

Hampshire BDS Carriage Driving Route 1: Frogham to Fritham (Royal Oak).

Start :	Abbots Well car park near Frogham (SU 179129)
Distance :	Approx 8 miles returning directly or 9 miles returning via Route 2.
Terrain :	Good gravel tracks except the first 50yds tarmac. All off road. Some hills but not too steep. Lovely views over the forest from Hampton Ridge and woodland drive through Amberwood and Island Thorns enclosure.
Instructions :	<p>Turn Right out of the car park and go down the hill on the tarmac and then through a locked forest gate (at Post 4) onto the gravel track. Follow the cycle track high along Hampton Ridge for about two miles, ignoring turns to the left and right until you reach Ashley Cross.</p> <p>Here you turn right and descend into Amberwood and then enter Island Thorns Enclosure. Keep on the main gravel track which passes a field on your left and finally leads uphill through Gorley Bushes to Fritham. You will emerge through a metal bar gate which is somewhat challenging to unlock! (Post 14). Turn left and right across the green to reach the Royal Oak pub.</p> <p>You can either return the way you came or use Route 2 as an alternative way back to make a circular drive.</p>
Additional Information :	<p>The Royal Oak does good food and has 2 corrals in which you can leave your horses while you are eating.</p> <p>If you are starting from Fritham, the car park is usually busy and unsuitable for large vehicles; it is best to park at Janesmoor Pond (SU 246135) and drive along the road through Fritham. This adds an extra mile.</p>

Please read and follow the General Information about Carriage Driving in the New Forest Routes Guide