

# SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

From rolling hills to bustling market towns, the South Downs National Park's landscapes cover 1,600km<sup>2</sup> of breathtaking views, hidden gems and quintessentially English scenery. A rich tapestry of wildlife, landscapes, tranquillity and visitor attractions, weave together a story of people and place in harmony.

For your guide to everything there is to see and do in the National Park visit [southdowns.gov.uk/discovery-map](https://southdowns.gov.uk/discovery-map)

 Keep up to date with the latest news and events from the South Downs National Park. [southdowns.gov.uk/newsletter](https://southdowns.gov.uk/newsletter)



## YOUR COUNTRYSIDE CODE: RESPECT. PROTECT. ENJOY.

### Respect other people

- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Keep to the paths unless on Open Access Land 

### Protect the natural environment

- Take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

### Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

# THE SERPENT TRAIL

This 64-mile long trail snakes from Haslemere in Surrey to Petersfield in Hampshire passing by Liphook, Milland, Fernhurst, Petworth, Fittleworth, Duncton, Heyshott, Midhurst, Stedham and Nyewood. Designated to highlight the outstanding landscape of the greensand hills this Trail showcases the rich heathlands of the South Downs National Park.



# SOUTH DOWNS WALKS HASLEMERE AND FERNHURST



SOUTH DOWNS  
NATIONAL PARK

A model of Fernhurst Furnace  
©SDNPA/Bruce Middleton



Belted-Galloway cattle  
©Mark Monk-Terry Sussex Wildlife Trust



## POINTS OF INTEREST

### FERNHURST FURNACE

The remains of Fernhurst Furnace, also known as North Park Furnace, are some of the best preserved in the Sussex Weald. It is believed the site was in use between 1614 until 1777 when the iron industry flourished here in the 17th and 18th centuries using local ore, charcoal and water power.

The untouched nature of the site and the rural surrounding make it hard to imagine the production of cast iron, tools and cannon once happened here. It was effectively the

beginning of the Industrial Revolution and even though there are many 'hammer/furnace' ponds throughout East and West Sussex, many people know little about the great historical and social importance of this bygone industry.

### BLACK DOWN

This is the highest hill in Sussex standing at 280 metres (918 feet) and is second only to Leith Hill (295 metres, 968 feet) in the south-east of England. It is also the highest point in the South Downs National Park and its pine and heather covered

slopes are grazed by a herd of friendly belted-Galloway cattle.

Looming over much of the Low Weald of West Sussex and south-west Surrey, Black Down is geologically part of the greensand ridge and is situated about 1.2 miles (1.9 km) south of Haslemere. Flint artefacts show there has been settlement on Black Down since the mesolithic period, around 6000BC

Aside from its height and its wild beauty, Black Down is best known as the site of Tennyson's house, Aldworth. Tennyson purchased Black Down

and built Aldworth in 1869. With magnificent views over the Weald, the French-style Gothic house was designed by Sir James Knowles and built using local sandstone. Lord Tennyson used Aldworth as his summer residence and died in the house on 6 October 1892. Black Down was then passed between various landowners until W.E. Hunter donated it to the National Trust in the 1940s as a memorial to his wife. The National Trust still own the site and the Hunter family are remembered by an inscribed stone seat at the Temple of the Winds viewpoint.

### FIND YOUR WAY

Follow the arrows on waymarkers.

- Footpath  
- Bridleway  
- Restricted byway  
- Byway  
- Open access land  National Trail Acorn 



### TAKE THE LEAD

For a safe and fun visit with your dog please remember to keep them on a lead around livestock and wildlife. Always bag and bin your dog poo – any public bin will do!

### GETTING HERE

**By bus:** There are regular services to Liphook and Haslemere, visit [traveline.info/se](http://traveline.info/se)

**By rail:** The nearest railway stations are Liphook and Haslemere. Visit [nationalrail.co.uk](http://nationalrail.co.uk)

### CONTACT

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 @SDNPA  /SDNPA

 southdownsnp



### SOUTH DOWNS.GOV.UK

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Please recycle me after use

KEY:

- Point of interest
- Pub
- Refreshments
- Toilets
- Bus stop
- Parking
- Trail point
- Road
- Long Distance Path
- Bridleway
- Footpath
- Woodland
- Buildings
- Open access land (in shaded area)



LIPHOOK

- Refreshments
- Toilets
- Bus stop
- Parking



**Open Access Land**  
Wherever you see this symbol you are free to leave the footpath to walk and picnic within the mapped area. Please be aware of livestock and wildlife.



# LIPHOOK TO FERNHURST

TRAIL: 

GRADIENT:

One steep hill at Stanley Hanger.

DISTANCE:

7.25 miles (11.7km)

ALLOW:

3.5–4 hours

PATH:

Mainly forested paths

Discover the wooded weald and the remnants of an iron cannon making era.

**1** Turn left out of the station building, then left onto Station Road. At the T-junction turn left towards Portsmouth and Petersfield.

**2** After the Links Tavern turn left onto the byway. At the other side of the railway bridge continue straight ahead on the footpath, then turn left on the Sussex Border Path. At the fork turn left and continue to the road.

**3** Cross the road and continue on Highfield Lane turning right onto the first bridleway.

**4** Turn right onto the Serpent Trail and follow Trail markers to Iron Hill car park. Turn left, then right at the bridleway T-junction and continue to the road.

**5** Turn left along the road, taking the first footpath right and continue into the woods. Turn left at the footpath junction, then right at the bridleway. Cross a small brook and continue until the bridleway bears right.

**6** Take the footpath left through the gate. Continue along the field edge, through a gate and merge onto the bridleway.

**7** Continue across the Fernhurst Furnace dam, along the bridleway to the wood and out into a narrow field. Continue until you emerge beside Lower Lodge Farm and the candle factory.

**8** Turn right at the road and at the next junction follow the road to Lynchmere. After 600 metres turn

left on the footpath, then left at the footpath T-junction. Continue through the woods passing a cottage, then at the T-junction turn left and follow the path.

**9** Turn right at the next junction and continue up the hill. Pass Stanley Farm and continue through the gate beside the cattle grid. At the bridleway T-junction turn left and follow bridleway signs until you reach the road.

**10** Cross the road and follow the pavement back to Liphook, cross the railway footbridge and turn right down the steps to return to the station.

# HASLEMERE TO FERNHURST

TRAIL: 

GRADIENT:

A couple of steady climbs.

DISTANCE:

8 miles (12.9 km)

ALLOW:

4–4.5 hours

PATH:

Wooded paths with a mix of gates and stiles.

Explore hidden tracks and the highest point in the South Downs.

**1** Turn left out of the station and follow the road into Haslemere. Turn left onto the high street. At the pedestrian crossing look for the Serpent Trail marker on the traffic lights. Cross over, turn left and follow the marker right onto Well Lane.

**2** Follow the path into Swan Barn Farm, through two gates and left on the track. Follow the Serpent Trail markers along the track, across fields and over a bridge.

**3** Turn right and follow the path to the road. Cross over and follow the Trail marker along Pine Springs Valley. Bear left where the road forks.

**4** Continue into the wood, pass through a gate and continue on the Serpent Trail passing High Barn Farm. Pass through a gate and turn left on the track.

**5** Continue to follow the Serpent Trail turning right onto the road.

**6** Just before Black Down car park turn left and follow the Trail markers to the Temple of the Winds. Bear left and follow the path to the viewpoint.

**7** Continue through the woods, turn left at the T-junction and pass through the gate.

**8** At the road turn right then immediately left onto a bridleway. Bear left at the end of the tarmac into woodland. Turn left at the fork, then at the crossroads follow the way marker straight ahead.

**9** Bear left where the path joins a track. At the road turn right along the footpath and follow way markers until you emerge beside the Red Lion pub in Fernhurst.

**10** Cross the road and turn right uphill. At the left hand bend cross the road and take the signposted footpath. Continue onto a path and over a stile.

**11** Continue over two stiles crossing a small lane into a field to another stile. Continue straight ahead on the footpath.

**12** Turn right at the road, passing houses on your left, and join the restricted byway. At the fork bear right downhill and follow the track as it becomes a footpath.

**13** At the T-junction continue on the restricted byway, then turn left at the road. At the T-junction turn left then just past Wadesmarch Farmhouse turn right on the bridleway and enter Valewood Park.

**14** Continue along the bridleway to the road. Turn left and at the mini roundabout turn right passing Stedland Farm, then bear left uphill on the byway.

**15** At the road turn left and then right onto the signposted footpath. Continue to the main road, turn left and follow the road back to the railway station.

TO FERNHURST

MAP REF:  
Find these areas  
on OS Explorer  
OL33 (was 133)

**HASLEMERE**

RED LION

10

11

12

NORTH COPSE  
VALEWOOD PARK

14

VALEWOOD FARMHOUSE

15

SHEETLAND

WADESMARSH FARMHOUSE

HASTE HILL

8

FERNDEN LANE

SUSSEX BORDER PATH

BLACK DOWN

6

TENNYNSON'S LANE

LYTHEHILL HOUSE

7

SERPENT TRAIL

★ TEMPLE OF THE WINDS

ABESTERS COPSE

HIGH BARN FARM

4

HOME WOOD

5

**Open Access Land**  
Wherever you see this symbol you are free to leave the footpath to walk and picnic within the mapped area. Please be aware of livestock and wildlife.



0 1/4 mile  
500m

MIDHURST ROAD

1

2

3

PETWORTH ROAD