The National Forest Way

The National Forest Way takes walkers on a 75-mile journey through a transforming landscape, from the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire to Beacon Hill Country Park in Leicestershire.

On the way, you will discover the area's evolution from a rural landscape, through industrialisation and its decline, to the modern-day creation of a new forest, where 21st-century life is threaded through a mosaic of green spaces and settlements.

The trail leads through young and ancient woodlands, market towns and the industrial heritage of this changing landscape.



The National Forest Way was created by a partnership of the National Forest Company, Derbyshire County Council, Leicestershire County Council and Staffordshire County Council, with the generous support of Fisher German.

To find out more, visit: www.nationalforestway.co.uk



About this stage

Start: Conkers Waterside, Moira (DE12 6BA) **End:** Rosliston Forestry Centre (DE12 8JX)

This stage takes you through young and established woodlands including Cadborough Hill Wood and alongside the ancient woodland of Grange Wood. As you emerge from the woodlands look out for the characteristic tall church spires rising above rolling fields as you walk through the Mease Lowlands.

The National Forest Company Bath Yard, Moira, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE12 6BA THE NATIONAL BOR EST

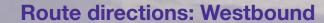
Telephone: 01283 551211

Enquiries: www.nationalforestway.co.uk/contact

Website: www.nationalforest.org

Photos: Christopher Beech, Jacqui Rock, Martin Vaughan and NFC

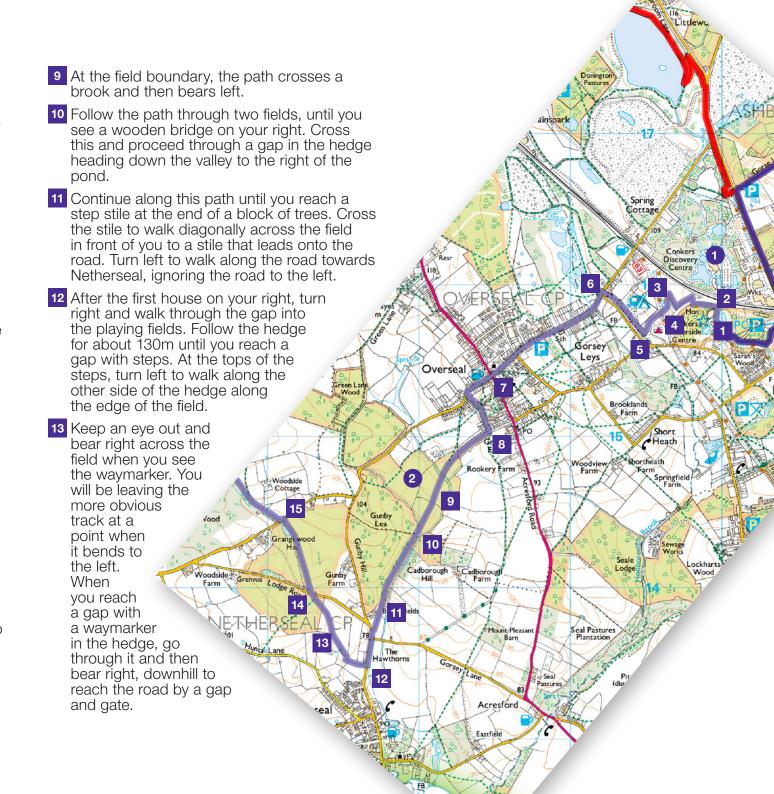
Maps reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO. © Crown copyright and database right (2014). All rights reserved. Licence number 100021056.



2 kilometres

Moira to Rosliston

- 1 From the car park of Conkers Waterside, walk north with the canal to your right. After about 150m, before you will reach a railway tunnel, the path turns left to cross a miniature railway line.
- Pass through the barriers onto the stone path and continue to another bridge. Follow the path under this, bearing left to continue on the surfaced path around the edge of the field.
- When you reach a fingerpost and wooden sign, you need to keep following the tarmac path as it bears to the left. Follow the tarmac path until its T-junction with the Ashby Woulds Heritage Trail.
- 4 Cross the Heritage Trail and pass through the barrier to take the path which runs between a caravan site and the National Forest Youth Hostel.
- When you reach the access road, cross over and take the path which bends to the right to run along the edge of the caravan site. After about 400m you will pass through a chicane and onto Spring Cottage Road.
- Turn left to walk up the road towards
 Overseal. Follow the road straight ahead,
 past the school and war memorial until you
 reach the main road (A444) with the church
 to your right.
- 7 Cross the road at the traffic lights and continue ahead onto Lullington Road, past the shop. After about 200m, take the first turning on your left onto Valley Road. Follow this road for about 300m until it takes a sharp left turn.
- Turn right to enter the field alongside the last house, ignoring the path straight ahead of you. Follow the path across the first field, through a gap in the hedge and across the second.



Head left, over the road, then bear left on the path into a field. You need to walk along the edge of the field, passing a cottage on your left. Keep following the path as it contours along the edge of the field, passing a small fenced woodland and pond, and crossing a stile. Just after this, go through a kissing gate and bear left across the road in front of you.

Take the driveway, which is signed Woodside Cottage, until it begins to bend to the right. At the fence, bear left off the driveway and onto a pathway between the woodland and a fence.

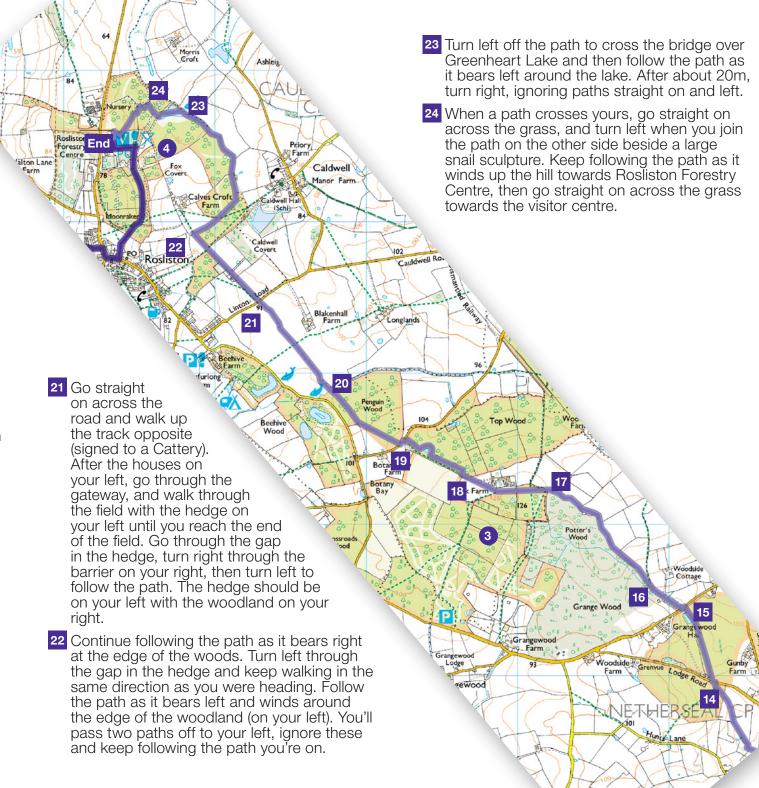
16 After 150m, bear left after the fence barrier to walk alongside Grange Wood. Keep following this footpath for about 1,000m until you reach a stile on your left, with a Woodland Trust sign welcoming you to Top Wood.

17 Cross the stile and immediately turn right to walk into the wood, effectively keeping going in the same direction as before. At the crossroads in the paths, keep going straight on. At the kissing gate, go straight on following a gravel lane past houses on your right.

Leave the track when you see a wooden fence with a Woodland Trust sign on your right. Bear right through the barrier, then turn left to walk through the woodland, parallel to the track you were on. Follow this until you reach a kissing gate at the end on your left. Go through it onto the track, then turn right to join the road.

19 Cross the road, bearing left, and go through a gap at the side of the gateway in front of you to enter Penguin Wood at Botany Bay. Follow the path until you come to a gap in the hedge on your left. Pass through the gap before turning right to walk along the other side of the hedge.

20 Cross the wooden bridge and walk straight across the large field ahead of you to the road.



Useful Information

Parking

Parking is available at Rosliston Forestry Centre and at Conkers in Moira.

Please note that there is a charge for parking at Rosliston Forestry Centre and also be aware of car park closing times before setting off.

Public transport

Moira is on the 9A Coalville-Burton bus route (Mon-Sat).

Rosliston Forestry Centre is on the 22 Swadlincote-Burton bus route (Mon-Sat). Change at Swadlincote to travel between the start and finish of the stage.

For detailed information on timetables, call **Traveline** on 0871 200 22 33 (charges apply).

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of publication. However, the National Forest Company cannot be held responsible for any error, omission or subsequent changes.

Points of interest along this stage

1 Conkers

Conkers was one of the earliest visitor attractions to be developed in The National Forest. Built on a former deep coal mine, you can now explore 120 acres of woodland, enjoy adventure play and over 100 indoor interactive exhibits.



3 Grangewood Estate & Penguin Wood

This is an extended section of connected woodlands where new planting on a large scale sits next to ancient and maturing woodlands. It is a bold demonstration of the intention to create a connected forested landscape.



2 Cadborough Hill Wood

At the base of Cadborough Hill is a valley known locally as Dead-Dane Bottom. If you walk up the steep slope of Cadborough Hill you can enjoy a dramatic panorama of the developing National Forest.



4 Rosliston Forestry Centre

This popular visitor centre was the first to open in The National Forest. You can walk and cycle through the woodlands, spot the wildlife or take part in the Centre's environmental education programme.



How to use this leaflet

The maps in this leaflet are based upon the Ordnance Survey's 1:25,000 scale Explorer maps and are presented at the correct scale if printed on A4 paper.

- Square symbols on the maps link with the route directions that are provided alongside the map.
- 1 Circular symbols represent key points of interest along the route of the trail.

About The National Forest

The National Forest is one of Britain's boldest environmentally-led regeneration projects: the creation of a new forest across 200 square miles of parts of Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire, linking the ancient forests of Needwood and Charnwood.

Over the last twenty years, The National Forest has trebled forest cover within its boundary, creating habitats for wildlife, a woodland economy and a beautiful landscape for everyone to enjoy.

