for cultivation and grazing of livestock.

The ongoing farming activity over the millennia prevented the wildwood from returning.

This has led to the patchwork of arable, pasture, wildlife rich chalk grassland, woodland and scrub that we see today.

Stanmer Nursery



Stanmer Nursery is a hidden gem. Venture past Stanmer House up to the t-junction turning left, you will find the old walled kitchen garden of the Stanmer Estate.



The nursery is a thriving business producing plants for our parks since the 1950s.



Herbaceous perennials, shrubs, trees, fruit and wild flowers are grown here and are on sale to the public.

For opening times and further details visit:

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/stanmernursery

Need a Translation?

Translation? Tick this box and take to any council office.

ترجمة؟ ضع علامة في التربع وحذها إلى مكتب البلدية.	Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/>
অনুবাদ? বাক্সে টিক চিহ্ন দিয়ে কাউন্সিল অফিসে নিয়ে যান।	Bengali	<input type="checkbox"/>
需要翻譯? 請在這方格內加劃, 並帶回任何市議會辦事處。	Cantonese	<input type="checkbox"/>
ترجمة لهذا الن مربع علامتك، وخذها إلى مكتب البلدية.	Farsi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traduction? Veuillez cocher la case et apporter au council.	French	<input type="checkbox"/>
需要翻譯? 請在這方格內加劃, 並帶回任何市議會的辦事處。	Mandarin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thumaczenie? Zaznacz to okienko i zwróć do któregośkolwiek biura samorządu lokalnego (council office).	Polish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tradução? Coloque um visto na quadrícula e leve a uma qualquer repartição de poder local (council office).	Portuguese	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tercümesi için kareyi işaretleyiniz ve bir semt belediye bürosuna veriniz	Turkish	<input type="checkbox"/>
	other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>

This can also be made available in large print, Braille or on audio tape

Downland Oasis



All across the Downs you will find large circular ponds called dew ponds.

They were built to provide water for the large flocks of sheep that grazed the downland from the 17th century onwards.

These ponds are filled by rainwater, rather than dew.

Many ponds fell into disrepair in the 1900s due to a decline in sheep grazing and the introduction of mains water.

Due to their wildlife and landscape value, many ponds are now being restored.



Attackers Beware!

Ditchling Beacon is the site of an early Iron Age hill fort (700BC).



This site was chosen because it was easy to defend with the steep northern side (248m high) and clear views.

Although most of its features have disappeared (due to ploughing and erosion), it is now protected under law because of its historical value.

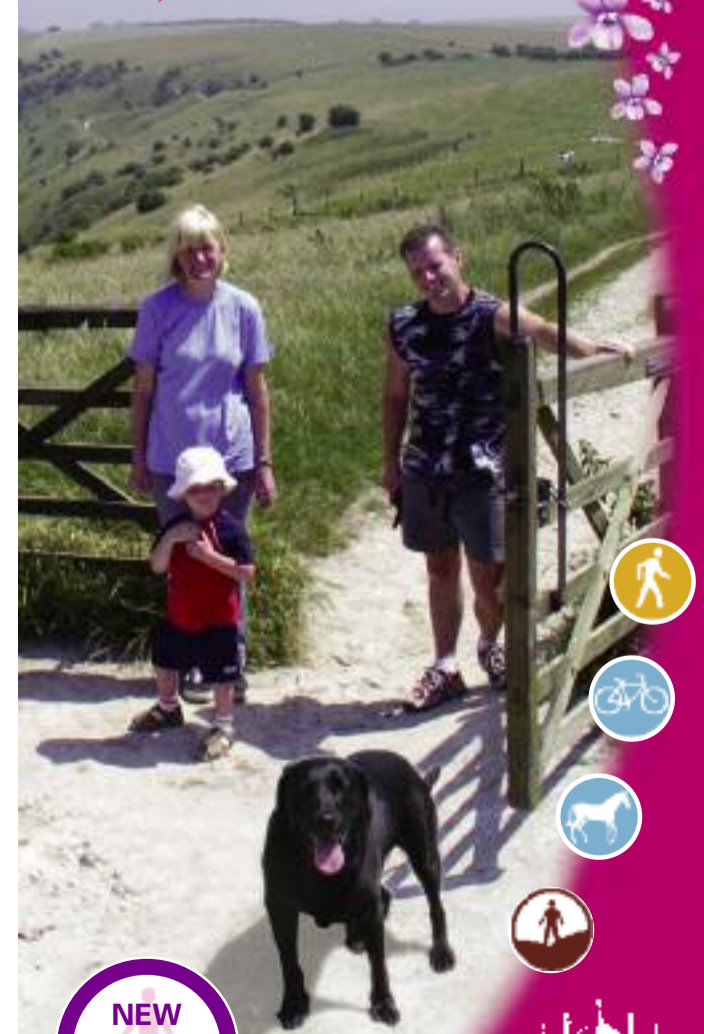


Its name comes from two periods of history. 'Ditchling' has Saxon origins. 'Beacon' was added when the hill was part of a line of fires lit to warn of the Spanish Armada invasion.

Open up leaflet to see route map

Stanmer and Ditchling Beacon

THE DOWNS ON YOUR DOORSTEP



NEW EASY ACCESS



Stanmer and Ditchling Beacon



To Jack & Jill windmills (1 mile) and Clayton (1.5 miles)
 South Downs Way

Routes to Ditchling (2 miles)



To Kingston (9 miles) and Lewes (5 miles)
 South Downs Way

Route Suitability

Many of the routes cross open downland which is fairly steep in places. Some are unsurfaced and bumpy. They can become muddy and slippery when wet, so take care!

Field colours correct at time of going to press.



Key

- T** Toilets
- ♿** Accessible Toilets
- 🌻** Stanmer Nursery Details overleaf
- 🚶** Open Access
- 🚫🚶** No Open Access
- P** Car Park/ Pay & Display
- ☎** Phone
- ☕** Café
- 🚏** Bus Stop
- 🚉** Train Station
- 🐎** Horse Box Parking
- ↗** Steep paths on edge of South Downs
- 🟢** Dew Pond
- 🟡** Pond
- ⋯** Footpath
- ⋯** Easy Access Route 5 miles/ 5km in total
- — —** Bridleway
- ↘** Steeper Slope (arrow points down hill)

Know your rights of way

- 🚶** **🚫🚲** **🚫🐎** **🚫🚗** Open Access
- 🚶** **🚫🚲** **🚫🐎** **🚫🚗** Footpath
- 🚶** **🚲** **🐎** **🚫🚗** Bridleway

Scale: approximately 1 mile or 1.5km (30 min. walk)