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## Footpaths and Bridleways in the Parish of Beech, Hampshire







## Rights of Way Footpaths and Bridleways in the Parish of Beech, Hampshire

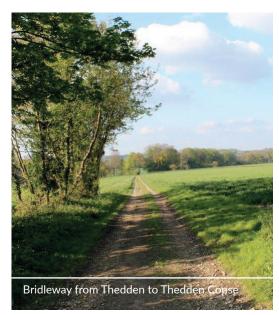
This information has been prepared to increase public awareness of, and to provide guidance on, the spectacular footpaths and bridleways in and around Beech village. In particular, it is hoped that this aids recreational and educational activities for the community of Beech and visitors.



Users of Beech's rights of way enjoy wonderful views, extremely diverse woodland, prolific wild plants, shrubs and flowers, together with a wide variety of wildlife.

Beech has 10 footpaths and 5 bridleways. These are described and defined in the 'The Hampshire Definitive Statement of Public Rights of Way', a publically available legal record produced by Hampshire County Council (which includes Ordnance Survey map grid references), extracts of which are reproduced opposite. The full document is available at www.beechpc.com

By law, footpaths are for pedestrian use only; bridleways can be used by pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists.



Maintenance of our public rights of way in general, falls under the duty and/or power of Hampshire County Council (Access Team/'Community Engagement Rangers'), East Hants District Council and Beech Parish Council. Landowners also have some duties e.g. to ensure styles and gates are in good condition, and to clear vegetation growing from the side or above.

Further information, including how to report a problem, is available from Hampshire County Council and on their web site: www.hants.gov.uk/ landplanningandenvironment/ rightsofway

## Some notable areas of interest (footpath ref. numbers shown):

Beech 710 Shown on front cover. From Brick Kiln Lane (Alton) to the A.339 (Beech). A marvellous undulating walk through 'Great Wood', parallel to the site of the disused Alton - Basingstoke railway line which was used in the 1930's classic film "Oh Mr Porter" and understood to be the first line authorised under the Light Railways Act of 1896.

**Beech 714** From Medstead Road to the A.339. The path runs close-by Wyards Farm where Jane Austen frequently visited her Aunt for tea.

Beech 703 From Homelands Road (off Wellhouse Road) Beech to District Boundary. At the highest point (205 metres/670 feet above sea level), there are magnificent views across East Hampshire to Sussex and Surrey. This is one of the highest footpaths in Hampshire.



