

Explore Brownsea Island

The island is one and a half miles long.
Approximate scale:



Maryland and woodlands

Find a moment of calm in the woodlands that surround the remains of Maryland village.

There are cliff-top views along the Scouting and Maryland walk. On a clear day you'll even be able to spot our friends at Corfe Castle in the distance.



Natural play area

Brownsea's natural play area is the perfect setting for your family adventure.

Swing around on the monkey bars, try your hand at the pine cone shy or test yourself on the balancing logs.

Warnings for your safety

- Please take care when walking on the island as there are steep and unstable cliffs, uneven ground, island vehicles, deep water and strong currents. In case of emergencies please alert a member of staff for help.
- Please let the wildlife and peacocks live naturally by not feeding them.
- There was a devastating fire on Brownsea in 1934. We're sure you agree with us that we don't want it to happen again. Please don't light fires, stoves or BBQs.
- Help keep Brownsea Island beautiful by taking your rubbish home. Thank you.



Wetland and lagoon

Dorset Wildlife Trust look after the lagoon plus the woodlands and reedbeds that surround it.

From the hides you can spot various bird species on the lagoon, including avocet and oystercatcher. Water voles and kingfishers make their homes in the reedbeds. The Villa Wildlife Centre has a shop, wildlife exhibition and toilets. (Suggested £2 donation for entry for non DWT Members.)



Suggested walks

We have marked out three routes for you to follow:

- Viewpoints and Woodland walk 1 hour
- Heathland walk 40 minutes
- Scouting and Maryland walk 35 minutes

Benches

There are over 60 benches on Brownsea Island for you to take your time to rest and relax.

Outdoor Centre and Trading Post

Discover Scouting and Guiding stories at the Outdoor Centre and Trading Post.

Ask about our activity days and Eco Adventure Camping experience. Pop down for a game of mini golf and putt your way through the island's history. Takeaway self service hot drinks available.



There is a 3pm church service held at St. Mary's on Sundays during the summer months. Visitors to the island are welcome.

Start your adventure here

What happened to the disappearing pottery? Who is Timber Bob? How many teeth does a red squirrel have? Find answers here and learn about the characters that have shaped Brownsea. Don't forget to pick up your free trails and tracker packs as well.



Visitor Centre

Villano Café and Engine Gift Shop



Sample a homemade lunch and enjoy views over Poole Harbour from the Villano Café. You can also support Brownsea by picking up a souvenir at the Engine Gift Shop and check out the lovingly restored Electric Light Engine.