St Mary Bourne, Portway Walk

Distance:	1.5 miles
Start:	St Mary Bourne Recreation Ground

The wooded areas around St Mary Bourne, especially to the south side of the lake contain a wide variety of wildlife, while the traditional water meadows on either side of the Bourne Rivulet (a chalk tributary of the River Test) form pastureland from the lake towards the viaduct. Upstream views from the Summerhaugh Bridge in the village square include buildings dating back to the 16th century.

St Mary Bourne parish includes the larger village of that name together with Stoke and the surrounding hamlets of Binley, Dunley, Egbury, Upper, Middle and Lower-Wyke (pronounced "Wick" or "Week") and Wadwick. The parish is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the villages of St Mary Bourne and Stoke form a Conservation Area. In the past the Parish's main income was from farming, with supporting industries and trades. Swampton Mill was the earliest recorded business; it was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086.

Directions

Pass through the kissing gate at the side of the Village Shop and, keeping the lake on your left, walk towards the bottom of the Recreation Ground. Turn left to pass through 2nd kissing gate onto the Test Way, follow the path alongside the lake and pass through 3rd kissing gate.

At the Test Way sign turn right, following Derrydown Lane through gateposts to the hill top. Continue through wooded section, passing through another gateway. At T junction * turn right along the track between the hedge and the plantation. At end of plantation turn right down ** hedgerow leading into copse, path descends towards woodland. Proceed with caution; this path can be slippery in all conditions.

Go through kissing gate and then downhill until reaching the kissing gate at the Recreation Ground corner. Retrace your steps to the car park.

* 20 minute extension: continue until track bends left, turning right into enclosed footpath leading to corner of road. Turn immediately right into centre of field, following path to the **

St Mary Bourne, Portway

St Mary Bourne

Swampton

Legend
- **Route** — S Start
- **Footpath**
- **Bridleway**
- **Restricted byway**
- **Byway Open to All Traffic**

N
W E
S

Map labels:

Bourne Court
Bourne View
South View Terrace
Little Barn
Watercress Beds
Drain
Link
Sluice
Portway
B3048
78m
77m
PH
FB
FB
Path
SI
SI
Derrydown Clinic
Derrydown Copse
Copse Cottage
Derrydown Farm
Gravel Hill Plantation
Path
79m
PW
PH
Pav
Recreation Ground
Track
Path
Path
Path
Diplands Court
84m
Derrydown Copse
Reservoir (covered)
Moors Wood
Derrydown Cottage
TK
Track
112m
PORTWAY
ROMAN ROAD (course of)
Bedlam's Copse
Slaughter House
Five Lanes
133m
139m
119m
Lower Wyke Barn
121m
129m
122m
Field House
Track
Middle Wyke Farm Cottage
119m
ROAD

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1 Miles