

Haslemere & Hindhead

Haslemere is an attractive old market town nestling near the point where three counties meet. Described in an early visitor guide as the 'fashionable capital of the beautiful Surrey highlands', it now lies within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Haslemere and Hindhead became popular with authors and artists in the late 19th Century, when the railway opened up this part of Surrey.

Haslemere Educational Museum

Haslemere Educational Museum was opened in 1888 and is a treasure-trove of fascinating geology, archaeology and natural history exhibits, all accommodated in a fine Georgian House. The Museum is open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
Tel: 01428 642112, www.haslemeremuseum.co.uk

The Greensand Way

This scenic long distance walking route follows the Greensand ridge through Surrey and Kent. It runs for 108 miles from Haslemere to Hamstreet on the northern edge of Romney Marsh.

St Bartholomew's Church

Designed by local architect, J.W. Penfold, this church was rebuilt in 1871 on the site of an earlier church. The windows in the north aisle commemorate the poets Alfred Lord Tennyson and Gerald Manley Hopkins.

Hindhead Common

Hindhead Common, with over 566ha of heath and woodland, was one of the first countryside areas acquired by the National Trust and is an exceptional site for heathland restoration. Heather is recovering and heathland birds such as the Nightjar and Stonechat are thriving.

Devil's Punch Bowl

There are fine views of the Devil's Punch Bowl (a remarkable natural basin) from the viewpoint, 50m from the café.

Gibbet Hill

This is Surrey's second highest point (272m), with spectacular views to the north and east. On a clear day Canary Wharf and the London Eye can be seen. A granite cross marks the site where the three murderers of an unknown sailor were hanged in 1786. The tale is told on a memorial stone alongside the old A3 London to Portsmouth road, near the Devil's Punch Bowl which was the scene of the brutal murder.

All Saints Church, Grayswood

Built in 1901, this church was designed by a Swedish architect, Axel Haig, whose unusual headstone is in the churchyard.

Swan Barn Farm

This National Trust farmland is being restored to wildflower meadow and orchard and is maintained by cattle grazing. A superb barn has been converted as a base for volunteers on conservation working holidays. It is named after a National Trust founder, Sir Robert Hunter, who lived in Haslemere.

Travel & Local Information

For information on Haslemere and the local area and other walks contact:

Haslemere Visitor & Local Information Centre
(Funded by Haslemere Town Council & Haslemere Initiative)

at Haslemere Museum,
78 High Street,
Haslemere
tel: 01428 645425
www.haslemere.com/vic

Haslemere Station (Waterloo & Portsmouth Line) is a 10 minute walk from the Town Hall. Turn left out of the station along Lower Street and keep going until you reach the High Street.

For local train and bus information call Travel Line South East on 08706 082608 or www.travelline.org.uk

Refreshments and accommodation are available in Haslemere, Hindhead and Grayswood.

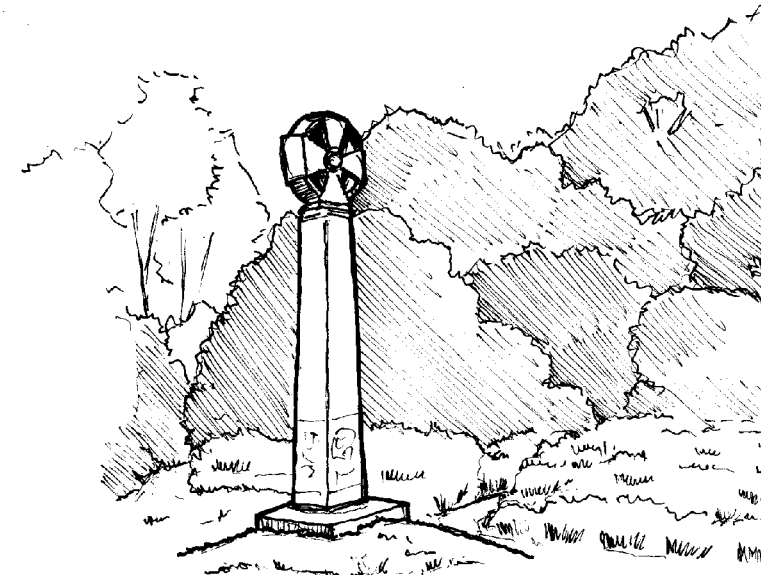
Devil's Punch Bowl Café (open all year) Tel: 01428 608771
The Wheatsheaf Inn, Grayswood (◆◆◆) Tel: 01428 644440
The Devil's Punchbowl Hotel (◆◆◆) Tel: 01428 606565

Follow the Countryside Code

Please

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Consider other people.

Heather Hills & Wooded Vales Walk



A delightful circular walk through the Haslemere countryside

Compiled by: **Haslemere Visitor & Local Information Centre**

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HASLEMERE
INITIATIVE

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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.

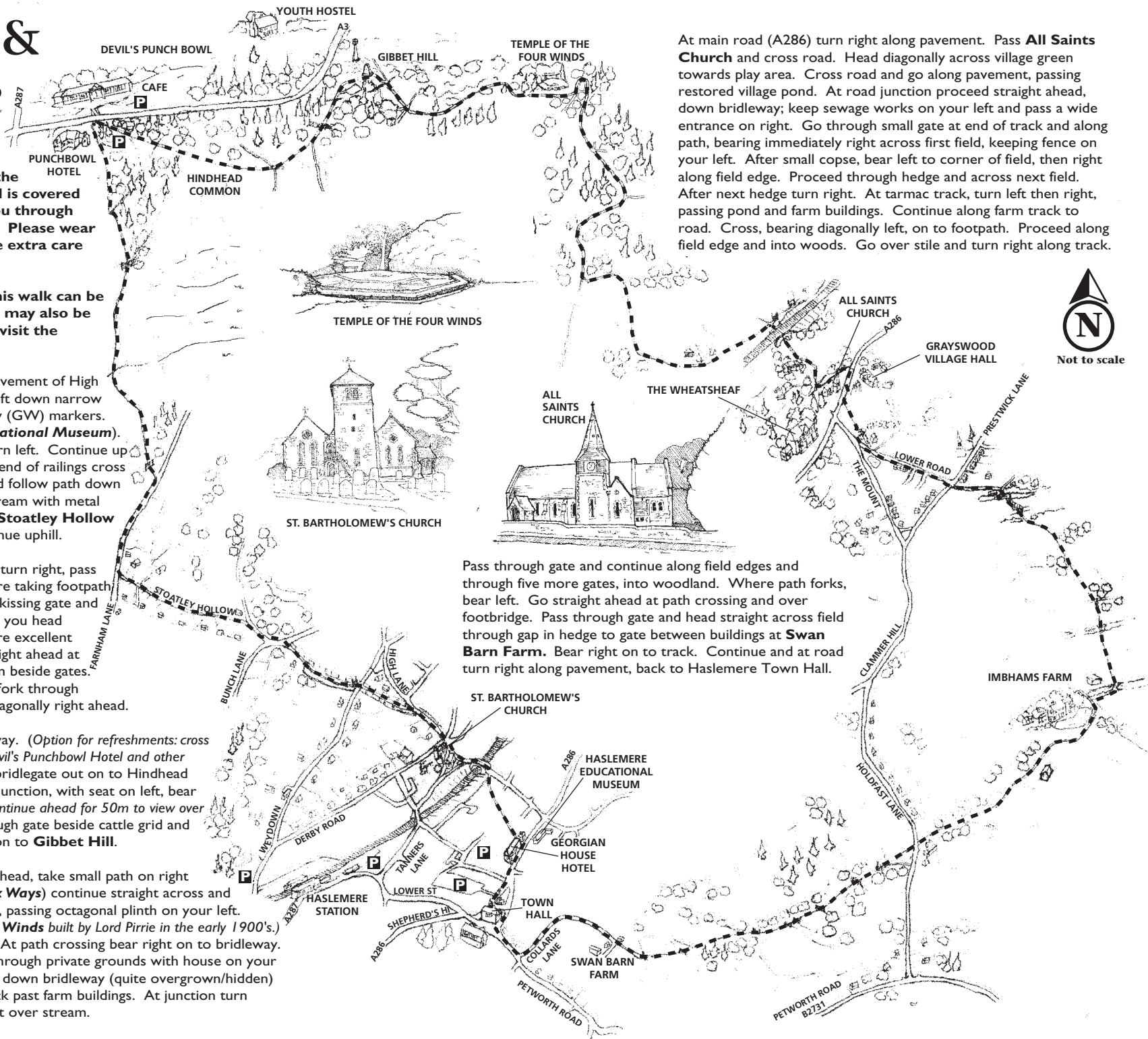
As an alternative to starting in Haslemere this walk can be undertaken from Hindhead or Grayswood. It may also be done in sections. There is an opportunity to visit the fascinating Haslemere Educational Museum.

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 Stootley 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 Frydinhurst 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.