

Nettlecombe Farm

Holiday Cottages & Fishing Lakes

Walks & Runs



6 stunning countryside
and coastal walks



Suitable for cycling



Dog Friendly



Award winning Nettlecombe Farm is an idyllic, dog-friendly farm stay that offers nine luxurious self-catering holiday cottages



Welcome to the Heart of the Isle of Wight

Dear Guests,

We hope you enjoy this guide which contains some of our favourite circular walking and running routes from Nettlecombe Farm. These routes have been documented by friends and family of the farm who use them daily – be that for trail running, dog-walking or just visiting one of the many excellent pubs on the way.

Nettlecombe Farm has been in our family for over 100 years. The places in this guide hold special memories of generations past as well as my children and grandchildren today. I hope you are able to venture out and make your own brilliant memories during your stay with us. So, when you come back another year, that bench, picnic spot or view will remind you of the conversations and laughter you shared.

All of these routes begin at Nettlecombe Farm. They are all circular and mapped electronically on Strava, if you prefer to use that application. On Strava you'll also see the latest activities of the farm friends and residents, tagging us into their walks and runs. If you've not abandoned your mobile phone for the week, please follow us and tag us while on your adventures on Strava, Instagram or Facebook, so that other guests may see what awaits them on the other side of the hill.

As ever, please do call into Jolliffe's Farmhouse if I can be of any assistance.

Best wishes and happy adventures,



P.S. If you think you'd rather get the bus back, call in to the Farmhouse and get a free bus pass, offered as part of our sustainable travel scheme!

Nettlecombe Farm Site Map



Countryside Care

We ask all our guests to respect, protect and enjoy their surroundings and the resident animals. The Countryside Code applies to all parts of the countryside and whilst most of it is just good common sense it is helpful to remind our guests of their responsibilities whilst enjoying their stay here at Nettlecombe Farm.

- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow marked paths
- Keep dogs under effective control and clean up after them
- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs
- Leave only footprints and take only memories





Week Farm

Starting at **Nettlecombe Farm**, walk to the fishing lakes and take the gate near the donkeys signposted **Public Bridleway NT3 Ventnor and Stenbury**. Head up until you have to bear left or right. Bear left signposted **Public Bridleway NT119 Week & Stenbury Down** taking the path up and you will eventually reach a stile on your left.

At this point bear right through two gates. Carry straight on then, once through the next gate, turn left and pick up the path alongside the field which takes you up towards **Stenbury Down**. You will eventually reach a gate which you need to go through.

Then you have two choices; carry on up to the top to absorb yourself in countryside and admire the far reaching views, or turn right to follow the path down towards **Week Farm**.

The views up on Stenbury are amazing - on a clear day you can see for miles!

If you decide to take the longer route at the top, turn right following **V62** and head towards **Week Farm**. Once you pass the farm, follow the footpath on your right **V59** that eventually loops back to **Nettlecombe Farm** in the direction you came.

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2.6 miles



50 minutes walking
25 minutes running



Hilly and muddy in the winter.
Trail shoes needed if running.



None available - so be prepared



Stunning countryside and coastline, listen out for skylarks



Medium. 400 feet total elevation



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White Horse

The local public house serves excellent food and refreshments and is a short walk from **Nettlecombe Farm**. There are two routes you can take: One way is the road following **Nettlecombe Lane** back down into the centre of the village, turning left at the end of the road towards the pub. The other is to start at the fishing lakes and follow the **footpath NT5** across the fields and down picking up the **Public Bridleway NT13 Whitwell** to eventually cross the stream and head in to the village. Before you reach the main road you will notice a well on your left.

Legend tells us that pilgrims visited the well for its healing qualities. They arrived by ship to Puckaster Cove in Niton and came via the Cripple Path to the well and listened to

prayers whilst the sick and suffering bathed in and drank of its cooling waters. Healed, or with hope renewed, and full of thanks to our Lady of Whitwell and her good Saint Rhadagunde, they returned to the coast via St Rhadagunde's path.

Once you meet the main road and the church is ahead of you, turn right and walk down the hill where you will see the **White Horse** on your left. Once you are suitably refreshed you can choose your route home either walking the cross country route in reverse or leaving the **White Horse** and turning left and walking down until you see **Nettlecombe Lane** on your right where **Nettlecombe Farm** is signposted.



1.3 miles



Concrete for the road route and a little muddy cross country in the winter months only



Visit the library in a phone box on Whitwell High Street



10-15 minutes run. Longer if walking and stopping for refreshments



The White Horse serves delicious food and drink all day long



Easy. 165 feet total elevation



Whitwell to Niton

(With an option of including the Lighthouse loop and Buddle Inn)

This route takes you to **Niton Village** where you can enjoy a stroll around the village itself enjoying refreshments at either Joe's Bar/Coffee Shop at the Post Office where you can enjoy a cream tea in their relaxing garden area or try what's on offer at The White Lion public house. If you are feeling energetic, you could extend your walk/run down to **Niton Undercliff** to visit the beautiful rustic coastline and St Catherine's Lighthouse. If you need your thirst quenching or tummy feeding, the **Buddle Inn** is a beautiful award-winning 16th century smugglers inn located at the most southerly tip of the island offering you roaring fires, flagstone floors and quaint snugs alongside an extensive menu.

Starting at **Nettlecombe Farm**, walk to the fishing lakes and take the **Public Bridleway NT5 Whitwell**. Follow the path then take the **NT13 Whitwell** until you reach the main road of the village. With the church opposite you, there is a lane to the left **Public Bridleway NT16 to Ashknowle Lane and Niton**. This lane takes you all the way into Niton. Once you eventually reach the houses and pick up **Allotment Road**, you carry straight on until you reach a path bearing off to your left **Public Bridleway NT20 Barrack Shute** running parallel to **The Fields Nursery**. This footpath takes you past two cottages on your

right then reach a turning point. Follow **Public Footpath NT21 High Street and Rectory Road**. Keep following this path left until eventually you reach an opening on to **Niton High Street** with the **White Lion Pub** opposite you and the **Post Office** and **Joe's Bar** on your left.

If you wish to then stroll to St. Catherine's Lighthouse, pass the **Post Office** on your left and follow the main road up and out of the village. Eventually you will start going down Barrack Shute which bears left. Eventually you will see a sign for **The Buddle Inn**. From this point there are various routes to take you down to St. Catherine's Lighthouse. Our favourite is to follow the footpath opposite **The Buddle**, through the trees down to **Castlehaven Lane** which leads to **Castlehaven Bay** which, in the summer months, has a cute little cafe with spectacular views and scenery - the perfect vantage point for Round the Island Yacht race day! From here you will see the lighthouse and each path will eventually bring you back up to **The Buddle**.

Feel free to explore around this area as it is truly beautiful. The way home is simply this route in reverse or, if it all becomes too much, buses do run from near Norris's Shop in Niton back to **Whitwell Village**.



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3.4 miles to Niton and back
5-6 miles with lighthouse loop



30 minute run to Niton and back. 1hr 15 min. walk. Allow more time for lighthouse loop



Cross-country. Muddy in winter months



Lots of choices!



Spectacular countryside and coastal views. Tours of the lighthouse available



Easy to Medium if lighthouse is included



Stenbury Loop

Another favourite of ours is this cross country route. This path will take you up to the downs for those glorious views then down through **Little Stenbury** and **Sim's Copse** to reach **Stenbury Manor Farm**, before walking through **Whitwell** and then back up to **Nettlecombe Farm**.

Starting at **Nettlecombe Farm**, walk to the fishing lakes and take the gate near the donkeys signposted **Public Bridleway NT3 Ventnor and Stenbury** then head up until you have to bear left or right. Bear left signposted **Public Bridleway NT119 Week & Stenbury Downs** taking the path up and you will eventually reach a stile on your left.

Cross the stile and head up to **Stenbury Down** where you will pick up the main footpath by turning left after the gate at the top. Passing the radio mast on your left, you will need to head down following the path

that leads to **Little Stenbury**. As you pass down through the fields, you will pick up a wider path that then leads to a house on your left. Follow the bridleway signs bearing left through **Sim's Copse**. Once you hit the main road you need to cross over to the gate and follow the path left, heading towards the detached house and garage, then bear right following the path all the way down to **Ford Farm Barn** conversions then head left across the field towards **Southford Lane**.

The public footpath then picks up across the road which leads all the way to **Stockbridge Manor**. Bear left up **Slay Lane** bringing you out on **Bannock Road**. Turn right past all the bungalows and head up to the church. On the road opposite the church (leading to up and out of the village) you can then pick up the **Public Bridleway NT15 Stenbury Down** which leads right back to **Nettlecombe Farm** fishing lakes.



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5.2 miles



Steep in places and muddy in winter. Wear trail shoes if running



Pretty woodlands and far reaching views across the Island



1 hr. run
2 hrs. minimum walking



None until you reach the village of Whitwell again



Medium to tough in places.
650 feet total elevation



Steephill Cove

A perfect run/walk to the coast! Ideal for keen runners who wish to get their mileage in whilst enjoying amazing coastal scenery. For those who prefer a walk, this is one not to be missed! Remember there is always the option of spending the day at Steephill Cove and getting a bus or taxi home.

Starting at **Nettlecombe Farm**, head to the fishing lakes and take the **Public Bridleway NT5 Whitwell**. Then take the **NT12 St Lawrence**. You will cross a main road to continue this path up to the old radio station. Once you reach the top of the cliff (**High Hat**) and the sea is in front of you, bear left along **Paradise Walk** as it is known or the **V75 Whitwell Road** which meets **St Lawrence Shute**. Cross over the main road and carry on straight making sure the sea/coast is on your right. Then take the **V73 Undercliff Drive & Botanic Gardens** which takes you down through **Pelham Woods**. At

the bottom of the track, pass by the gate marked 'private' on your right and pick up the public footpath a little further on, on your left. Proceed through the woods until you reach the houses. Carry on along the road until on your right you reach a set of steps which take you almost to the sea! At the bottom of the steps turn left and stay on the road until you see the **V84 Steephill** on your right. Follow this path bearing up and right leading to the beautiful **Steephill Cove**.

Pause to enjoy or stay a whole lot longer! As you pass along the cove and head up the hill out of the cove, follow the coastal path west exploring the beautiful hidden bays. Follow the **V81 St Rhadagunds & Whitwell** and head up to the top of the cliffs finding your way back inland to **Whitwell** and then once you get to **High Hat** you will know your way back to **Nettlecombe Farm** again.



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7 miles



Cross-country and road



Coastal with secluded and picture-perfect coves



1 hr. run
2 hrs. minimum walking



Cafes at the cove open during summer and sunny days in winter. Cafe at Ventnor Botanic Garden.



Medium, but with several hills. Total elevation is 850 feet



Photo courtesy of www.procamlfilms.com



Ventnor Loop (With Stenbury Trail Option)

This route has the advantage of stunning cliff top views on your descent in to the beautiful seaside town of Ventnor. You can choose whether to stay and play in Ventnor itself enjoying the numerous cafes, bars and quaint little shops. Maybe even hire a deckchair on the beach itself and indulge in the fresh sea air just as the Victorians did many moons ago.

Ventnor was one of the most famous Victorian health resorts due to its unique micro-climate with more sunny days and fewer frosts than the rest of the island allowing many species of subtropical plant to flourish notably at Ventnor Botanic Gardens.

Starting at **Nettlecombe Farm**, head to the fishing lakes and take the **Public Bridleway NT5 Whitwell**. Then take the **NT12 St Lawrence**. You will cross a main road to continue this path up to the old radio station. Once you reach the top of the cliff (**High Hat**) and the sea is in front of you, bear Left along **Paradise Walk** as it is known or the **V75 Whitwell Road** which meets **St Lawrence Shute**. Cross over and carry on straight making sure the sea/coast is on your right. This path takes you all the way in to the start of Ventnor as you see the houses ahead of you. Eventually, you will reach a junction of the main route and you need to follow the main footpath on the right down into **Ventnor** itself again keeping the sea on your

right. Just follow the path all the way down in to the heart of the town. Once you have sampled the delights that Ventnor has to offer, head back the way you came in to Ventnor. Eventually, at the top of the hill past the houses, you can follow the path back in the direction of **Whitwell** OR, as you leave Ventnor on the cliff path leading back to **Whitwell** parallel to **Whitwell Road** you will reach **Ventnor Rugby and Football Club** to your right on the other side of the main road. To the right of the club there is **The Stenbury Trail Public Bridleway V56** signpost right next to the "Welcome to Ventnor" sign. This leads up on to **Stenbury Down**. At the top, **Ventnor Golf Course** is on your right. Pass through a gate to stay on the downs path.

On a clear day, if you look right you will see far reaching countryside views all the way to the mainland and the Spinnaker Tower. If you look left, you will see all the way to the sea and the Chalk cliffs of West Wight. Keep following the path until you reach a larger farm gate on your left (with a sign that has a blue arrow on). This leads down all the way to meet a horizontal path. Turn right here, passing through the first gate. Then go through the next two gates and bear left taking the path all the way back down towards **Nettlecombe Farm**. Enjoy the lovely views of the farm as you descend down the pathway!

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6-7 miles depending on route



1 hr. run
2-3 hrs. walking



Cross-country and road.
Muddy in winter



Selection of cafes, restaurants
and bars within Ventnor town
and seafront



Outstanding coastal views and
all the delights of a Victorian
spa town



Medium to tough in places.
Elevation is 900 feet

Planning your holiday at Nettlecombe Farm

Situated on the southern side of the Isle of Wight, Nettlecombe Farm nestles in typically rolling and extremely picturesque Isle of Wight countryside, a working farm offering luxurious self-catering holiday accommodation, coarse fishing and yoga retreats.

The farm, which has been in the Morris family for over a century, has no fewer than nine converted self-catering properties, three coarse fishing lakes as well an area to get up close and personal with a variety of the farm's animals, including alpacas, donkeys, goats, reindeer and even an emu.



Nettlecombe Farm

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