LINFORD BOTTOM & RED SHOOT WOOD

A 5km ($3^{1}/_{4}$ miles) walk taking about $1^{1}/_{2}$ hours.

Park/Start at Linford Bottom
(Grid. Ref. 182072) reached by various routes, the simplest being to take the A31 from Ringwood to Southampton and at the top of Poulner Hill take the next left turn after the Garden Centre (signposted Linford and Shobley).

Maps: Landranger 195 Explorer OL 22

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From the Car Park walk straight ahead, going past a Forestry Commission barrier on a broad track (gravel at first). A choice of routes is available as the track south of the Inclosure boundary fence can be flooded and very muddy in wet weather.

- a) There are woods and the fence on the left and an open space on the right. After passing through a small area of trees, a gravel track comes out of the inclosure on the left.
- b) 100m after the Forestry Commission barrier go through the gate on your left, uphill and turn right at the Cycle Track Marker No. 69 to follow the gravel track until it joins the original route as above.

Head towards a bridge on the right. Cross over Linford Brook, go through a gate and continue on this track for about 1km Then turn sharp left on to a similar track. In approximately 650m, at the second turning left, there is a grassed track leading to the Iron Age fort at Castle Piece. Though only low banks are now visible it did cover a substantial area. Return to follow the gravel track over a bridge and uphill to a white cottage on the right.

Continue ahead for about 100m and turn left through the barrier before reaching the tarmac road at Amies Comer. Walk for about 1km through woods keeping Red Shoot Wood on your left and Appleslade Inclosure on your right, eventually emerging at Point A on the map and then out onto open heathland.

From here follow the paths outside the trees (on the left) leading across the heathland until the path goes slightly downhill and a gravel track is reached. Turn left on this track and through a gate into the Inclosure. After 200m, at the Marker No. 69, turn right down a grassy track which descends to the gate, beyond which is the car park on the right.

Linford Bottom and Red Shoot



Ponies at Linford Bottom with Linford Brook about to overflow



Autumn glory from beech and oak in Great Linford Inclosure



Cutting through the bank around the Iron Age "fort" at Castle Piece

