

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.



The attractive village of Selborne in East Hampshire is famous for its association with the 18th Century literary naturalist Gilbert White. Following a visit to Gilbert White's House which also contains the Oates Museum. Enjoy a circular walk around the village which will lead you across the Plestor (the village green) and through the churchyard and you come to the Lythes which run along the Oakhanger Stream valley. Go past the historic Church of St. Mary's and the Selborne Gallery (Hampshire Artists Cooperative) and Selborne Pottery.

There are two pubs in the village serving food and a number of shops including the Exotic Woodcraft Shop and the Village Post Office and Stores.



SELBORNE

SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

THINGS TO DO IN SELBORNE

GILBERT WHITE'S HOUSE

Located in the picturesque Hampshire village of Selborne, in a charming country house, discover three fascinating stories about explorers of the Natural World.

Rev Gilbert White, the pioneering 18th century naturalist, is remembered as the first ecologist and 'the man who started us all bird watching'. His world famous book "The Natural History of Selborne" was published in 1789, just four years before his death, and is reputed to be the fourth most published book in the English language and has never been out of print. Explore his atmospheric home, which is set in 25 acres of restored gardens and ancient parkland, situated beneath the beech-clad 'Hanger'.

Learn about the fascinating life and travels of Frank Oates, a 19th century explorer who was one of the first Europeans to journey to Africa and the Americas. Marvel at the fabulous collection of birds, animals and African weapons that he sent back to his family in England. Meet Rail, his devoted dog,



who sat on Frank's grave and refused to journey on without him.

The Lawrence Oates galleries were re-developed in 2012, and here you get 'ands-on' by playing with the interactive displays. They tell the moving story of Antarctic Hero Captain Lawrence Oates, who travelled the epic journey of discovery to the South Pole in 1911-12 with Captain Scott. He is remembered for his tremendous courage when sacrificing his life in the hope of saving his comrades. He walked out into a severe blizzard uttering the famous last words "I am just going outside and may be some time".

 gilbertwhiteshouse.org.uk



WALKING IN SELBORNE

Enjoy a figure of 8 walk inspired by Gilbert White, the 18th century naturalist. The walk can be done in two parts. The first circuit is through the churchyard and Lythes to Priory Farm and back to the village through the beeches of Dorton Wood. This picks up the older part of Selborne's history: this section follows the valley and is on a level.

The second and more adventurous circuit is up the zigzag and along footpaths through Selborne Hanger and Common to Coneycroft and the northern end of the village.

The full route is about 6 miles (4 hours); the first circuit 2½ miles (1½ hours); the second circuit 3½ miles (2 hours).

This walk is one of six self-guided Literary Walks created by East Hampshire, which also includes a Jane Austen walk around nearby Chawton and Farringdon.

You can download full details on the Gilbert White walk and the others here.

easthants.gov.uk/visit-east-hampshire/walking-and-cycling-east-hampshire



BUSES TO SELBORNE

Services from Petersfield, Liss and Alton Stations to The Selborne Arms (not Sundays) via Stagecoach No. 38.



TRAINS TO SELBORNE

The nearest train stations are Alton (4 miles) and Liss (6 miles).

For more information southdowns.gov.uk/moreforless

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