## Selborne – Walk in the footsteps of Gilbert White

# SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

#### WALK ROUTE:



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#### **INFORMATION:**

## DURATION:

5.6 miles / 2 - 3 hours

## PARKING:

Pay and display car park at Gilbert White's House, behind The Selborne Arms.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

38 Stagecoach bus services Selborne from Petersfield and Alton.

## FACILITIES AND REFRESHMENTS:

The Selborne Arms and White's Café both serve food and drinks – check websites for opening times.

Toilets are available in the car park behind The Selborne Arms.





Visit **southdowns.gov.uk** for more walking inspiration or scan the QR code above.

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- Turn left out of the car park next to The Selborne Arms. Continue along the main road until you see the church on the opposite side. Carefully cross and enter the churchyard.
- 2. Follow the path to the right through the churchyard to leave via the kissing gate with the view over the deep valley below. The land for the next stretch is owned by the National Trust.
- **3.** Continue along the path crossing Church Meadow, pass over the stream using the bridge and follow the path at the foot of the woods of the Short and Long Lythes.
- 4. Leave the woods via the kissing gate with stunning views over three beautiful ponds. Follow the path to the left, keeping the ponds on your right and head across Combe Meadow to a gate near the end of the far left pond. Go through the gate and continue along the Hangars Way path through the sheep field keeping dogs on lead. Continue through the gate and along the track into Coombe Wood. Go through the next gate, and follow the Hangars Way path across the field to the stile and gate.
- Go through the gate and turn right onto a track. Follow this passing through the big farm gate to pass through the farmyard and past the wooden cladded bungalow. Bear right at the road.
- Bear right at the corner to follow the BOAT signposted 'The Writer's Way'. Continue through the gate, along the path and through another gate in Dorton Wood. Follow the track through the beech trees of Dorton Wood with the stream in a deep valley to the right of you.
- 7. At the end of the wood follow the track that links with a surfaced road, pass Dorton Cottage and continue back to the main road in Selborne. Carefully cross the road and turn left to walk back to the car park where you can finish your walk, or stop at the pub or café for some refreshments.
- When ready to continue, from the car park take the footpath signposted to the Zig Zag and Selborne Common. Follow this between a field and a woodland strip. Enter the Hanger at the kissing gate.
- **9.** Turn left to ascend the zigzag path. At the top follow the path to the right behind the metal bench.
- **10.** Follow the path to the gate, go through it and follow the grassy track bearing right across the common. At the obvious grassy fork in paths, continue on the track bearing to the right to pass a small pond and then pass through the wooded area.
- **11.** At the junction of paths turn right and continue along the track following the edge of the wood.

- **12.** Go through the gate and follow the blue arrowed bridleway.
- **13.** When you reach the edge of the wood turn right following the main marked blue path.
- **14.** Continue to follow the blue arrowed bridleway, bearing round to the left and along the path with a steep drop to the right.
- **15.** Turn right at the T-junction of paths to follow the permissive bridleway down the short hill. Bear left at the bottom of the hill.
- **16.** Continue along the lower path and follow the track all the way to the road.
- **17.** When you reach the lane turn right and follow the road as it winds its way back to the main road where you turn right to continue back along the pavement to the car park.

#### THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Respect everyone: leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect the environment: take your litter home.
- Enjoy the outdoors: plan ahead and be prepared.

#### TAKE THE LEAD

Please keep your dog on the lead around livestock and wildlife – grazing animals are present along this route. Always bag and bin your dog's poo. Any bin will do!

#### GILBERT WHITE'S HOUSE & GARDENS

Explore Gilbert White's House & Gardens, home to the 18th Century naturalist Gilbert White. Discover 25 acres of beautiful gardens and a fascinating historic house.

Learn about the Oates Collections: Captain Lawrence Oates' tragic journey to the South Pole & Frank Oates' journey to Victoria Falls.

With a Café, On-Site Brewery and Taproom a stop before or after your walk is a must!

Visit gilbertwhiteshouse.org.uk for more information.