

# Beaulieu

## Beaulieu Abbey Audio Tour

This FREE Audio Tour can be enjoyed as part of your visit to Beaulieu and has been created to help you learn about the daily life of the thirteenth century Abbey and its Cistercian monk founders. You can use the tour to help plan your visit to the Abbey or simply listen to the commentary during your visit.

We hope you enjoy your tour.

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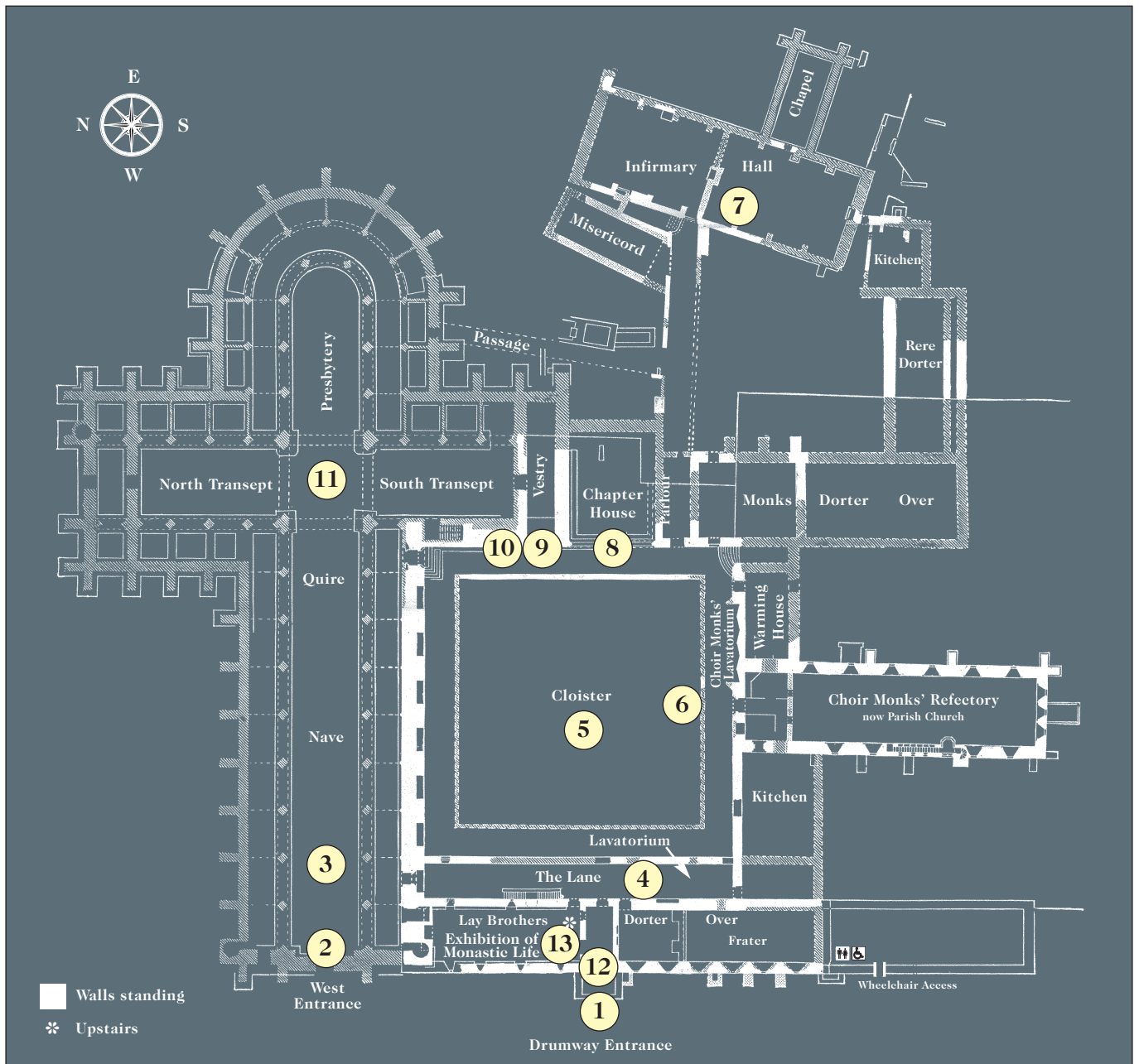
### A brief history

Beaulieu Abbey was the largest Cistercian Abbey built in England, with an overall length of 336 feet and a width of 186 feet. It was founded in 1204 on land gifted by King John to a group of Cistercian monks from France. Construction was completed in phases over a hundred year period.

The Choir Monks' Refectory, Abbey Cloisters, Domus, and remains of the Chapter House Infirmary, together with sections of the 12 foot high continuous wall that surrounded the 58 acre Precinct, are the only features of the Abbey to have survived the Dissolution of the Monasteries by King Henry VIII in the 16th century. During the 1540s, much of the stone from Beaulieu Abbey was taken to assist in the building of a series of fortifications against the French across the South coast, including local sites such as Hurst Castle, Calshot Castle and Cowes Castle on the Isle of Wight.

Today visitors can enjoy the picturesque and tranquil remains of Beaulieu Abbey and learn about the strict life of the Cistercian monks who once lived within its walls. There are also impressive wall hangings which depict scenes from the Abbey's history. Further information on the Abbey and the development of the Beaulieu estate is available in the Beaulieu Guidebook, available for purchase from the on-site shop.





The Audio Tour contains 18 audio tracks. You can either chose to follow the tour in numerical order, or skip to another section if your time is restricted. You are encouraged to pause during or between tracks and to move at your own pace around the Abbey. The full tour will take approximately 50 minutes. Whenever a section ends, you will hear a bell. This tells you to make your way to the next point. Each section is marked by a corresponding number 10 on your map.

## Beaulieu Abbey Audio Tour Track List

### Introduction

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|--|--|
| ① The Drumway Entrance to Domus        | ⑩ The Monastic Bookcase                |
| ② The West Door of ruined Abbey Church | ⑪ The Crossing of ruined Abbey Church  |
| ③ The Nave of ruined Abbey Church      | ⑫ The Drumway Entrance to Domus        |
| ④ The Lane                             | ⑬ The Lay Brothers' Dormitory in Domus |
| ⑤ The Cloister                         | ⑭ The Great Gatehouse (Palace House)   |
| ⑥ The Choir Monks' Refectory           | ⑮ The Outer Gatehouse (Clock House)    |
| ⑦ The Infirmary                        | ⑯ The Mill Pond                        |
| ⑧ The Chapter House                    | ⑰ Part of the Abbey Precinct Wall      |
| ⑨ The Vestry                           |  |

} These points are shown on map overleaf

### Conclusion

We welcome your feedback on this audio tour. Please email your comments to [info@beaulieu.co.uk](mailto:info@beaulieu.co.uk).