Compton's Michaelangelo

The charming countryside bordering Loseley Park has some surprises in store.

Distance Minimum time	3.7 miles (6km) 1hr 30min
Ascent/gradient	262ft (80m)
Level of difficulty	Medium
Paths	Sandy tracks and field paths, can be muddy
Landscape	Farmed and wooded countryside
Suggested map	aqua3 OS Explorer 145 Guildford & Farnham
Start/finish	SU 963470
Dog friendliness	On lead through Coneycroft Farm and near livestock. Not allowed in Watts Gallery
Parking	Lay-by in Polsted Lane, close to junction with Withies Lane
Public toilets	None on route

1 Take the signposted public footpath from the lay-by, a few paces from the junction of Withies Lane and Polsted Lane. Head through Bummoor Copse, and leave the woods at a stile. Now follow the woodland edge, zig-zagging right and left over another stile until you clear the woods altogether and come to a waymarked stile at the end of a concrete road. Nip across, and turn left; then, just as you come to the large buildings at Coneycroft Farm, dodge up to your right and over a waymarked stile. Follow the narrow path over another stile, and out onto Down Lane.

2 Turn right for a few paces along the road. Just before the Watts Gallery, turn right again onto the signposted North Downs Way National Trail; this is fast, easy walking, on a good track with sand under your feet. The track narrows as you pass a few farm buildings and begin the climb towards West Warren. Stay with the North Downs Way across a bridleway and into the woods. As you approach East Warren, the National Trail zig-zags left and right, and joins a farm road. Follow it for another 700yds (640m) until the outskirts of Guildford heave into view and the trail swings left at a waymark post.

3 Turn right here; then, after 50yds (46m) fork right onto Littleton Lane. Follow it to the public telephone near Littleton Youth House, and turn right onto the signposted public footpath. The path leads you through a succession of open fields, separated by stiles. There's a lake in the fourth field and, beyond the next stile, you'll get some great views of Loseley House on your left.

4 Cross the track to Loseley House at a stile and four-way signpost, and follow the field edge round to the left. Then, after 50yds (46m), look out for a stile and yellow waymark on your left. Nip across here, and continue in the same direction, but now with the fence on your right. There's a three-way signpost at the next stile; nip across, turn right, and follow the track down a tree-lined avenue all the way through to Little Polsted at the top of Polsted Lane.

5 Turn left, and follow the lane back to the junction where you started your walk.

