now in the Natural History Museum, London. bed of blue shaly clay. This three-feet tall dinosaur is Polocanthus, a spiky dinosaur, was found in 1864 in a

long can be seen at Dinosaur Isle, Sandown. missing, but an almost complete skeleton some 45 feet the beach in the red-brown mudstone. The head was In 1992, bones from a Sauropod were found above Barnes High

skeleton of an early form of tyrannosauroid was found. be found in this "black band". In 1996, the incomplete It contains plant material and rare bones can sometimes grey, muddy layer in the cliff known as plant debris bed. About half a mile from Grange Chine is 3-6 feet thick, Grange Chine to Barnes High

species was named as Neovenator salerii. After years of research and further digging this new bones, including the remains of a flesh-eating dinosaur. were seen rolling about in the surf. They were dinosaur of Island fossils. After a violent storm, shiny black rocks discovered the most outstanding

In 1978, holidaymakers



found in this area. preserved leg of Valdosaurus (Wealden Lizard) was also of Chilton Chine in 1978. A very rare and beautifully Dinosaur footprints were discovered at the mouth

Shilton Chine

London.

century. It is now in the Natural History Museum in beautifully preserved skull was found in the mid 20th complete skeleton of a species of Iguanodontid with a There have been some marvellous finds here – an almost

made more recently.

probably from an Iguanodon. A similar find has been fallen mass of cliff. The bone was 3ft 4ins in length and In 1854, a perfect femur (thigh bone) was dug out of a Brook Bay

and Thyreophorans).

(Sauropods) saot some with four toes (Sauropods dinosaur foot casts. Most have three toes of many sizes Beneath the cliff is an impressive exposure of fallen

seen lying in gullies on the foreshore.

is right the remains of blackened fossil wood can still be swept most of them into Brook Bay. Today when the tide preserved on the shore platform, but a recent storm has prominent feature. Enormous fossil tree trunks were At Hanover Point, the 'Fossil Forest' was once a

Hanover Point

small heads, and thick, pillar-like legs. and vertebrae. Sauropods had very long necks, long tails, beautifully preserved claws, as well as the pelvis, ribs

Main picture in the footsteps of dinosaurs: Hanover Point inset left to right Evidence of dinosaurs at Hanover Point

of Sauropod, finding a complete leg and foot with at the far end of the bay, a collector discovered a species along with shells and flints. In 2010, at the lower cliffs washed from the cliffs. Limestone slabs can be found, Recently a skull of a fossil hybodont shark was found

lower rocks which are millions of years old. 10,000 years old. This is no time at all compared to the burial place of ancient elephants and trees. It is about The cliff top here has a gravel layer which has become a

Compton Bay (Shippards Chine)

Dinosaur finds

age rocks were deposited on land. floor of the sea, while many of the much older Wealdenchalk, youngest of the Cretaceous rocks, was once the during their deposition as sediments. For example, These differences show that conditions varied greatly

are fine grained and others coarse, and there are many Some are full of fossils, while others are barren; some mudstones and limestones are among the more obvious. Here are many different types of rocks. Sandstones,

along the south east and south west coasts. Cretaceous sediments are exposed in cliff sections all after the much older Cretaceous-age rocks in the south. by water), but those in the north were deposited long All Island rocks are sedimentary in origin (laid down

divides the Isle of Wight into north and south. in the far east is a ridge of low chalk hills which neatly Running from The Needles in the far west to Culver Cliff Geology



<u> Viscovering</u>

Description A linear walk that follows the coastal path, with spectacular seascapes. Distance 9.3 miles Compton Bay to Chale. Shorter routes are possible e.g. Compton Bay to Grange Chine 3.5 miles. Star Compton Bay and Hanover Point National Trust car park. Access information Mainly level walk, apart from when negotiating chines where steps are provided. Diversions may be signposted if there has been path erosion. Refreshments Mobile van at busy times at Compton Bay car park. Café at Isle of Wight Pearl. Toilets Compton Bay car park and Isle of Wight Pearl. Internet All walks in this series can be downloaded from www.iowramblers.com/page44.htm.



If you would like to discover more about dinosaurs on this walk, a good place to start would be a booklet produced by the West Wight Landscape Partnership called Where Dinosaurs Roamed.

It is available from Dinosaur Isle, Culver Parade, Sandown and other outlets on the Island and costs £2.

The quantity of bones collected from the seashore in individuals. What the waves cast up on the strand, the fishermen gather together, the casual visitor selects such

Gideon Mantell Geological Excursions Around the Isle of Wight, 1854

Countryside Code Respect Protect Enjoy

Respect other people

 Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors Leave gates and property as you find

them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- · Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
 - Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs









regular bus service at Brook and Compton Bay (no 12) as In season the hop-on, hop-off Island Coaster bus follows the coast between Ryde and Yarmouth. There is also a well as at Chale (no 6).

footpaths lead to the Military Road where bus stops are With planning, it is possible to walk a short or long route and have time to explore the dinosaur beaches. Access to the beach is possible at some of the chines (clefts in the cliff) when tides permit, and several

located. Great care should be taken when the weather is wet and windy. at the cliffs. This is good news for collectors as cliff falls reveal fossils: shells, bits of trees, even fragments of dinosaur bones. Occasionally, a large part of a skeleton

together with a few ribs - all that has survived after is found, perhaps a series of vertebrae (backbones),

rain turns soft rocks into mud and the sea gnaws away Erosion causes the Island to shrink a little each day as

millions of years of burial and erosion. Very much rarer is the discovery of a scientifically-important dinosaur

fossil, but it is surprising how many great finds have

been made on this small island.

The area is highly valued for its tranquillity and unspoilt world with at least 20 different species already recorded. richest collection of early Cretaceous dinosaurs in the The Isle of Wight's south west coast has yielded the coastal landscapes.

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Chale

2 miles/

erfield

8

phone to access the Southern Vectis timetable applicable to this walk. Scan this code with your smart



ur, Expedit

Pictured, left to right Hanover Point, a new chine, Churchill's Chine, appears to be forming in Brook Bay, soft sandstones and clays form much of the cliffs on the south-west coast.