

Compton's Michaelangelo

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

Distance	3.7 miles (6km)
Minimum time	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.



Littleton

3



EAST WARREN

Loseley Park

LOSELEY HOUSE

4

JAMES SIMMONDS HILSON

WEST WARREN

Witches Inn

5

POLSTED LANE

DOWN LANE

B3000

1

BUSHMOOR COPSE

THE WATTS GALLERY

Compton

CONEYCROFT FARM

Harrow Inn

2

Wells Chapel

A31 Hog's Back



A Pilgrimage to Waverley

By the enchanting ruins of Waverley Abbey in the Wey Valley

Distance	3 miles (4.8km)
Minimum time	1hr
Ascent/gradient	164ft (50m)
Level of difficulty	Medium
Paths	Sandy and easy to follow, two sections on minor roads
Landscape	Gently rolling, well-wooded countryside
Suggested map	aqua3 OS Explorer 145 Guildford & Farnham
Start/finish	SU 870455
Dog friendliness	Generally good, but dogs must be on lead along roads
Parking	Waverley Lane between Farnham and Elstead
Public toilets	None on route

1 Turn right out of the car park, taking care to watch out for traffic, and follow Waverley Lane (B3001) as it zig-zags left and right over Waverleymill Bridge. Continue for 200yds (183m) until the road bears to the left. Turn right here, onto the public byway, and follow it through to a metal gate and public byway signpost.

2 Keep straight ahead and follow the path past Friars Way Cottage until you come to Sheephatch Lane. Turn left briefly, then right at the junction with Tilford Street; there's no pavement for the first 400yds (366m), so go carefully. Now follow the road past the school, over the River Wey bridge and onto Tilford village green, where you'll find the Tilford Oak and welcome refreshment at the Barley Mow.

3 To continue your walk, retrace your steps across the river bridge. Almost at once, turn left at the public bridleway sign just before the Post Office. The path climbs gently for 500yds (457m) and brings you to a tarmac lane. Turn left, pass Tilhill House, and continue up the narrow sandy track straight ahead. At the top of the short slope, fork right at the public bridleway waymark for the 400yds (366m) climb to Sheephatch Farm. Cross Sheephatch Lane, where a public byway sign points your way up the gravelled track directly opposite. The track leads you confidently through Sheephatch Copse, and soon you'll be dropping down through an ancient sunken way to rejoin your outward track at a metal gate and public byway signpost.

4 Turn left here for the easy walk back to Waverley Lane (B3001). Watch out for the traffic as you turn left, then retrace your outward route over Waverleymill Bridge and back to the car park.

Linking the Downs at Bramley

There's plenty of interest along this easily followed old railway trail.

Distance	4.8 miles (7.7km)
Minimum time	2hrs
Ascent/gradient	82ft (25m)
Level of difficulty	Easy
Paths	Bridleway following railway track, can be muddy after rain
Landscape	Gentle, well wooded river valley
Suggested map &	aqua3 OS Explorers 134 Crawley & Horsham, 145 Guildford Farnham
Dog friendliness	A great walk, but scoop the poop or pay the fine!
Parking	Stocklund Square car park, entrance off High Street
Public toilets	Cranleigh's leisure centre car park
Notes	Park at end of walk, then catch bus 53 or 63 to Bramley

1 Walk back out of the car park, turn right, and catch bus 53 or 63 to Bramley from the bus shelter just in front of the large public clock in Stocklund Square. The bus will drop you 100yds (91m) short of the former level crossing, so continue in the same direction until you reach the wooden gate onto the old trackbed. The line has now been converted into a bridleway, and the Downs Link and the Wey South Path both share the route here.

2 As the track pulls clear of Bramley, look out for an open field on your left. The old Wey and Arun Canal runs in the trees on the far side of the field, and soon you'll see it at the foot of the embankment on your left. The two old rivals run side by side for a time, until the railway enters a cutting and the last of the road noise dies away. A little further on, a track from Rooks Hill Farm crosses overhead on an impressive, brick arched bridge. Then, 300yds (274m) beyond a Downs Link marker post, you'll come to a large Wey South information board on your left hand side. There's some interesting canal history here, and just behind the board lie the muddy remains of the canal itself.

3 Two brick arches further on, the Run Common road crosses overhead. Just beyond the bridge, a 200yds (183m) diversion along the waymarked Wey South Path will bring you to Run Common itself. You can explore the canal towpath here if you wish, though frankly there's not very much to see. Now the railway runs straight, climbing imperceptibly onto an embankment. After 750yds (686m), look out for a low brick wall on the left of the track, as the old canal crosses the line at an oblique angle. A little further on, the canal emerges beyond a matching brick wall on your right hand side.

4 Continue across the railed bridge over Cranleigh Water, and through the next brick arch, which carries the B2130 overhead and heralds the outskirts of Cranleigh. New houses sidle up to the line on your left, followed by a small industrial estate and a fork in the track. Turn left here, straight into the car park where your walk began.

Guildford Through the Looking Glass

A literary walk that takes in some delightfully varied sections of Guildford's local countryside.

Distance	4.2 miles (6.8km)
Minimum time	2hrs
Ascent/gradient	344ft (105m)
Level of difficulty	Easy
Paths	Paved streets, downland tracks and riverside tow path
Landscape	Big views from Pewley Down and gentle riparian scenery
Suggested map	aqua3 OS Explorer 145 Guildford & Farnham
Start/finish	SU 991494
Dog friendliness	Town streets and tow path, so don't forget to scoop poop!
Parking	Farnham Road car park, next to Guildford railway station
Public toilets	At car park

1 Leave the car park via the footbridge at Level 5, cross Farnham Road, and turn right. Just beyond the railway bridge drop into the subway on your left, and follow the signposts to the 'Town Centre via Riverside Walk'. Follow the riverside walk to the White House pub. Turn left over the bridge, continue into High Street, and turn first right into Quarry Street. Pass Guildford Museum and turn immediately left through Castle Arch. Your route forks right here, into Castle Hill, but a quick diversion up the pedestrian path straight ahead brings you to the Looking Glass statue in the small garden through an iron gateway on your right. Retrace your steps, and follow Castle Hill past The Chestnuts. Turn left at the top, walk down South Hill, and turn right into Pewley Hill. Climb steadily past the Semaphore House on the corner of Semaphore Road; this was the next station down the line from Chatley Heath. At the end of the road, continue along the bridleway and follow it to the striking viewpoint pillar on the summit of Pewley Down.

2 Fork right at the viewpoint and follow the path off the ridge, keeping the hedge on your left. Soon you'll enter a tunnel of trees, and emerge between hedges. Keep straight on at the crossroads by the Pewley Down information board, and continue for 300yds (274m) until the path bears right and meets the North Downs Way National Trail at an acorn waymark post.

3 Turn right here and follow the waymarked North Downs Way past South Warren Farm to the residential street called Pilgrims Way. Turn left and follow the road past the junction with Clifford Manor Road.

4 Continue along Pilgrims Way to the A281. Cross over and walk across Shalford Park, signposted towards Godalming and Shalford. Beyond the trees you'll reach the River Wey; cross the footbridge, and follow the tow path towards Guildford, with the river on your right. Cross the lattice girder footbridge at Millmead Lock, and continue past the Alice statue on the little green near the White House pub. Now, just follow the riverbank until you reach the prominent 1913 Electricity Works on the opposite bank. Turn left, climb the steps, and retrace your outward route through the subway to the car park.