

## 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](http://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:

Visit Haslemere (Visitor Information Centre) at

Haslemere Museum,  
78 High Street,  
Haslemere  
tel: 01428 645425  
[www.haslemere.com/vic](http://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](http://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

### Please follow the Countryside Code

- 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.



## HASLEMERE WALKS

# HEATHER HILLS & WOODED VALES

WALK

2

Distance: 8.3 miles / 13.3 kms

A delightful circular walk through the Haslemere countryside

WALK TYPE

MODERATE





# HEATHER HILLS & WOODED VALES WALK

## ABOUT THIS WALK

This circular walk is 13.3 km (8.3 miles) long and takes approx. 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.

## ROUTE cont.

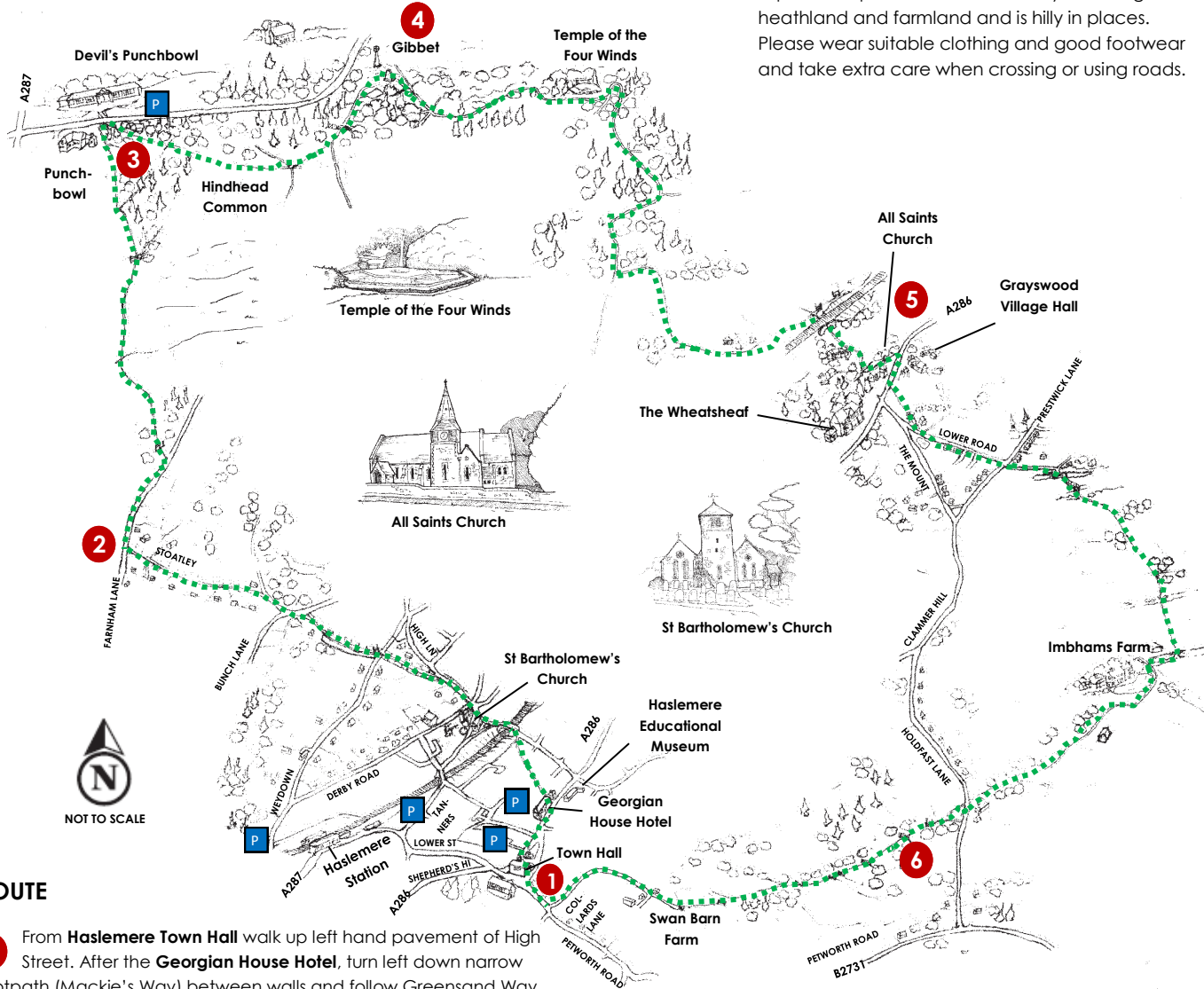
Go straight ahead at path crossings until you drop into the valley bottom beside gates. Continue ahead with fence on your left. Take left fork and continue uphill, then through bridle gate and at path crossing at top of hill bear diagonally right ahead.

**3** Just before the road turn right on to bridlway. (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 bridle gate 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 to **Gibbet Hill**.

**4** 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. Keep to the main path and continue downhill, ignoring all side paths until you get to private grounds with house on your right. Just beyond further boundary fence turn left down bridlway (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.

**5** 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 bridlway (signed Private Road); pass sewage works on your left and a wide entrance on right. Go through small gate at end of track and along path, bearing right across first field keeping fence on your left. After small copse, bear left to corner of field, then right following field edges, passing Public Bridlway marker. Proceed through hedge and across next field. After next hedge turn right. At **Imbhams Farm** tarmac road turn left, then right on Public Footpath road passing pond and farm buildings. Continue along farm road to **Holdfast Lane**. Cross, bearing diagonally left, on to footpath. Proceed along field edge and into woods. Through kissing gate and turn right along track.

**6** Pass through gate onto **Swan Barn** NT land and along field edge. Shortly turn right through two small gates over stream. Continue along field edges through three more gates, into NT woodland signed Witley Copse & Mariners Rewe. 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 Petworth Road turn right along pavement, back to Haslemere Town Hall.



## ROUTE

**1** From **Haslemere Town Hall** walk up left hand pavement of High Street. After the **Georgian House Hotel**, turn left down narrow footpath (Mackie's Way) 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 along road, passing **St. Bartholomew's Church** and at end of railings cross road to join narrow footpath on left. 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 **Stoatley Hollow** sign. Bear left at fork past green triangle and continue uphill.

**2** On reaching **Farnham Lane** at "**Beech House**" turn right, pass end of bridlway 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 (the middle of the three paths). As you head downhill across **Frydinhurst Common** there are excellent views down **Polecat Valley** to the south.