

A Constantly Changing Rainbow of Colour



Spring

Spring brings the sparkling whites of blackthorn blossoms and snowdrops. Some areas of the wood are cut back occasionally to maintain open glades. This allows the sun to warm the ground. This encourages the first flowers such as forget-me-nots and violets to appear, along with insects like the bumblebee and butterfly. Listen out for the bird song.



Summer

The leaves on the trees are fully open now with every hue of green to be seen. A time of lazy days, of picnics in the park or a stroll in the woods where the cool canopy of the trees provides shade from the sun. This is the best time to enjoy the grassy areas. The meadow is only mown occasionally to allow flowers to set seed and insects to breed; can you hear the grasshoppers? Visit at dusk to watch the bats hunting for insects.



Winter

Winter brings the stark beauty of the steel grey bark of the beech trees and maybe the white of snow against a vivid blue sky. Wrap up warm against the crisp air as you look out for the woodland birds. They are easily spotted through the bare branches. Watch the resident squirrels go in search of their hoard of buried nuts.



Open up leaflet to see map

Autumn

Autumn is the time of golds and browns as the trees prepare to shed their leaves to wait out the winter. The damper days of autumn are also the time to look out for fungi growing on the fallen trees. A great variety of beetles and other insects depend upon the fallen dead wood. Standing dead trees are as important as fallen ones. Can you spot the many holes made by woodpeckers?



Want to explore some more?

Look out for other 'Downs on your Doorstep' leaflets, or use the orange Explorer 122 Ordnance Survey map (available from bookshops).

Why not try other walks on the Downs that start and finish at local bus stops? Leaflets are available from the South Downs Joint Committee, please contact:

Tel: 01243 558700

e-mail: comms@southdowns-aonb.gov.uk

www.southdownsonline.org

Take a look at our events listings by visiting:

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/countryside



Healthwalks



Want to be more active, get out in the fresh air and make new friends? Why not join a Healthwalk? Healthwalks are short, social walks led by trained walk leaders across the city. If you would like a copy of the current programme, please contact:

Tel 01273 292564

e-mail: healthwalks@brighton-hove.gov.uk

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/healthwalks

Want to Help Out?

Following the great storm in 1987, the Friends Of Hollingbury and Burstead Woods were formed to help the woods recover and to care for them in the future. If you are interested in helping look after the woods and would like to join the group, then please contact:

e-mail: info@fhw.org.uk

www.fhw.org.uk



How to Get There



26, 46, 46A, 56, 79 stopping along Ditchling Road

50, 50A stopping at Burstead Close

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

Brighton & Hove City Council
Public Transport Travel Advice
01273 292480 www.citytransport.org.uk

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

Traveline
To plan a door-to-door journey by bus and train
0871 200 22 33 www.traveline.info



Your Countryside Service

We help look after the amazing countryside in and around Brighton & Hove. We focus on the conservation of the local wildlife, landscape and historical features. We also encourage responsible enjoyment of this natural heritage. To find out more please contact us:

Brighton & Hove City Council
Countryside Service, Town Hall
Norton Road, Hove, BN3 3BQ
Tel: 01273 292140



e-mail: countryside@brighton-hove.gov.uk
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/countryside
www.CityWildlife.org.uk (local wildlife info)

Leaflet available in large print, contact us for a copy



THE DOWNS ON YOUR DOORSTEP



Hollingbury Woods

Experience the constantly changing rainbow of colour that is Hollingbury Woods.



The Walk

This walk is mainly through woodland and glades and partly through the park. The woods provide shade in the summer and shelter during the winter, while the park is ideal for picnics and informal games.



Rotting dead wood is an essential part of the life cycle of a healthy wood.



Key

- Easy Access Trail
- Bus Stop
- Car Park
- Phone
- Entrance Point



Scale: approximately 250 metres

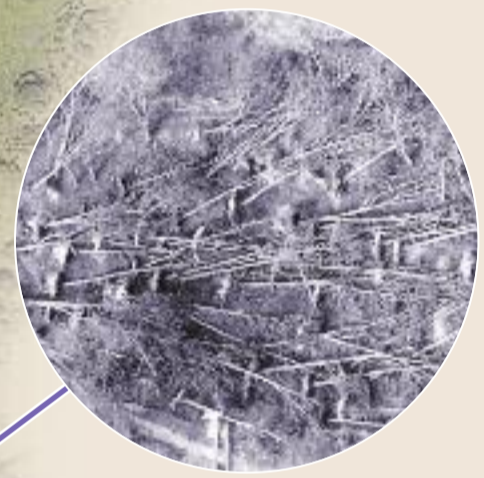
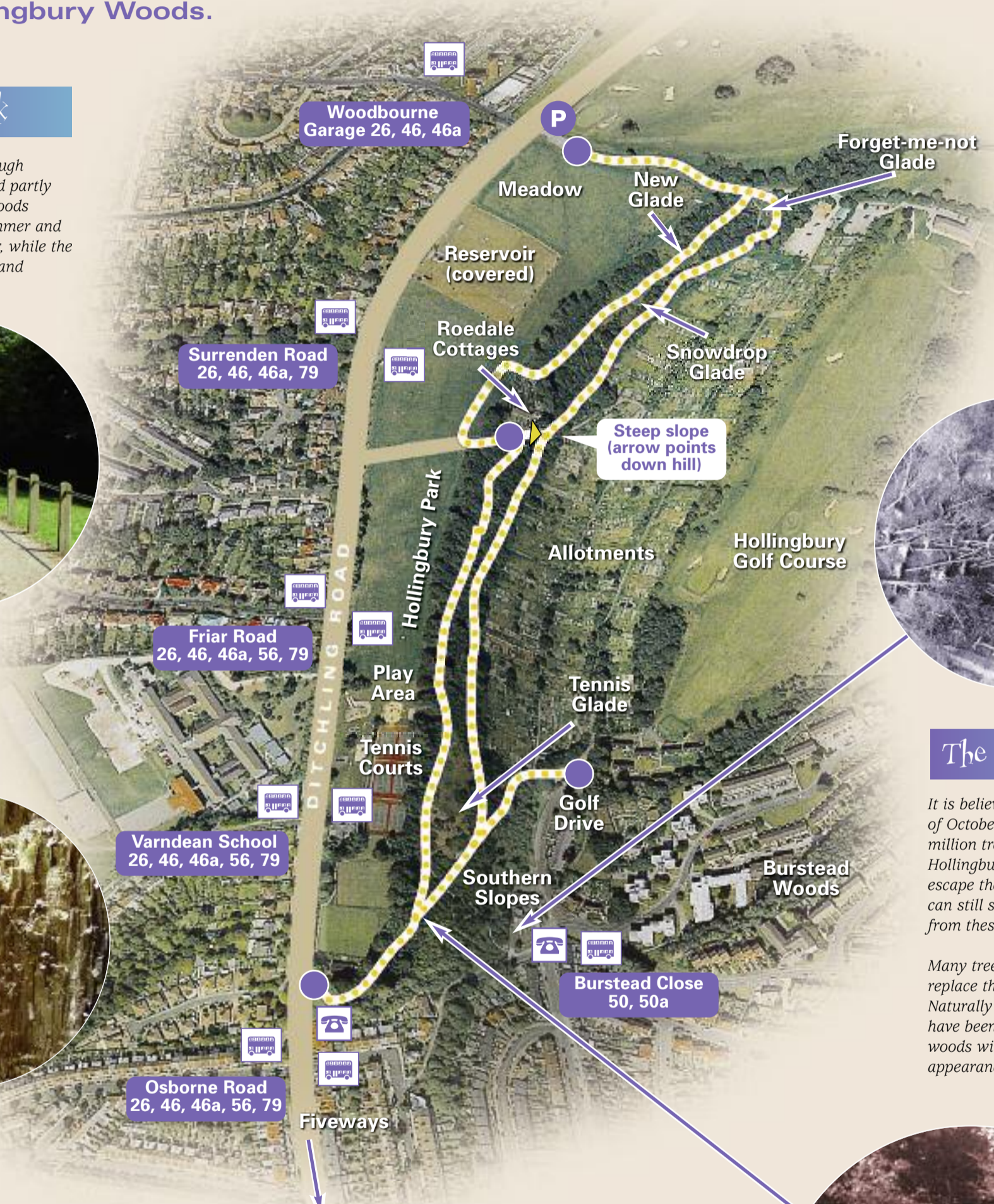
Route Suitability



The route is free from gates and stiles to make it easy to use. The path has a smooth, wide surface which makes it very suitable for families with children in buggies, people using wheelchairs or with restricted mobility. Along the way there are benches where you can sit, enjoy the surroundings and rest.

There is a gradual slope up from Osborne Road/Golf Drive to Woodbourne Garage. There is also a gradual slope from Golf Drive up to Osborne Road. If you are unsure whether you can manage this you could catch a bus from Osborne Rd to Woodbourne Garage and walk downhill.

The full route takes about an hour or you can do a shorter loop by returning from the cottages.



The Great Storm

It is believed that the Great Storm of October 1987 uprooted 15 million trees across the UK. Hollingbury Woods did not escape the devastation and you can still see many of the stumps from these fallen trees.

Many trees have been planted to replace those lost in the storm. Naturally occurring local species have been chosen so that the woods will maintain their natural appearance and benefit wildlife.



View from above the Southern Slope in 1905