

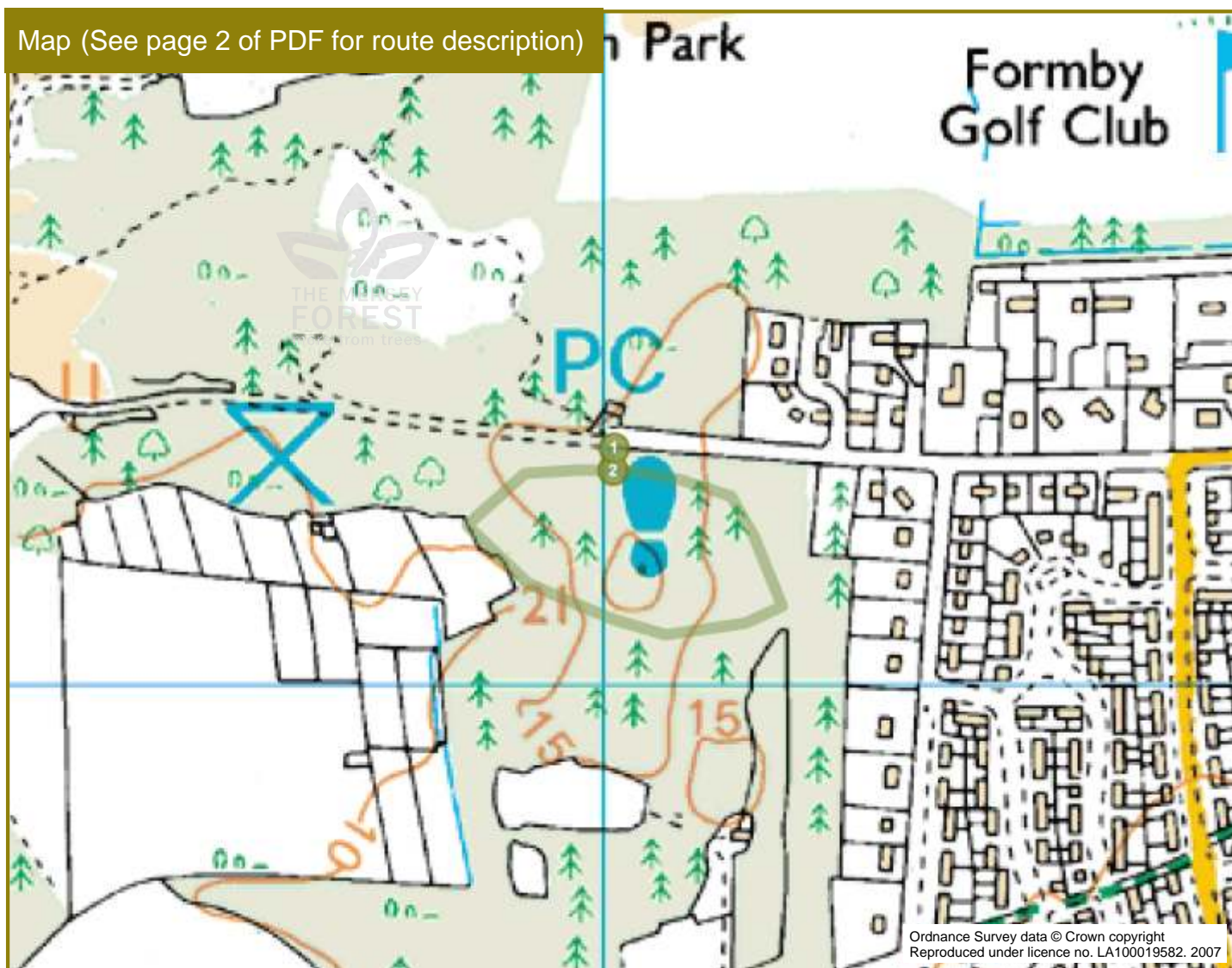
Formby Red Squirrel Walk

Route Summary

See the indigenous but endangered red squirrel at the National Trust's attractive coastal reserve.

Grade	Easy
Distance	½km / ½ mile
Accessibility	★
Allow	½ hour
Start	Opposite public convenience, Victoria Road, Formby
Map	OS Explorer 265 Southport & Chorley

Map (See page 2 of PDF for route description)



Formby Red Squirrel Walk

Route Details

The National Trust's Freshfield Reserve is famous for its red squirrels which are accustomed to being fed and are very tame. The red squirrel is native to Britain and yet is being forced out of its natural habitat by the stronger American grey squirrel. One of the delights of winter is to witness red squirrels courting. These nimble inhabitants of the Formby pine forest look their best in winter. Their tails are extra bushy and their pointed ears sport distinctive tufts of long hair.

Their lives are spent mostly up in the pine trees which surround the Formby coast. They seem to enjoy leaping, with great agility, between branches. Sharp claws help them move at speed up and down the trunks, and their tail is used for balance and as a rudder when airborne.

The National Trust property in this area also includes areas of dune and beach, a stunning 17th century gatehouse and long gallery, and 5,000 year old elk footprints on the beach.

Route Directions

1. Take the path into the woods opposite the public convenience.
2. Make a short circuit of the woodland along the many paths.

