




6 GODSHILL & WROXALL ITINERARIES

Isle of Wight

It's easy to explore the Isle of Wight using sustainable transport. Here are a few ideas for fun local days out – no car required!



1 Southern Vectis bus routes 2 & 3 shuttle between Newport and Ryde, stopping off at Godshill and Wroxall along the way. Make a day of it, with a **Rover bus ticket** (£10 for 24 hours of unlimited travel). At Godshill, enjoy a local ale or two at one of the popular pubs (try the Taverners). Then at Wroxall, wander around the romantic ruins at **Appuldurcombe House** (bus route 3). Now it's time to explore the beautiful coast. Jump back on the bus to Ventnor – a bohemian resort, build on Mediterranean style terraces. Just a few stops later, and you'll be in Shanklin (famous for its old village and thatched pubs) and then Sandown with its endless golden beach and traditional entertainments.


 **Visit the Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum in Ryde – it's fun, free, and kids will love climbing on the vintage vehicles.**

islandbuses.info | english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/appuldurcombe
iwbusmuseum.org.uk



2 Start at the Griffin pub in Godshill (which is famous for its maze) and then stroll through idyllic woodland and fields to **Appuldurcombe House**, the former residence of the scandalous Lady Worsley. It's 4½ miles with some challenging hills, so take bribes for any children! For outstanding views, try the **Luccombe and Landslip Walk**, a dramatic 4½ mile round trip that crosses over Shanklin Down and passes through Luccombe Chine. This also overlaps with the **Worsley Trial**, a 13 mile challenge that crosses the Island from Shanklin in the East, to Brighstone on the West – you can join the trail at Wroxall.


NB: These routes are not wheelchair or pushchair friendly, but there are plenty of other walks that are suitable for everyone. See visitisleofwight.co.uk

 **If you've taken a great photo, then make sure you share it on social media using #pureislandhappiness and tag us @visitIOW**



3 It's easy to get to the seaside from Godshill or Wroxall. You're very close to Ventnor, a Victorian resort that used to be known for its therapeutic air, but is now more famous for its gourmet food. Indulge in crab on chips (from the Haven on the seafront), followed by **Crave's** artisan ice cream.

From Ventnor, you can walk along a wonderful coastal path all the way to **Sandown Pier** (or get the route 3 bus). You'll find several places to learn surfing or other water sports such as kayaking. Alternatively, take a short bus journey to **Rookley Country Park** and spend the day fishing, in tranquil surroundings. There's a tackle shop, if you need any gear.

 **Try stand up paddleboarding or kite surfing with Wight Waters (on Dunroamin Beach midway between Sandown and Shanklin).**

rookleyfishery.co.uk | craveicecream.co.uk | wightwaters.com



SUSTAINABLE GODSHILL & WROXALL

A **Nearest bus station: Southern Vectis**
Godshill: Hollies, High Street
PO38 3HZ
Wroxall: St Johns Road,
PO38 3EE

Telephone 01983 827 000
islandbuses.info


Cycle hire: Wight Cycle Hire
(delivery available)
Yarmouth Station, Station Road,
Yarmouth PO41 0QT
Telephone 01983 761800
wightcyclehire.co.uk



KEEP ON TRACK



4 The Isle of Wight used to be criss-crossed by railways... but now, all that's left is the little **Island Line** that runs between Ryde and Shanklin. We highly recommend hopping on board – you'll get to travel on vintage Tube trains that pass through idyllic countryside and right out along Ryde Pier and over the sea. There's also the **Isle of Wight Steam Railway**, which will take you on a nostalgic trip back in time in Victorian and Edwardian carriages (change at Smallbrook Junction if you're on the Island Line). Many of the disused railway lines have now been converted into accessible footpaths. The most popular route is the **Red Squirrel Trail**, which has 23 miles of flat paths that are great for cycling, walking or running - from Wroxall, you can easily reach Shanklin, without seeing a single car. Look out for cheeky red squirrels along the way!

 **Godshill Model Village (pictured) has its own mini railway too!**


southwesttrains.co.uk | iwsteamrailway.co.uk | modelvillagegodshill.co.uk

FRIENDS FOREVER



5 Make a furry friend at the **Donkey Sanctuary** in Wroxall, where the animals are given a kind and loving retirement home. There's a little café here, if you feel the need for coffee and cake. It's free to see the animals, but if you want to support the charitable work that they do here, then you can pay for an animal encounter, maybe grooming a donkey, or taking one for a walk.

If you've bought your dog with you, then your four-pawed pal will be made very welcome in many places across the Island, including the Donkey Sanctuary, the pubs in Godshill, and the Star Inn at Wroxall.

 **Ask for advice on the best dog-friendly places to visit at the Visitor Information Centre in Newport (it's based in the Guildhall).**


iowdonkeysanctuary.org

BICYCLE ISLAND



6 The Isle of Wight is known as Bicycle Island, as it's one of the top cycling destinations in the world, with over 500 miles of cycle routes and trails for all abilities. From Godshill and Wroxall, you can join the **Red Squirrel Trail**, and cycle to the seaside at Shanklin and Sandown. Alternatively, head for Newport and then Cowes. For the ultimate challenge, tackle the **Chalk Ridge Extreme**, which loops around the South and then takes you up to beautiful Freshwater. This route is for tough cyclists who love hills and the terrain ranges from mud to slippery chalk.

You can find lots of bicycle trails on www.visitisleofwight.co.uk

 **Save your legs and hire an electric bike from Red Squirrel Electric Bikes and get your bike delivered to your accommodation.**

nutsnotto.co.uk