

Leave your car at home and enjoy the South Downs National Park by bus or train

Visit the astonishing places right on our doorstep, some are free and others help to support a more environmentally sustainable future by participating in **Discover More of the South Downs for Less 2-for-1**. On arrival, show a valid train or bus ticket for all members of your party and you'll get 2-for-1 entry (T&Cs apply). Check attractions' websites for opening hours, as some have limited/seasonal opening times.



Ditchling is no ordinary village; it has been home to some of Britain's most innovative artists and has a legacy of national importance. These artists are celebrated in the award winning Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft.

After you have enjoyed the museum explore the friendly pubs, places to eat and specialist shops in this picturesque and historic village.



DITCHLING & HASSOCKS

SOUTH DOWNS
NATIONAL PARK

THINGS TO DO IN DITCHLING

DITCHLING MUSEUM OF ART + CRAFT

2 FOR 1
ENTRY

Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft offers a rich collection of art, craft, and applied art and reflects the important place that Ditchling holds in the tradition of 20th century art and craft.

The museum holds an internationally important collection of work by the artists and craftspeople who were drawn to the village, including the sculptor, wood engraver, type-designer and letter-cutter Eric Gill, the calligrapher Edward Johnston (responsible for the famous Johnston typeface used for London Underground), the painter David Jones, the printer Hilary Pepler and the weaver Ethel Mairet.

Being able to see special objects and works of art and craft in the village where they were made is a rare opportunity. It offers a unique way to consider how the objects were made and who they were made for.

The impact of the many artists and craftspeople who came to live and work in Ditchling from the beginning of the 20th century onwards established this



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village as one of the most important places for the visual arts and crafts in Britain.

As well as its permanent collection, it mounts innovative temporary exhibitions and programmes an exciting range of workshops and events.

Following a £2.3m redevelopment it reopened in September 2013 and received widespread critical acclaim from the world's art and architecture press. It is now considered "an unmissable stop on the Sussex art trail" – Rupert Christiansen, The Daily Telegraph.

www.ditchlingmuseumartcraft.org.uk



WALKING IN DITCHLING

There are a variety of routes to suit all abilities. Follow in the artists' footsteps and walk from Hassocks to Ditchling, or if you are feeling a little more energetic, hike from the South Downs Way at Ditchling Beacon, just south of Ditchling village.

At 248 metres above sea-level, Ditchling Beacon is the highest point in East Sussex and offers commanding 360 degree views from its summit. Look south out to sea, north across the Weald or east-west across the Downs. The site is also of archaeological interest, with remains of an Iron Age hillfort.

Neighbouring Ditchling Down lies to the west of Ditchling Beacon, and is a prime example of chalk downland.

You can get the Brighton and Hove bus No. 79 from Brighton to Ditchling Beacon car park, Sundays and Bank Holidays throughout the year, Saturdays during the summer.

For more information www.southdowns.gov.uk/moreforless

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YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO VISIT...



FREE

OLDLAND WINDMILL

A beautifully restored, award winning, working post mill located between Keymer and Ditchling, just south of Burgess Hill.

Built in 1703 it served the community for over two hundred years until it was abandoned in 1912. Restoration began in 1980 and in 2011 it received a prestigious Sussex Heritage Trust award in recognition of the effort and high standard of the work undertaken in restoring the mill.

It is open on the first Sunday of each month between April and October, plus themed events. Volunteers work on-site every Thursday and they will be pleased to show you round.

The mill is a pleasant 15 minute stroll up from the Thatched Inn pub in Keymer at the junction of Ockley Lane and Grand Avenue. Turn right onto Mill Lane, the first road on the right as you head north along Ockley Lane. Continue past Oldland Cottage and the mill is 100 yards further on.

From the West, you will find the mill at the other end of the footpath which starts in Lodge Hill Lane, Ditchling.

It is run entirely by volunteers, and although entry is free, donations are encouraged.

www.oldlandwindmill.co.uk/newsite

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, DITCHLING

The Church of St Margaret of Antioch is the centrepiece of the ancient and historic village of Ditchling on the borders of East and West Sussex. The present building dates from the late 12th century, sited on the sandy knoll overlooking the village. It is built on top of the earlier Saxon church referred to in the Domesday Book. Remains of the Saxon church are to be found in the lower walls of the nave.

The south aisle, displaying fine foliated capitals to its columns, is the earliest part of the present church, built by the Cluniac monks from Lewes in the 12th century. The chancel was built in the 1260s. The tower dates from the late 13th century and has a ring of eight bells.

Many of the artists that you learn about in the museum (including Joseph Cribb, Edward Johnston and Hilary Pepler) are buried here. In the churchyard you will also find examples of cut lettering by Joseph Cribb and Eric Gill.

www.beaconparishes.org/about_stmargarets



TRAINS TO DITCHLING & HASSOCKS

Hassocks train station is 1.3 miles from Ditchling on the Brighton to London route. There are regular trains from London (Victoria, St Pancras or London Bridge stations: approximately 50 minutes journey) and Brighton (approximately 10 minutes journey).

From here it is either a 5 minute taxi journey (please note there is a limited taxi service from the station so please pre-book) or a leisurely walk or cycle through the countryside.

For the (limited) connecting bus services to Ditchling, Burgess Hill train station should be used.



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Hassocks is a flourishing village sitting at the foot of the South Downs seven miles north of Brighton and is an excellent gateway from which to explore the beautiful South Downs area.

THINGS TO DO IN HASSOCKS

JILL WINDMILL

FREE

Jill, along with her neighbour Jack (in private ownership), provide spectacular views across the Sussex Weald.

Jill Windmill is a fully restored 19th century corn windmill and is once again in working order. If weather conditions are suitable, Jill's majestic sweeps turn in the Downland breeze. She now produces stoneground wholegrain flour on an occasional basis.

Staffed by friendly and enthusiastic members of the charitable trust that restored and maintains the mill, there's no shortage of information. There are a number of displays explaining the

milling process, its restoration and mill technology. They also make and sell scrumptious cakes which can be enjoyed in the lovely garden of wildflowers which has various pieces of mill technology dotted around.

Jill Windmill is normally open to visitors from 2 pm to 5 pm on most Sundays between May and September.

From Hassocks station, it's a 2 mile walk, or there is a bus stop at the top of the hill served by the Sussex Bus No. 40X and Metrobus No. 271.

www.jillwindmill.org.uk/jjwelcome.htm



TOP TIP!

There's lots of steps to the top of the mill, but there are good handrails throughout. Wear sensible shoes!



WALKING IN & AROUND HASSOCKS

Hassocks is surrounded by beautiful countryside which can be easily explored on foot using the many local footpaths and bridleways.

Hassocks is also only minutes from the South Downs and the South Downs Way national trail.

You can pick up free leaflets with details of five circular walks - each starting and finishing at Hassocks Station - from Hassocks Community Cycle Hire, local shops, stations, visitor attractions and tourist offices.

You can also download them from the Visit Hassocks website <http://visithassocks.co.uk/walking-hassocks-sussex-south-downs.html>

- Hassocks, Butchers Wood, Keymer, Hassocks (2 miles)
- Hassocks, Clayton, Jack & Jill Windmills, South Downs Way, Keymer, Hassocks (4 miles)
- Hassocks, Oldland Mill, Ditchling, Keymer, Hassocks (4 miles)
- Hassocks, Clayton, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks (5 miles)
- Hassocks, Clayton, Wolstonbury, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks (5 miles)

Additional local walks can be downloaded from:

www.hassockspc.net

www.hurstpierpoint-pc.org.uk

('Heritage Walk' on Parish page)

www.midsussex.gov.uk ('Local Walks')

Mid Sussex Ramblers organise regular walks in Sussex including the Hassocks and South Downs area. For details see: www.midsussexramblers.co.uk

Mid Sussex District Council runs a programme of Healthy Walks graded according to difficulty. For details see: www.midsussex.gov.uk/healthywalks

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