

## INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WISHING TO USE THE BROOMWAY

The Broomway is a unique byway which requires both caution and specialist knowledge to negotiate. It crosses land under the control of the MOD and their site managers QinetiQ and there are byelaws<sup>1</sup> in force which enable closure of the public rights of way network, without provision of alternative routes, whilst military operations are in progress. Red flags are flown at key locations to indicate when the byelaws are in force.

Before trying to use this network it is always advisable to make contact with the Essex County Council PROW Officer (01268 297500) or HM Coastguard (01255 675518) for any special instructions or advice that may apply at that time, or for guidance on tide times.

You should also note the following points:

1. The Broomway is not marked nor is it maintained for vehicles. It is wet mud, not sand.
2. The tides are unpredictable and the route is not always accessible for the amount of time that the tide tables suggest. The intertidal time can be shortened by an on shore wind or the tide height.
3. The Broomway crosses a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) and anyone whose activity is in breach of permitted activity and thereby damages the area is liable to prosecution. Further information can be obtained from Natural England (0845 600 3078)
4. The sands on the seaward side may appear to be more driveable than the Broomway route as the ground is firmer and the route marked. However, this should not be used because of the potential for unexploded ordnance and soft sand shell craters which are not marked.
5. We can make no guarantee that roads and byways will be open on any given dates and times. This can change due to operational reasons and a check should be made with the Range Control Office (01702 383211) during normal working hours. (0730-1630 Mon-Thu 0730-1230 Fri.)
6. You should ensure that you have sufficient time to return to Wakering Stairs via the Broomway, as most other routes on Foulness Island which are not public rights of way may only be used with prior permission. To avoid trespassing on MOD property, you should not leave the Broomway, except to access another PROW. You should also ensure that you have a means of calling for assistance in the event of an emergency (ie a mobile phone).
6. Neither MOD or QinetiQ accept any responsibility for the recovery of any vehicle which may become stranded in the sands, this is the sole responsibility of the vehicle owner.

---

<sup>1</sup> Shoeburyness Artillery Range Byelaws 1936