



# City of Portsmouth Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces

- 1. Portsdown Hill**

The largest area of open space of which 30 hectares is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The Hill rises to a height of 125 metres and affords spectacular views across the Solent to the Isle of Wight and northwards over Hampshire's rolling countryside. Portsdown is an area of wildlife and historic importance. The 19th century forts positioned along the top of the hill provide a fascinating insight into the area's military history. Forts Purbrook and Widley are currently occupied by the Peter Ashley Activity Centres. A wide variety of plants and animals (particularly butterflies) thrive on the chalk grassland and include some species not commonly found elsewhere in Britain. On the hill you will find plenty of car parking space and a variety of trails to follow.
- 2. Fort Purbrook**
- 3. Hempsted Green / Collington Crescent Open Space**

Green corridor from Allaway Avenue to Leominster Road.
- 4. Watersedge Park**

Community centre with children's play area and ball court for 5-a-side and basketball.
- 5. Allaway Avenue and the Grove Club**

Playing field with football pitches, large play area, floodlit ball court and skate park. Community centre with floodlit kickabout area in Marsden Road.
- 6. Credenhill Play Area**

Open space with play area.
- 7. Tunstall Play Space**

Play area, grass kickabout and exciting, contoured BMX track.
- 8. Sevenoaks Road**

Multi-court, children's play area, skate ramp and adjacent playing fields.
- 9. Waterworks Field Play Area**

Neighbourhood park with play area and ball court.
- 10. Coastal Path**

Interesting coastal path from Horsea Island to Portchester Castle, with views across Portsmouth Harbour SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest).
- 11. Port Solent**

Large grassy area adjacent to Port Solent Marina with views across the harbour to Portchester Castle.
- 12. Gurnard Road**

Children's play equipment, BMX track and kickabout area.

- 13. King George V Playing Fields**  
Large area of open space with football pitches and venue for major Guy Fawkes bonfire and fireworks display.
- 14. Cosham Park**  
Bowling greens, tennis courts and play area - attractive mature flowering cherry trees along eastern boundary.
- 15. Knowsley Road**  
Neighbourhood park with play area.
- 16. Hawthorn Crescent**  
Community Centre and children's play area with kickabout area.
- 17. Drayton Park**  
Large park with quality cricket square, football pitch, bowling green, children's play area and informal BMX track.
- 18. Farlington Playing Fields**  
Large area of open space with football pitches and cricket squares.
- 19. Zetland Field**  
Open space with children's play area and ball court.
- 20. East Lodge Play Area**  
Open space with children's play area and ball court.
- 21. Hilsea Lido**  
New splashpool with free access, adjacent to a children's play area.
- 22. Hilsea Lines**  
This is a fascinating area of 19th century fortifications comprising a moat and defensive walls and embankments that are now overgrown with woodland. The site now covers 200 acres and stretches along the northern edge of Portsea Island connecting the eastern and western coastal walks. The paths around the lines offer delightful and peaceful walks close to the busy city and provide easy access to this area's varied and interesting wildlife. Recent improvements with Heritage Lottery grant funding.
- 23. Anchorage Park**  
Linear park through housing estate linking the eastern coastal path with Hilsea Lines. Large open space with football pitch, children's play area and community centre.
- 24. Farlington Marshes**  
This is a large area that was reclaimed from the sea in 1770 by the Lord Mayor of Farlington and is now a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which was designated as a local Nature Reserve in 1974. The reserve is leased to and managed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. Public access along the coastal path offers excellent views of Langstone Harbour and is ideal for appreciating the area's fascinating wildlife inhabiting the pools and water meadows.

- 25. Tipner Coastal Path and Cycle Route**  
Coastal path and cycle route linking Hilsea Lines and Alexandra Park, with views across Tipner Lake.
- 26. Midway Road**  
Neighbourhood play area and ball court
- 27. John Wesley Gardens**  
Pleasant open space with children's play equipment and kickabout area. A memorial here marks the position where John Wesley preached beneath an elm tree in the 18th century.
- 28. Alexandra Park and Mountbatten Centre**  
Major park with extensive sporting facilities including regional Sports Centre, athletics track, all-weather pitch, tennis, netball, basketball, 5-a-side football, cricket, bowls and children's play area.
- 29. Gatcombe Gardens**  
Attractive historic park with 'folly' and small formal garden. The folly is a small 19th century domed temple and comes from the Italianate gardens at Critcheldown in Dorset. It was erected in its present location in the early 1970s. In 1809 Gatcombe House was the residence of Sir Roger Curtis, the Commander In Chief of the armed forces in Portsmouth. It later became the officers' mess of Hilsea Barracks and is now the headquarters of a local company.
- 30. Stamshaw Foreshore Coastal Path**
- 31. Stamshaw Park**  
Large park laid out during the 1970s on land reclaimed from the sea as part of the M275 motorway construction. Children's play equipment plus supervised adventure playground, kickabout area and skate park.
- 32. College Park**  
Traditional park and flower gardens, pets corner, bowls and children's play area.
- 33. Buckland Park**  
Neighbourhood park with children's play equipment, multi-court and supervised community play centre.
- 34. Teignmouth Road Play Area**  
Play area and ball court.
- 35. Great Salterns Golf Course**  
18 hole golf course with floodlit driving range, open to the public.
- 36. Portsea Venture Playground**  
Supervised community play centre with indoor facilities and adventure playground.

- 37. Victoria Park**  
A traditional City Centre park dating from 1878 and originally known as "The Peoples Park". It has many mature trees, flower gardens, play area, aviary, pets corner and interesting monuments. The park is close to the Guildhall and the railway station.
- 38. Arundel Gardens**  
Small gardens near the city centre.
- 39. Landport Adventure Playground**  
Supervised community play centre with indoor facilities, adventure playground, kickabout area and junior play area.
- 40. St. Mary's Churchyard**
- 41. Kingston Park**  
Large open space with 5-a-side football, children's play area, BMX track and ball court.
- 42. Kingston Cemetery**  
Large historic cemetery with the first burial in January 1856. The area has many attractive mature trees, fine monuments and pathways, which provide pleasant and interesting walks.
- 43. Milton Cemetery**  
Historic cemetery with the first burial in April 1912. The area has many attractive mature trees, fine monuments and pathways, which provide pleasant and interesting walks.
- 44. Tamworth Field**  
Large area of open space, with areas of native planting, a wildlife pond and children's play area. The Stacey Community Centre with floodlit ball court adjacent to the park.
- 45. Baffins Pond**  
Extensive open space with children's play area and pond with many wildfowl. The area has undergone a phased programme of improvements intended at improving the pond's water quality, reed bed establishment and other water plants to create a more diverse habitat to encourage a wider range of flora and fauna.
- 46. Milton Common**  
Expansive coastal open space, reclaimed from the sea by tipping from the 1950s up to 1970. It has been encouraged to develop into a natural area which has become significant for nature conservation. A network of informal paths provide good access around the area and to the Langstone Harbour Coastal Path.
- 47. Langstone Coastal Path**  
This path follows the eastern shore of Portsea Island from Eastney, via Milton Lock to Hilsea Lines offering fine views across Langstone Harbour and Farlington Marshes.

**48. Somerstown Play Areas**

Play areas for the local community.

**49. Milton Park**

Major established park purchased by the City Council in 1912. It was formerly part of Milton Farm and the original thatched barn still stands. The park has many mature trees and shrub borders and a number of facilities including floodlit tennis, netball, basketball and football courts, bowling greens, skate park and a large children's play area.

**50. White Cloud Gardens**

A small, secluded, almost secret garden.

**51. Highland Road Cemetery**

Historic cemetery with the first burial in November 1856. The area includes fine mature trees and monuments and the pathways provide pleasant and interesting walks.

**52. Prince Albert Road Play Area**

Play area and ball court.

**53. Bransbury Park**

Large park purchased by the City Council in 1911 is mainly laid out as sports pitches. The area also includes a flower garden, children's play area, skate park, miniature railway and floodlit sports area for netball, tennis and 5-a-side football.

**54. Kings Bastion and Pembroke Gardens**

A grassy open space which is adjacent to historic fortifications which offer commanding views of the Solent across to the Isle of Wight.

**55. Southsea Common**

Extensive open space that was purchased by the City Council from the War Department in 1922. Some of the mature trees date from 1910. The area is adjacent to the popular seafront promenade and beach, which is ideal for kite flying, picnics and informal ball games. Facilities also include a children's play area, splashpool (with free access), beach volleyball, tennis, crazy golf, pitch and putt and is home to Southsea Skatepark. There are many paths including the Ladies Mile which is flanked by attractive spring bulbs. Southsea Common is the main venue for outdoor events throughout the year.

**56. West Battery Gardens**

A grass amphitheatre formed by the West Battery fortifications of Southsea Castle. This pleasant space with fine sea views is ideal for relaxation, picnics and many events at the Bandstand.

**57. Castle Field**

Castle Field is the open grass area between Southsea Castle, the Pyramids Centre and the D-Day Museum. There are attractive flower gardens leading up to Southsea Castle and the East Battery fortifications give good views across the Solent to the Isle of Wight.

- 58. The Rock Gardens**  
Very attractive, sheltered gardens close to the seafront with a wide variety of interesting plants, waterfall and pools. A popular sun-trap with many places to sit and relax.
- 59. Burgoyne Gardens**  
Attractive floral gardens with interesting herbaceous borders and plenty of places to sit.
- 60. Clarendon Gardens**  
An attractive traditional park within one of the Southsea conservation areas. The swathes of daffodils are spectacular in springtime.
- 61. Wimbledon Park**  
A neighbourhood park with children's play area, ball court and adjacent sports centre.
- 62. Waverley Gardens**  
A classic city square. The spring bulbs are particularly attractive.
- 63. The Dell**  
Prestigious formal bedding display.
- 64. The D-Day Memorial Garden**
- 65. Canoe Lake**  
Extremely popular park dating from 1886 with some of the existing mature evergreen oaks planted in 1910. The park has many attractions including boating lake, café, children's play area with splashpad, putting green, pitch and putt, bowling, grass tennis courts, St Helen's field (cricket), Southsea Rose Garden, floral bedding displays and model village.
- 66. The Promenade**  
Seafront walk from the harbour entrance through Old Portsmouth and along the historic seafront fortifications, past South Parade Pier to Eastney beach.
- 67. The Beach**  
Popular beach stretching along the south coast of Portsea Island from Old Portsmouth to Eastney.