

**Valley Park Woods,  
Chandler's Ford, Hampshire**

29.54 ha (72.99 acres)  
SU424210  
OS Landranger 185 & Explorer 132  
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland



WTP/LStuart Handley

Valley Park Woods is a series of separate woods, four of which – Clothier's Copse, Knight Wood, Small Profits and Titlark Copse – are owned or part-owned by the Woodland Trust, with others owned by Test Valley Borough Council.

In the mid-1980s, the area changed from being predominantly rural to urban, and the rapid development of the agricultural land has left these woods surrounded with dense housing, an industrial estate and associated infrastructure.

Small Profits Wood is a compact block of tall, maturing oak with some ash, silver birch and beech, and a hazel, holly and hawthorn understorey. A circular permissive footpath with pedestrian entrances in the north and south provides a pleasant walk. Residential houses are very close to the wood's edge in the north, east and southwest.

Titlark Copse is a compact block of post-1870 planted oak in a formerly wet field with a few trees and shrubs established at the time. The current species are oak, ash, birch and the occasional beech with a well developed understorey of holly, hazel, hawthorn and dogwood. Several permissive footpaths cross this woodland which is very well used by local people. The largest block, Knight Wood, has an extensive permissive footpath network and there are also three public footpaths. All the other blocks are well served by maintained permissive footpaths. Most paths are gravelly earth – hard when dry but liable to muddy patches when wet. Access points are either kissing gates or squeeze stiles.

**How to find the wood**

Chandler's Ford is found west of the M3 at junction 13. The dedicated trees are in Small Profits Wood and Titlark Copse, with Small Profits located south, off Wicklow Road, and Titlark Copse accessible from School Lane and Pilgrims Close. Nearest Bus Stop and trains: Chandler's Ford Station. Accessible from Winchester and Southampton on Bluestar buses route No. 1. Also from Eastleigh on Velvet buses, routes C1 & C2. From the station, head south. At the bottom of the road turn right down School Lane and Titlark Copse is to the west. For travel advice, please contact Traveline on: 0871 200 2233.

