

AW35A. Cowes 'Circular'.

Just a short narrative of the hostelrys taking part in the centre of (West) Cowes.

Starting with the Pier View, which is to be found within the vicinity of the Red Jet terminal.

As you enter the High Street, the Fountain Hotel and Vectis Tavern can be found within a couple of minutes walk.

Turning right out of the Red Jet area along High Street, after may be 3 minutes you will come to Watch House Lane where you will find The Globe, the Island Sailing Club and the Union Inn. Carrying along the esplanade, you will come to The Yachtsman and the Royal London Yacht Club.

Alternatively, turning left out of the Red Jet area, you soon come across the Sugar Store at Shephards Wharf. Continuing along, the High Street quickly becomes Shooters Hill, a small ascent of which brings you to the Anchor and Cowes Ale House. Next on the estuary side is the Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club.

Continuing along Shooters Hill, the thoroughfare becomes Birmingham Road, where this very quickly meets the main A3020. Turn left and you go down towards the 'floating bridge' (that's a car/passenger ferry going over the river Medina). Don't talk to the locals about our new floating bridge that has, sort of, just entered service. If you want the full story, order a pint, not a half !

At this point, the road is called Mill Hill Road, where you will find the Duke of York Hostelry.

As a diversion, carry on along Medina Road towards the Floating Bridge, but take the right turn on to Bridge Road where the Classic Boat Museum allows free entry with your Programme.

Finally, for a slightly longer walk, continue up Mill Hill Road itself (the main A3020 becomes Newport Road, so take care to actually carry walking along Mill Hill Road), after 15 minutes or so, Mill Hill will have bent round in a crescent shape and rejoins Newport Road at Northwood Cemetery. Over to the opposite side of the road and following the main road back into Cowes, the Kingston Arms can be found at no.176 Newport Road.

All the above can be reached via the special bus stop on West Hill Road.

For those wanting to have a boat ride, why not sample the new Chain Ferry across the Medina to East Cowes, where the Ship and Castle is situated ? This new vessel has not been without its problems and if it is not running, a substitute passenger launch is normally provided.