



Mount Lake – Hurst Castle

New Lane,
Milford On Sea,
Lymington,
SO41 0UQ

Overview:

2 Hour Round Trip (More if stopping at Hurst Castle)

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE

This is a great paddle for those looking to get away from the busy rivers of Lymington or Stour and enjoy exploring the safe flat water surroundings on this tranquil section of tidal salt marshes. Hurst Castle is a great stop for a visit or for a half way coffee or ice cream.

The Spit offers shelter from southerly winds but we would recommend only paddling this route in low winds and check the weather and tide forecasts because at low tide the water drains away leaving mud and a long walk back.

Drive down New Lane to the Crabbing Bridges at Mount Lake. This offers free parking at the roadside and an ice cream van but be aware it gets very busy in summer and also the road floods on Spring Tides so check your tide times. Once parked up you'll find plenty of space to get your equipment ready before taking to the water.

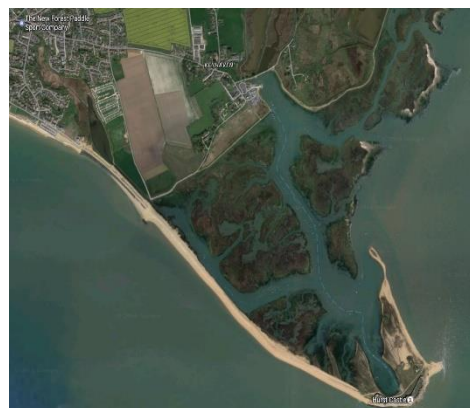
We would recommend paddling down Mount Lake in the direction of the castle following the line of boats moored in the middle of the main channel. **DO NOT** cross over the marsh as it gets shallow very quickly and it is easy to get stuck in the thick mud.

Once you have followed the boats along the spit you will need to follow the channel left into the Keyhaven River. Please be aware that in high season this is a heavily used channel with small ferries, fishing boats and recreational sailors, so keep to the edges to keep out of their way.

At the main river turn right and follow the line of moored boats directly towards Hurst Castle, you can't miss it! Upon approaching the Castle please be aware of the ferries as they are limited by depth. If you do intend to land at Hurst Castle, stay to the RIGHT of the 3 pink buoys laid in the water. This will keep you clear of the ferries.

Hurst Castle offers take away food and drink from the ticket office as well as a full café inside with a legendary bacon sandwich. You can explore the castle for Adult £4.80 & Child £3.00. For more information on what to see at Hurst Castle please visit www.hurstcastle.co.uk

Once you are finished exploring then paddle back along the same route. Be aware of the tide going out as it goes out quickly here and could leave you with a long walk back!



Guide Produced By The New Forest Paddle Sport Company & Hutch SUP Wear
www.thenewforestpaddlesportcompany.co.uk & www.hutchsupwear.com
For more information on locations or to join us on a social paddle please contact us

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