



Cycling in the New Forest



The Round Table, Winchester



Wherwell, Test Valley

# 48 hours in...

## Hampshire

An attractive county of contrasts, Hampshire offers visitors a unique combination of rolling countryside, sleepy villages and ancient forests together with vibrant, cultured cities, a bustling coastline and first class attractions.

Take a ride on a nostalgic steam train, sample delicious local produce at our bustling farmers' markets and explore grand historic houses, home to some of Britain's greatest historical and literary figures.

### Getting to Hampshire

Hampshire is within an hour of London and its excellent transport links make it an easy destination to reach, whether you are travelling by road, sea or air. Southampton is home port to cruise liners, Portsmouth offers a range of ferry routes to and from France and Spain, and Southampton Airport provides easy access from Europe. There are also frequent ferries to the Isle of Wight from Lymington, Portsmouth and Southampton if you wish to travel further afield.



### Top 5 must see places

#### The New Forest

Step back in time and visit England's newest national park where deer, ponies and cattle roam free in peaceful heaths and woodland. Discover friendly pubs, hire a bike and visit the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu.

[www.thenewforest.co.uk](http://www.thenewforest.co.uk)

#### Winchester & the Hampshire South Downs

An attractive cathedral city on the edge of the rolling South Downs, Winchester is England's ancient capital and combines the best of city life with surrounding unspoilt countryside and attractive market towns.

[www.visitwinchester.co.uk](http://www.visitwinchester.co.uk)

#### Portsmouth

A city surrounded by the sea, Portsmouth houses some superb military and maritime museums including Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, home to HMS Victory. The Spinnaker Tower in buzzy Gunwharf Quays offers unrivalled views of the Solent.

[www.visitportsmouth.co.uk](http://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk)

#### Southampton

The bustling port of Southampton offers great shopping and nightlife, plus an excellent art gallery and the new SeaCity Museum, where you can discover the city's Titanic story.

[www.visit-southampton.co.uk](http://www.visit-southampton.co.uk)

#### Test Valley

The River Test, internationally famous for its trout fishing, meanders through Test Valley's tranquil water meadows. Thatched cottages and award-winning pubs add to its old world charm.

[www.visit-testvalley.org.uk](http://www.visit-testvalley.org.uk)

# 48 hours in Hampshire



Buckler's Hard



Hayling Island

## Day 1: Winchester & Test Valley

**MORNING:** Arrive in Winchester, a compact medieval city easy to explore by foot. Highlights include:

- 11th century Cathedral with illuminated Bible, crypt and Jane Austen tomb.
- King Arthur's legendary Round Table in the Great Hall
- Independent shopping with street entertainment

**AFTERNOON:** Drive to Stockbridge (10 miles/15 kms), a handsome market town in the heart of the Test Valley. Highlights include:

- Abundance of independent art galleries, boutiques, gift shops and eateries
- River Test runs through the Georgian High Street
- Danebury Iron Age hill fort 4km away

## Day 2: New Forest & Southampton

**MORNING:** Explore the New Forest National Park by car, bike or bus. Highlights include:

- Buckler's Hard, an 18th century boat building village
- Beaulieu National Motor Museum, Palace House and Beaulieu Abbey ruins
- Exbury Gardens, 200 acre site with steam railway

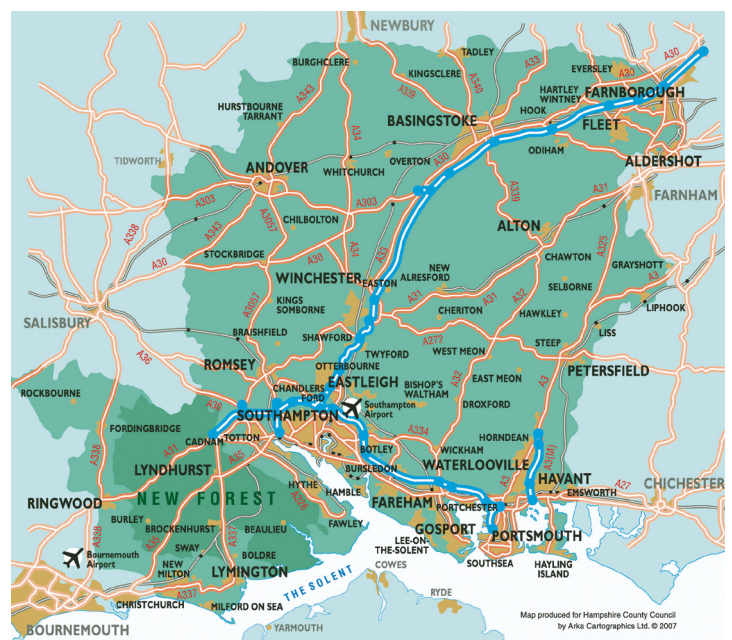
**AFTERNOON:** Take the train from Brockenhurst or drive to the maritime city of Southampton (13 miles/21 kms). Highlights include:

- SeaCity Museum, featuring Southampton's Titanic story
- City Art Gallery, spanning six centuries of European art history
- Tudor House & Garden, with over 800 years of history

## Extend your stay

Hampshire is packed full of exciting attractions and one visit is never enough! If you would like to stay longer, here are a few ideas:

- Sample the local seafood in Emsworth, a pretty fishing village near Chichester with narrow streets and walled gardens
- Stroll along the seafront from Southsea, home of antique and vintage shopping, to old Portsmouth and explore the city's fortifications, before taking the ferry across the harbour to Gosport to go onboard a World War II submarine
- Walk up Butser Hill in Queen Elizabeth County Park for fabulous views of the South Downs National Park in East Hampshire
- Enjoy a traditional day out at the seaside on Hayling Island, complete with narrow gauge light railway and amusement park
- Watch silk being woven at Whitchurch Silk Mill and discover 500 years of history in one family home at The Vyne, both located near Basingstoke



For details of where to stay, things to do, where to eat and how to get to Hampshire see [www.visit-hampshire.co.uk](http://www.visit-hampshire.co.uk)