



*This walk has been produced by [www.emsworthwalks.org](http://www.emsworthwalks.org) for the Brookfield Hotel – for other walks from Emsworth, please visit the website.*

### **Brookfield Hotel to Langstone and Back**

Walk Distance (return): 5.9 km, 3.7 miles

Walking Time (return): 1 hour 30 mins

Difficulty: Easy

NOT Wheelchair accessible

The walk starts from the Brookfield Hotel.

Perhaps the best known walk from Emsworth, it is known locally as the Coffin Walk as it is the route that people had to take with coffins to be buried in Warblington churchyard, before the church was built in Emsworth.

This is a great walk if you want to take lunch in either the Ship Inn or the Royal

Oak pubs in Langstone. A very enjoyable experience.

*Leave the hotel car park and turn right so you are heading west. After 200 metres, cross over Selangor Avenue, then at the traffic island, cross south over the main road.*

*Turn right, then immediately left into a public footpath that heads south. Continue 700m on this path until the path emerges next to a kissing gate.*

*Turn right through the kissing gate heading west. Pass through a second kissing gate and along the side of a field to a pair of kissing gates and on to Warblington Cemetery.*

As you walk across this field, note the ruins of a tower ahead and slightly to the right of the path. These are the remains of Warblington Castle. This is private, so you cannot get to see the grounds, but Warblington Castle was the home of the Blessed Margaret Pole, who was executed by Henry VIII in 1541. Only one of the corner towers of this large rectangular castle remains

Just past the new cemetery extension on your right, you come past Warblington Church.

The churchyard is interesting as it contains a guardhouse to guard against body snatchers. Also the yew trees in the

churchyard are centuries old. It is worth taking time out to go into the church when it is open.

*Following the footpath past the church, you continue directly westward into the older part of Warblington Cemetery via a kissing gate.*

*Pass through to the far side of the cemetery where you turn left (south), and then walk down to another kissing gate on your right, which takes you diagonally south west across a field to the foreshore.*

*At the foreshore, turn right and walk along the footpath. If the tide is up, for the next section where the bank is supported by railway sleepers you will need to take the footpath above the sleepers if you want to avoid getting your feet wet.*

These sleepers were originally part of the Hayling Billy line.

The Hayling Billy line was the main railway connection for people travelling to Hayling for their holiday. It was closed following the Beeching report in the 1960s, and has now been made into a leisure path for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

At the end of this section you climb up onto a path along the side of another millpond, now a wetland nature reserve. However, you can see the locks and sluices as you walk round behind the old windmill.

*Follow the foreshore path past the Royal Oak Public House.*

The Royal Oak and a hundred metres along the foreshore the Ship Inn; both of these pubs serve a great drink and good food, so if you are looking for a break half way along, this is your chance.

As you enjoy your refreshments, you can look south towards the road bridge to Hayling Island. This is the border between Chichester Harbour to the east, and Langstone Harbour to the west.

You may also be able to see the old piers for the bridge and swing bridge where the Hayling Billy Line crossed the channel.

*To return, retrace your steps east along the foreshore, past the Royal Oak and the mill on your right.*

The millpond on your left is now a nature reserve, but it was originally used to drive a tidal mill in the buildings on your right. This worked by allowing the tide to fill the millpond as it flooded. When the tide ebbed, the water would flow out through the mill driving a mill wheel to drive the grinding stones to grind flour.

There are many tidal mills around Chichester Harbour, including two in Emsworth, and some of these date back many centuries.

In the nineteenth century, the millponds were not sufficiently flexible, and alternative means were sought to make them competitive. In Langstone this involved building a wind mill, but in other locations they used steam engines to replace the tidal sluices. Today, no tidal mills operate in the harbour.

*Continue back past the railway sleepers – again if the tide is high, you may need to take the footpath along the top of the railway sleepers to keep dry.*

*At the end of this section, you need to turn left and head north along the footpath through the trees.*

*At the end of the path, pass through the gate then turn right and head east along Pook Lane.*

*Continue along Pook Lane to a T-junction where you turn left and head north. This road bears round to the right and brings you to the roundabout on the junction with the main A27.*

*At the roundabout, follow the path as it bears right and becomes the A259 Havant Road leading east back into Emsworth.*

*Walk back along Havant Road until you reach the traffic islands where you first crossed this road, cross back over then retrace your steps back to the hotel car park. You are now back at the hotel.*

[www.emsworthwalks.org](http://www.emsworthwalks.org)

Why not try some of the other walks in and around Emsworth. Walks include:

Langstone & Havant

Coffin Walk

Two Millponds and Two Marinas

Westbourne & Back

Nore Barn Woods

Thorney Island Circular

Hayling Billy Line

Chidham Circular

Nutbourne Circular

Northney

Fishbourne & Bosham

Stansted Park

Kingley Vale

Farlington Marshes

Leigh Park Gardens

Chichester Marina and Dell Quay

Stoughton Down

Chichester Canal

Portsmouth Millenium Promenade

Chichester Walls