

Studland Dunes

Leisure Orienteering

The National Trust and the Wessex Orienteering Club have worked together and are pleased to bring you this enjoyable outdoor experience.

What's it all about?

Navigate on foot from the start to the finish on your chosen course as quickly and accurately as you can

Visit all the intermediate control points on your course.

Each control point is a post with a red and white square marker. Each one has a different letter on it. Use the letter to check that you have navigated correctly from the previous one.

(Note: Please ignore any yellow posts you see on the paths)



What do I do?

Choose a course that suits you: Short, Medium or Long. Don't be too ambitious at first.

Make your way to the Start. From the Information Office, head towards the sea. Turn left round the end of the café and the start post is ahead and slightly to your right. The Start and Finish are at the same place.

Look for the first control number for your course in the table on the map. (This is actually 1 on all courses) and when you get there you expect to find the letter A on the post.

Look on your map for the purple circle labelled 1. Now decide which path leads to Control 1 and off you go!

When you find a post that you think is control 1, check that it's letter is A. If it is, you're getting the hang of it. If it isn't, you must have left the last control on the wrong path, retrace your steps to the previous control and carefully select your path again.

Continue in the same way with the next control on your course.

Navigation, i.e. How to choose the right path

Before making any decisions, hold your map flat. Turn the map round until the right-hand side is parallel to the beach & the sea. Put your finger tip on the map to where you are standing. If you now look up, the paths and dunes around you should exactly match what you see on the map and you can safely decide which path to follow to your next control.

I've done my first course, what now?

You can try a longer course or you can have a competition with family and friends. Who can do a course the quickest?

You can set up two teams, each team does the same mix of courses, which team will finish first?

Disclaimer: Orienteering on the Studland Dunes is done at the participants own risk and on the condition that they have no claim whatsoever against the National Trust or against the Wessex Orienteering Club for any loss, damage or injury however suffered or caused. Take care when using this area. Do not touch any metal objects or munitions lying on the ground.