



## **ACCESS GUIDE – BATTS COPSE**

### **Address**

Batts Road, Shanklin, Isle of Wight

**Postcode for Sat Nav: PO37 7NU**

**What 3 Words for site entrance: ///grounding.toasted.swim**

### **How to get there:**

#### **By car and bike**

There are several entrances to Batts Copse. In all instances off-road parking can be found but not immediately adjacent to the site.

1. From Batts Road - head in north-west direction. The entrance is next to the Scout Hut. The site is accessed via a poor and uneven tarmac path and a bridge 1.1 metres wide with handrails both sides at 1.1 metres high.
2. From Garfield Road - take path at south end of road. Take brookside path in westerly direction. This earth path narrows to less than 1 metre and there are no barriers between the path and brook.

3. From Copse Road - head south from southern end of road but be aware of steep slopes and steps.
4. From Collingwood Road – at east end of the road there is a locked field gate but the site is entered through a gap 0.75 metres at the side.

### **By public transport**

Shanklin bus station (Routes 2/3/22/24). Walk north 90 metres and turn left into Collingwood Road. Walk approximately 430 metres and enter via Footpath SS14 on the south (left) side of the road.

Carter Avenue (22). Walk easterly for approximately 60 metres and enter via Footpath SS14 on the south (right) side of the road.

### **By foot**

The site is crossed by Footpaths SS14 and SS90. SS99 links Batts Copse to Sibden Hill.

### **Nearest public toilets**

There are no toilets on site. The nearest public toilets are in Shanklin where you can find many refreshment opportunities.

### **Car and bike parking**

There is no on-site parking. There is parking on surrounding roads including Batts Road. Please park considerately.

There are no cycle racks but there are many places to secure a bicycle.

### **Site entrance**

There is no specific site entrance. There is an Information Pillar at the entrance from Batts Copse Road. The site

Information Pillar has a QR code that links to an audible description creating a mind's eye view of the area to allow a visually impaired person to enter with confidence. The information pillar also has a QR code that links to a map and activities. There is also a site map on the Information Pillar.

### **Getting around the site**

This site is not suitable for wheelchairs or mobility scooters. There are no made paths within this site. Batts Copse is built on a hillside, so there are a number of steps throughout the site. The paths are uneven with tree roots projecting in places, and all are narrow at some point.

There is a bench with no arms in the centre of the site.

### **What you can see**

- In spring Batts Copse has a lovely display of bluebells and wood anemones,
- Look out for Maidenhair Fern and Harts Tongue Ferns – both like the shady environment,
- In winter look up, there are many nests in the branches,
- If you see of flash or pinky-red in the branches it could be a male bullfinch,
- Alien invaders – the Laurel and Rhododendron shouldn't really be here,

### **What you can hear**

- In early morning the song thrush serenades you with a loud and clear song, at other times you may hear it bashing snails on stones to crack their shells,
- School children on their playtime break,

- The babbling brook – imaginatively called ‘The Brook’ as it passes through the site,
- Long flatulent sounds and cough calls are probably common toads,

### **What you can smell**

- The classic fragrance of the bay bushes – what does it remind you of?
- Can you smell the bluebells? If so, they will be English ones,
- Stinking iris loves the wet environment alongside the brook,
- Three cornered leek gives Batts Copse a distinct whiff in Spring

### **What you can touch**

- With caution, the holly – some leaves are much sharper than others,
- There are a variety of tree species, hug them or feel the difference in bark, some are very rough, others incredibly smooth,
- Feel the soft moss on the stone wall,
- In summer you will probably find that the cleavers are sticking to you!

**We look after Batts Copse for the benefit of the plants and animals that live here and for you as visitors...we hope you enjoy your visit.**