

# Heather Hills & Wooded Vales Walk

This circular walk is 13.3 km (8.3 miles) long and takes approximately 4 hours. It follows the Greensand Way for much of the first half and is covered by OS Explorer map 133. The route takes you through heathland and farmland and is hilly in places. Please wear suitable clothing and good footwear and take extra care when crossing or using roads.

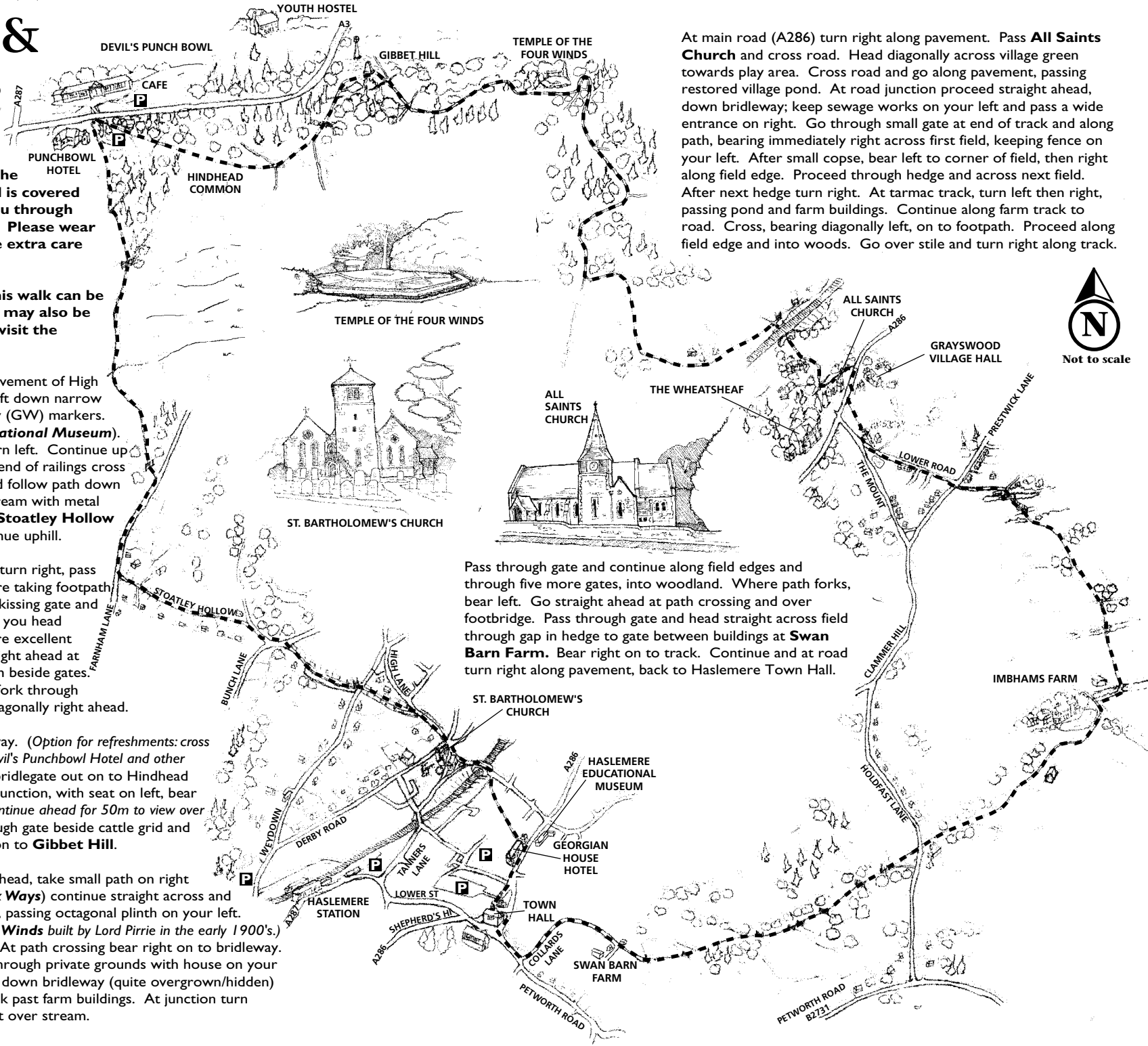
As an alternative to starting in Haslemere this walk can be undertaken from Hindhead or Grayswood. It may also be done in sections. There is an opportunity to visit the fascinating Haslemere Educational Museum.

From **Haslemere Town Hall** walk up left hand pavement of High Street. After the **Georgian House Hotel**, turn left down narrow footpath between walls and follow Greensand Way (GW) markers. (Option: continue up High Street to **Haslemere Educational Museum**). Bear right at footpath junction. Cross road and turn left. Continue up road, passing **St. Bartholomew's Church**, and at end of railings cross road to join narrow footpath. Cross next road and follow path down hill. At road turn left, following road over small stream with metal railings on roadside. Turn right at junction beside **Stoutley Hollow** sign. Bear left at fork past green triangle and continue uphill.

On reaching **Farnham Lane** at "**Beech House**" turn right, pass end of bridgeway on left and postbox on right before taking footpath on left opposite "**Scotstoun**". Continue through kissing gate and at junction of paths bear diagonally right ahead. As you head downhill across **Frydingerst Common** there are excellent views down **Polecat Valley** to the south. Go straight ahead at path crossings until you drop into the valley bottom beside gates. Continue ahead with fence on your left. Take left fork through bridlegate and at path crossing at top of hill bear diagonally right ahead.

Just before main road (A3) turn right on to bridgeway. (Option for refreshments: cross road for NT Devil's Punch Bowl Café or turn left for Devil's Punchbowl Hotel and other restaurants). Pass NT Estate Yard and go through bridlegate out on to Hindhead Common. Continue, ignoring side paths. At path junction, with seat on left, bear left up slight rise and at byway turn left. (Option: continue ahead for 50m to view over **Coombeswell Valley** towards Haslemere). Go through gate beside cattle grid and straight ahead at path crossing, climbing gently up on to **Gibbet Hill**.

At summit by white triangulation pillar, with view ahead, take small path on right down through woods. At junction of six paths (**Six Ways**) continue straight across and uphill. Continue on main track, ignoring side paths, passing octagonal plinth on your left. (The plinth is the remains of the **Temple of the Four Winds** built by Lord Pirrie in the early 1900's.) At major junction turn left and continue downhill. At path crossing bear right on to bridgeway. At major junction turn right on to track and pass through private grounds with house on your right. Just beyond further boundary fence turn left down bridgeway (quite overgrown/hidden) into woods, then between fields. Continue on track past farm buildings. At junction turn right under railway bridge and continue, bearing left over stream.



At main road (A286) turn right along pavement. Pass **All Saints Church** and cross road. Head diagonally across village green towards play area. Cross road and go along pavement, passing restored village pond. At road junction proceed straight ahead, down bridgeway; keep sewage works on your left and pass a wide entrance on right. Go through small gate at end of track and along path, bearing immediately right across first field, keeping fence on your left. After small copse, bear left to corner of field, then right along field edge. Proceed through hedge and across next field. After next hedge turn right. At tarmac track, turn left then right, passing pond and farm buildings. Continue along farm track to road. Cross, bearing diagonally left, on to footpath. Proceed along field edge and into woods. Go over stile and turn right along track.

Pass through gate and continue along field edges and through five more gates, into woodland. Where path forks, bear left. Go straight ahead at path crossing and over footbridge. Pass through gate and head straight across field through gap in hedge to gate between buildings at **Swan Barn Farm**. Bear right on to track. Continue and at road turn right along pavement, back to Haslemere Town Hall.