While you are in the Area

In Brighstone Village

Seven Café/Bar/Restaurant	01983 740370
The Three Bishops, Pub	01983 740226
The Village Shop & Post Office	01983 740843
Brighstone Stores & Newsagents	01983 740227
GP Surgery	01983 740219
Village Museum - FREE	
Community Library	01983 740446
1-2-1 Hairdressing. Unisex	01983 741121

Nearby

The Control of the Co	0
The Sun Inn, Hulverstone, Pub	01983 741124
Mottistone Farm Shop	01983 741560
Isle of Wight Pearl	01983 740352
Island Fish Farm & Fishing Lakes	01983 740941
High Adventure Paragliding	01983 741484
Mottistone Manor Gardens & NT Shop	01983 741302
Thorncross Fishing Lake	01983 740291
Dinosaur Expeditions. March - Oct	01983 740844

For more information about local accommodation and amenities please go to **www.brighstoneparish.org**

Bus Route

Route 12 from Bus Station in Newport - Shorwell - Brighstone - Freshwater - Totland.

Please check the Southern Vectis timetable at **www.islandbuses.info** for up-to-date information about current times and routes.



Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this information, we cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions, or for changes in the details given. Please take care when walking as footpaths can become slippery. Wear suitably protective clothing and footwear and please treat the countryside with respect.

Explore Brighstone

Drive, walk, ride, cycle and swim in this tranquil Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Even paraglide above it if you are feeling adventurous!

Roam the extensive network of footpaths & bridleways surrounding Brighstone. Climb rolling chalk downland behind a string of pretty villages & hamlets for a panoramic view of the whole area. Wander gentle leafy lanes or investigate the adjacent coastline of soft cliffs and sandy beaches.

Bronze Age barrows and ancient hollow ways feature here, also beautiful churches and traditional thatched cottages of chalk 'clunch'. Local wildlife includes red squirrels and rare butterflies. Dinosaur and other fossils may be found on the beaches.

Inside this leaflet you will find a colourful map showing a "figure of eight" walk in Brighstone and highlighting interesting wildlife, historic buildings and beautiful scenery. The South section of the walk follows streams and farmland down to the sea and the North section follows ancient trails up to the downs.



To the South

2.5 MILES - MOSTLY FLAT - STEEP STEPS AT THE BEACH



Downland streams, with their clear fresh water, meet at **Brighstone Mill** and form an intriguing network of mill ponds and sluices. These energetic waters pass under a mystical ancient oak known locally as the **Dragon Tree** before tumbling over a spectacular waterfall en route to the sea. Water mills operated here for over 900 years

until the 1960s but all buildings have now been converted to private homes. Only the mill ponds remain.

Chines are very much a feature of the South of the island where streams flow from the downs and cut through the soft cliffs producing a unique habitat for wildlife.





Look carefully and you might catch a glimpse of the rare **Glanville Fritillary butterfly, kestrel** and occasionally a **Peregrine Falcon**. Coastal erosion is very apparent here and **fossils** found on this coast have brought about the name "Dinosaur Isle".



In memory of Rob Cummins who created these walks

To the North and the Downs

2.5 MILES - QUIET LANES - SOME HILL WALKING



The picturesque cottages in North Street include a free museum which brings to life the traditions of the local people and the brave lifeboat men of years past.

Next door is Myrtle Cottage which was home to the world famous pioneer fossil hunter the

Revd. William Fox. Well known for his tea parties, he entertained many of the most eminent geologists of his day and had more dinosaurs named after him than any other Englishman.

Mottistone Mill was built in the 18th century but a watermill on this site was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1085-86. The artist JMW Turner sketched this mill in the 19th Century. However it has long been converted to a cottage so please respect the owner's privacy when passing.





The steep sided tracks which ascend to the downs are "hollow ways" formed by water erosion and the movement of animals. Used as drove ways in medieval times, they are now a haven for wildlife including badgers, while buzzards circle above. At the top of the downs is Brighstone Forest, a vast area of trees with trails and cycle paths.

If you would like to learn more about the history and wildlife of Brighstone please go to www.brighstoneparish.org

