

The National Forest Way takes walkers on a 75-mile journey through a transforming landscape, from the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire to Beacon Hill Country Park in Leicestershire.

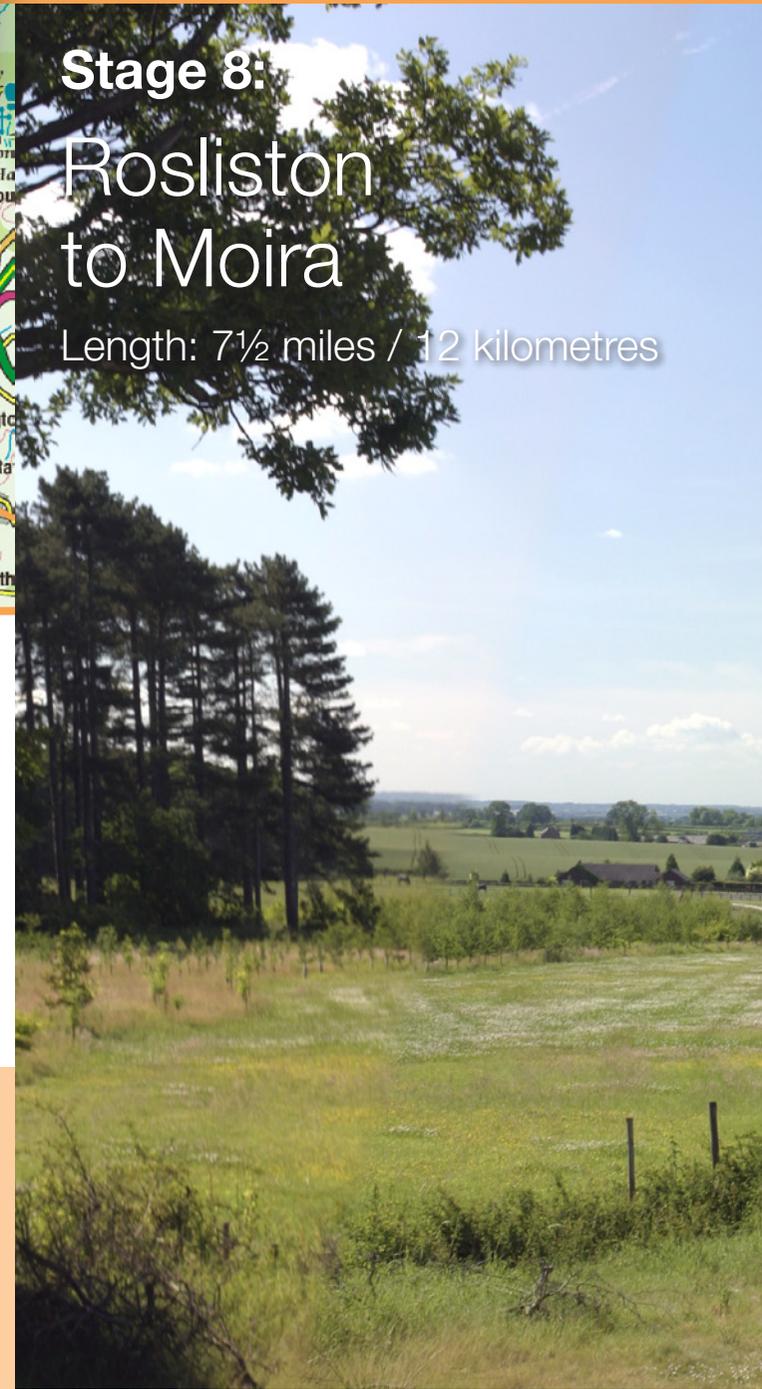
On the way, you will discover the area's evolution from a rural landscape, through industrialisation and its decline, to the modern-day creation of a new forest, where 21st-century life is threaded through a mosaic of green spaces and settlements.

The trail leads through young and ancient woodlands, market towns and the industrial heritage of this changing landscape.



Stage 8: Rosliston to Moira

Length: 7½ miles / 12 kilometres



About this stage

Start: Rosliston Forestry Centre (DE12 8JX)
End: Conkers Waterside, Moira (DE12 6BA)

This stage takes you through the Mease Lowlands. Look out for the characteristic tall church spires rising above the rolling fields. The route continues alongside Grange Wood, an ancient woodland, and on to younger woodlands including Cadborough Hill Wood.

The National Forest Way was created by a partnership of the National Forest Company, Derbyshire County Council, Leicestershire County Council and Staffordshire County Council, with the generous support of Fisher German.



To find out more, visit:
www.nationalforestway.co.uk

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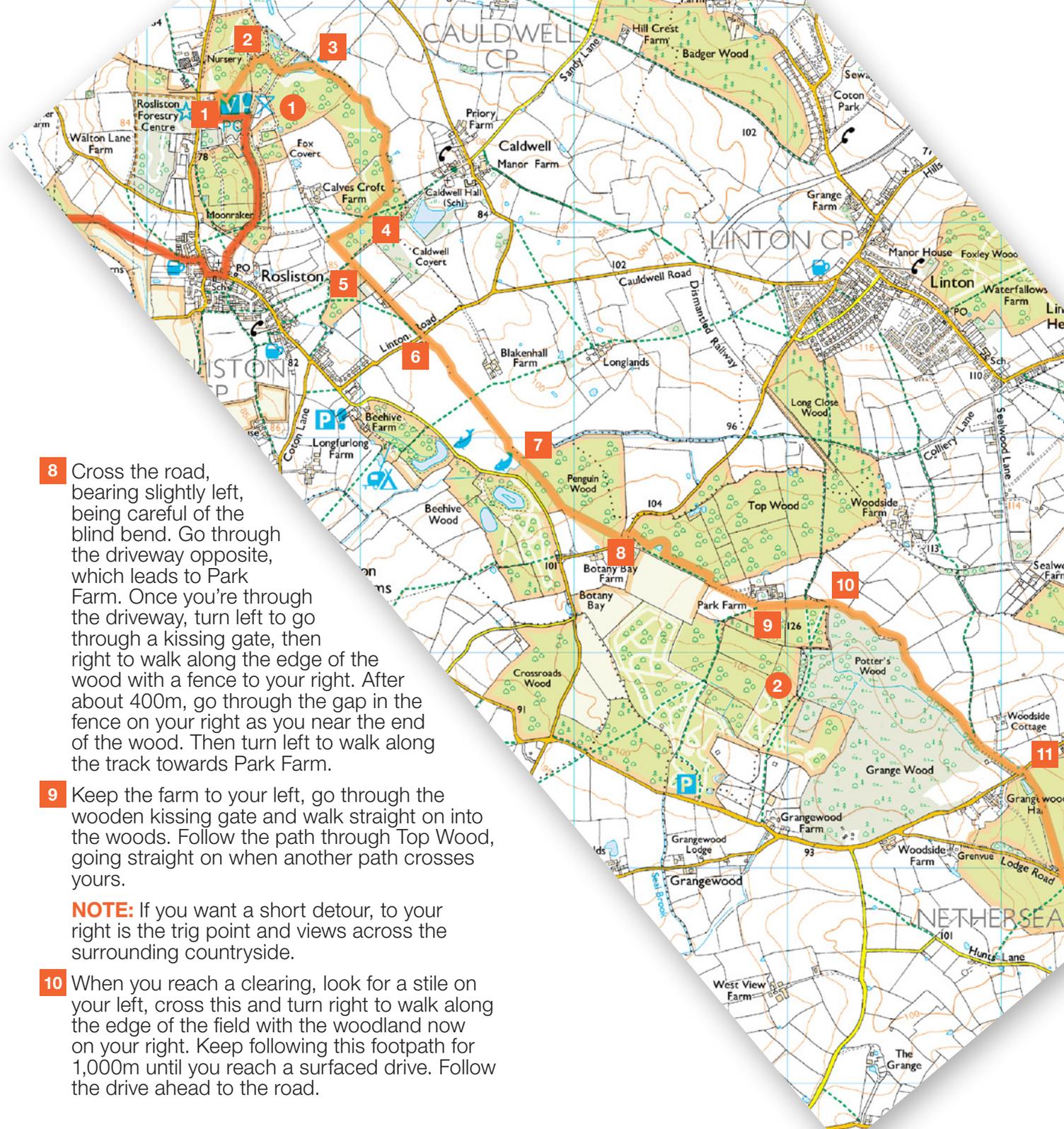


Rosliston to Moira

- 1 From the car park at Rosliston Forestry Centre, face away from the road, with the visitor centre on your right. Pass through the staggered opening in the fencing and where the play area opens out, pick up the narrow path to the left. You are heading towards Greenheart Lake.
- 2 Keep following the path, ignoring one that appears to your left, and on past an owl sculpture, turn right and walk across the grass and straight on along the next path. At the next junction, turn left for a short distance, then bear right to follow the footbridge across Greenheart Lake.
- 3 After crossing the bridge, turn right and follow the track into the woodland. Keep following this track as it bears right and winds around the edge of the woodland (on your right). Ignore the two paths that appear to your right and keep following the path you're on.
- 4 When you reach a large gap in the hedge on your left, go through it and then turn right so you're still walking in the same direction as before. Follow this track as the woods disappear on your right, but remain on your left. The path then turns left, keeping the woodland on your left-hand side.
- 5 At the end of the woodland you'll see a metal barrier on your right, go through the gap to the side of this, then turn left through the gap in the hedge into a field. Walk along the right hand edge of the field to its end and pass through a narrow gap beside the metal gate. Follow the track to the road.
- 6 Cross straight over the road and through the gap in the hedge. Walk straight across the large field, ignoring the path that crosses your way, until you reach a wooden bridge at its other side.
- 7 Cross the bridge, entering Penguin Wood, and then carry straight on, keeping the young trees on your right and a hedge on your left. At the end of this path, bear left then right. You will see woodland on your left and then a field on your right. Follow this path to the road.

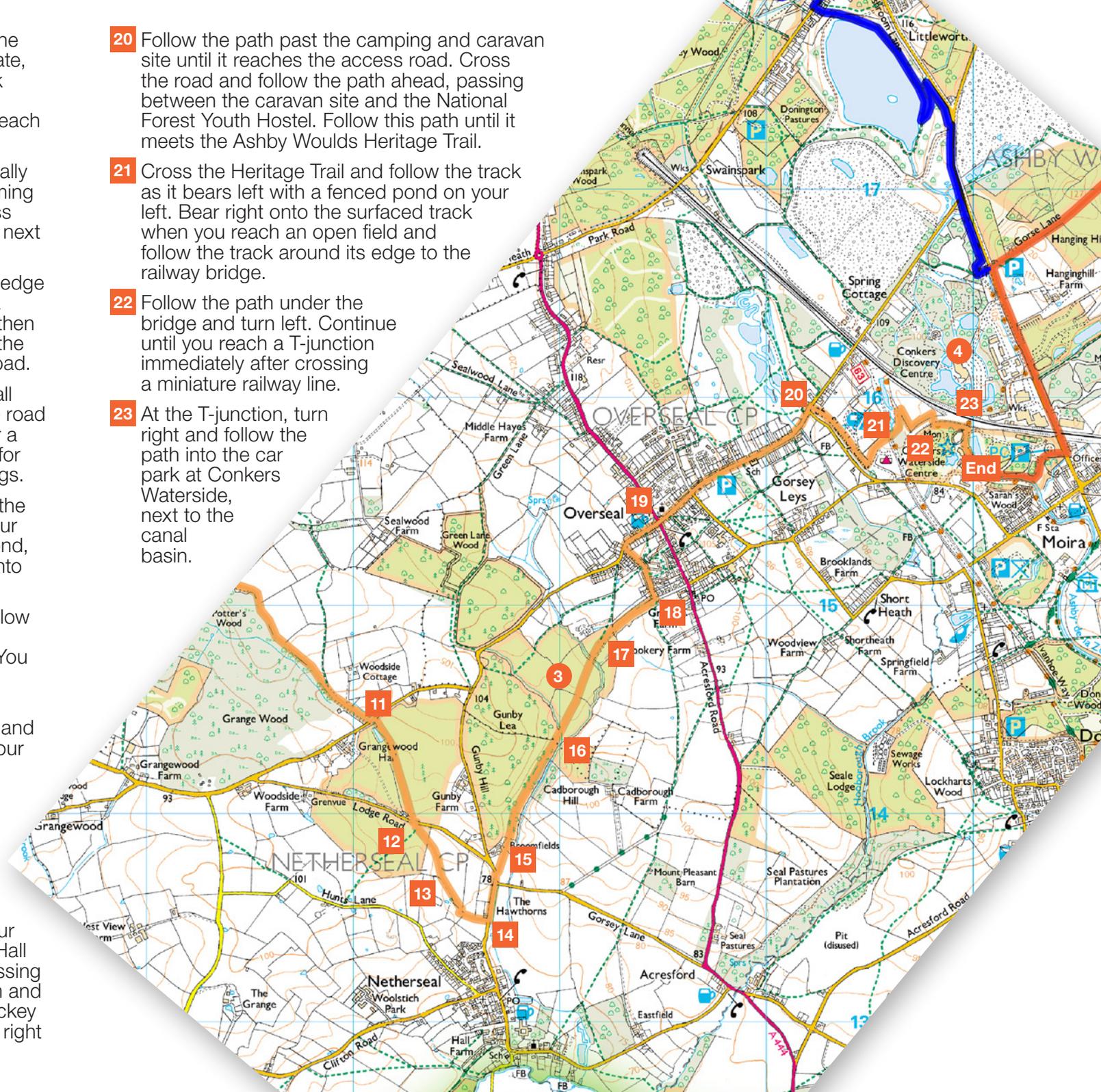
- 8 Cross the road, bearing slightly left, being careful of the blind bend. Go through the driveway opposite, which leads to Park Farm. Once you're through the driveway, turn left to go through a kissing gate, then right to walk along the edge of the wood with a fence to your right. After about 400m, go through the gap in the fence on your right as you near the end of the wood. Then turn left to walk along the track towards Park Farm.
- 9 Keep the farm to your left, go through the wooden kissing gate and walk straight on into the woods. Follow the path through Top Wood, going straight on when another path crosses yours.
- 10 When you reach a clearing, look for a stile on your left, cross this and turn right to walk along the edge of the field with the woodland now on your right. Keep following this footpath for 1,000m until you reach a surfaced drive. Follow the drive ahead to the road.

NOTE: If you want a short detour, to your right is the trig point and views across the surrounding countryside.



- 11** Go through the gate and bear left across the road to the kissing gate. Go through the gate, cross the stile in front of you and then walk along the right hand side of the field. Keep following the fence on your right until you reach the next road.
- 12** Head left across the road and walk diagonally along a wide break in the new planting, aiming for the gap in the hedge ahead of you. Pass through this gap and bear right across the next field.
- 13** At the end of the path, turn left along the hedge and follow it for about 180m until there is a gap with steps. Turn through the gap and then immediately left to follow the other side of the hedge alongside the playing fields to the road.
- 14** Turn left along the road, passing the football ground on your right. Immediately after the road junction, the path turns off to the right over a stile. Cross the stile and the field, heading for another stile to the right of the farm buildings.
- 15** Bear right after the stile, then left to follow the path along the edge of the woodland to your left and a stream to your right. After the pond, go through a gap in the hedge and then onto the wooden bridge at the end of the field.
- 16** Cross the bridge and then bear left and follow the path uphill. Continue straight on past a fenced gap in the hedge on a clear track. You should now be able to see Overseal in the distance.
- 17** At the next hedgerow, go through the gap and head straight on, ignoring the path off to your left. Follow this path to the road.
- 18** At the road, turn left onto Valley Road and follow this to its T-junction with Lullington Road. Turn right and walk up the shallow rise to the A444.
- 19** Use the pedestrian crossing at the junction and head straight across onto Woodville Road, passing the church on your left. Keep following the road as it crosses Hall Croft Avenue and then down an incline passing the War Memorial gates. After about 900m and immediately following the junction with Slackey Lane, look out for a metal chicane on your right leading to a surfaced path.

- 20** Follow the path past the camping and caravan site until it reaches the access road. Cross the road and follow the path ahead, passing between the caravan site and the National Forest Youth Hostel. Follow this path until it meets the Ashby Woulds Heritage Trail.
- 21** Cross the Heritage Trail and follow the track as it bears left with a fenced pond on your left. Bear right onto the surfaced track when you reach an open field and follow the track around its edge to the railway bridge.
- 22** Follow the path under the bridge and turn left. Continue until you reach a T-junction immediately after crossing a miniature railway line.
- 23** At the T-junction, turn right and follow the path into the car park at Conkers Waterside, next to the canal basin.



Useful Information

Parking

Parking is available at Rosliston Forestry Centre and at Conkers in Moira.

Please note that there is a charge for parking at Rosliston Forestry Centre and also be aware of car park closing times before setting off.

Public transport

Moira is on the 9A Coalville-Burton bus route (Mon-Sat).

Rosliston Forestry Centre is on the 22 Swadlincote-Burton bus route (Mon-Sat). Change at Swadlincote to travel between the start and finish of the stage.

For detailed information on bus routes and timetables, call **Traveline** on 0871 200 22 33 (charges apply).

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of publication. However, the National Forest Company cannot be held responsible for any error, omission or subsequent changes.

How to use this leaflet

The maps in this leaflet are based upon the Ordnance Survey's 1:25,000 scale Explorer maps and are presented at the correct scale if printed on A4 paper.

- 1 Square symbols on the maps link with the route directions that are provided alongside the map.
- 1 Circular symbols represent key points of interest along the route of the trail.

Points of interest along this stage

1 Rosliston Forestry Centre

This popular visitor centre was the first to open in The National Forest. You can walk and cycle through the woodlands, spot the wildlife or take part in the Centre's environmental education programme.



2 Penguin Wood to Grangewood Estate

This is an extended section of connected woodlands where new planting on a large scale sits next to ancient and maturing woodlands. It is a bold demonstration of the intention to create a connected forested landscape.



3 Cadborough Hill Wood

At the base of Cadborough Hill is a valley known locally as Dead-Dane Bottom. If you walk up the steep slope of Cadborough Hill you can enjoy a dramatic panorama of the developing National Forest.



4 Conkers

Conkers was one of the earliest visitor attractions to be developed in The National Forest. Built on a former deep coal mine, you can now explore 120 acres of woodland, enjoy adventure play and over 100 indoor interactive exhibits.



About The National Forest

The National Forest is one of Britain's boldest environmentally-led regeneration projects: the creation of a new forest across 200 square miles of parts of Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire, linking the ancient forests of Needwood and Charnwood.

Over the last twenty years, The National Forest has trebled forest cover within its boundary, creating habitats for wildlife, a woodland economy and a beautiful landscape for everyone to enjoy.

