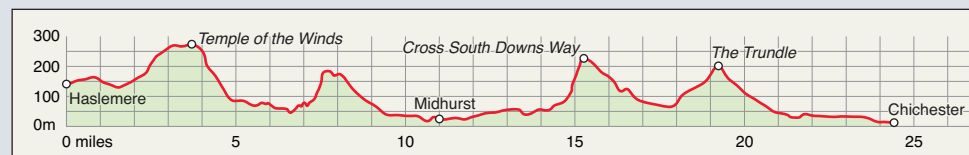


## PRACTICAL INFORMATION



● **Terrain** Sustained ascents and descents on tracks through dense woodland and over grass. May be muddy after rain.

● **Difficulty** Moderate

● **Directions & GPS\*** 003.pdf, 003.gpx, 003.kml at <https://trailblazer-guides.com/press>

\* See p10-11 for more information on downloads

## ROUTE OVERVIEW

25.4 miles (40.9km)

Wonderful walking from the wooded Surrey Hills through the rolling South Downs National Park, offering great variety and stunning views. To give you plenty of time to see Chichester cathedral at the end, you could consider breaking the Midhurst to Chichester section at Charlton to make two shorter days.

## Haslemere to Midhurst

11.4 miles (18.3km)

● **Time** 4hrs 30mins actual walking time ● **Total ascent** 714m / 2342ft

● **Map** OS Explorer OL33 Haslemere & Petersfield

From Haslemere station follow the B2131 for **0.7 mile**, then join the route of the Serpent Trail and continue on paths and tracks up into the National Trust's heavily wooded Black Down. You leave the Serpent Trail on the heights, and reach the Temple of the Winds, the highest point, after **3.2 miles**. Wind down through woods and farmland via Fernhurst for **6.5 miles** to Easebourne. After Easebourne Priory and Cowdray Castle you reach Midhurst **1 mile** beyond.



## PILGRIMAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy the incredible views from **The Temple of the Winds** and the top of **The Trundle** (St Roche's Hill), among the finest in the South Downs National Park.
- Explore the pilgrim church of **St Margaret of Antioch** at **Fernhurst** (Church Rd, 10am-4pm).
- Visit St Mary's church at the former convent of **Easebourne Priory**, Midhurst.
- On a Sunday catch the church service at 13th century **St James, Heyshott** ([heyshott.org.uk](http://heyshott.org.uk), services 1st & 4th Sun of the month: 11.15am, 2nd & 3rd Sun: 9.30am) at the foot of the downs.
- Visit St Richard's tomb at **Chichester Cathedral** and stay for Evensong/Evening Prayer ([chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://chichestercathedral.org.uk)).

*St Richard's feast day: 3 April Catholic church, 16 June Anglican Church.*

## Midhurst to Chichester

14 miles (22.6km)

- **Time** 5hrs 15mins actual walking time ● **Total ascent** 661m / 2168ft
- **Map** OS Explorer OL8 Chichester

The terrain is easier on this stretch, being mainly beside farmland and through woods via several villages. From Midhurst the New Lipchis Way guides you **7 miles** to Charlton, crossing the South Downs after Heyshott. From Charlton it's an easy climb **1.6 miles** up the lane to the top of The Trundle with views over Goodwood and south to Chichester. Then it's down a chalk lane all the way to pretty Lavant (**2.5 miles**) to pick up the Centurion Way (a disused railway track) for **2.9 miles** into Chichester.

## Day walk options

Either section would make a fine one-day walk.

● **By public transport** Railway stations at Haslemere and Chichester; buses from Midhurst to both.

● **Taxi option** Haslemere Taxis (☎ 01428-481464, [haslemere-taxis.co.uk](http://haslemere-taxis.co.uk)); Chichester Taxis (☎ 01243-778499, [chichester-taxis.co.uk](http://chichester-taxis.co.uk)).

## Where to eat or stay along the way

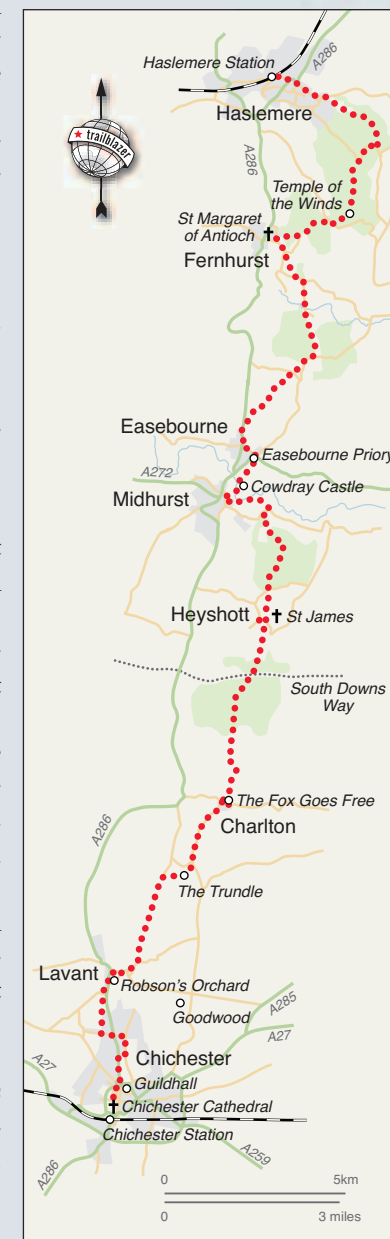
● **Haslemere** Stay opposite the railway station at the **Station House** (☎ 01428-776560, [thestationhousehaslemere.co.uk](http://thestationhousehaslemere.co.uk)) a cosy pub-with-rooms.

● **Fernhurst** Have lunch at the **Red Lion** (☎ 01428-643112, [red-lion-fernhurst.co.uk](http://red-lion-fernhurst.co.uk); food Mon-Sat noon-3pm & 6-9pm; Sun noon-4pm).

● **Midhurst** Treat yourself to a **cream tea** at the **Cowdray Farm Shop Café** (☎ 01730-815152, Cowdray Park; daily 9am-5pm). Stay at either the **Swan Inn** (☎ 01730-859557, [swanmidhurst.com](http://swanmidhurst.com), Red Lion St), or the 3-star **Angel Inn** (☎ 01730-812421, [theangelmidhurst.co.uk](http://theangelmidhurst.co.uk), North St). Have a **drink** in the cosy Gin Bar at the **Spread Eagle Hotel**, an ancient coaching inn on South St or go Spanish at **Faustino's Wine and Tapas Bar** (☎ 01730-814745, [faustinosmidhurst.co.uk](http://faustinosmidhurst.co.uk); daily from 5pm, North St).

● **Charlton** Eat lunch at historic pub **The Fox Goes Free** (☎ 01243-811461, [thefoxgoesfree.com](http://thefoxgoesfree.com); Mon-Fri noon-2.30pm & 6.15-9.30pm, Sat noon-10pm, Sun noon-5pm & 6.15-9.30pm).

● **Chichester** Good selection of places to eat or stay.



			<b>Walk 3: Haslemere to Chichester</b>
<b>Distance from start</b>	<b>Distance from last direction</b>	<b>OS refs</b>	<b>Direction</b>
0	0	SU 89800 32939	Turn left out of Haslemere Station and follow Lower St, the B2131. You will see a sign for the Serpent Trail on a lamppost not far from the station although it doesn't officially begin at this point. Continue along Lower St as it becomes High St. Where High St bends left, continue straight on into Petworth Rd, still B2131.
1.1miles/1.7km	1.1miles/1.7km	SU 91343 32441	Turn right off the B2131 onto a path signed Serpent Trail. After 10m the path becomes a tarmac drive. The Serpent Trail's roundels, of a white snake on a purple triangle, are a useful guide to the route until you reach the top of Black Down.
2.4miles/3.9km	1.4miles/2.2km	SU 92701 31049	At the house named 'Barfold' turn right onto the steep lane (Tennyson's Ln).
2.9miles/4.7km	880yds/800m		Turn left off the lane. Look out for the National Trust's Black Down car park sign, which has a Serpent Trail roundel on it with the arrow pointing to the right, past the car park and to another post with two other footpath roundels on it. This one is the route to take.
3.1miles/5.1km	440yds/400m		Where you reach a Y-junction, take the right-hand option, leaving the Serpent Path to continue towards the observation spot at the Temple of the Winds.
3.2miles/5.2km	110yds/100m		When the path divides again, take the right-hand option
3.6miles/5.8km	660yds/600m		At this split in the path, take the left-hand option.
3.8miles/6.2km	440yds/400m		Where the main path sweeps round to the right, look out for a narrower path leaving to the left. This is the approach to the observation point at the Temple of the Winds and you will probably be able to see a patch of sky through the trees.
3.9miles/6.3km	110yds/100m		Reach the Temple of the Winds. To continue, leave along the path skirting right from the summit. The way is indistinct here, but becomes clearer, then drops down very steeply to meet Fernden Ln.

4.3miles/7km	770yds/700m	SU 91487 28987	Cross Fernden Ln diagonally right to pick up footpath on a farm track, which bears round to the right after 100m then continues, descending gently, toward a house named Reeth.
4.5miles/7.3km	330yds/300m		At the house named Reeth, you need to take care to avoid going wrong. Where the track ends, bear left to go around the house, keeping close to its garden perimeter and ignoring a path that runs off to the right. When you reach a track crossroads, continue straight ahead towards Tanyard Cottage.
5miles/8.1km	880yds/800m	SU 90640 28654	At Tanyard Cottage, take the footpath turning right.
5.5miles/8.8km	770yds/700m	SU 89990 28568	Reach Fernhurst, with Red Lion pub to your right, St Margaret of Antioch church slight right across village green. Leaving the church, turn left to return to the village green, then right. Continue past the children's play area and look out for a well-hidden footpath that leaves it at an acute angle on the left.
5.8miles/9.1km	330yds/300m	SU 90118 28347	Take footpath, leaving lane to the left, and follow it past cottages.
5.9miles/9.4km	330yds/300m		Where the path reaches a lane, bear right to follow and cross over, leaving the lane on a footpath to the left after 60m, and then pass to the right of a scout hut. The path runs through woodland and rough pasture, finally angling diagonally left over a field to reach a lane.
6.3miles/10.2km	880yds/800m	SU 90553 27495	Turn left onto lane. Pass Homelands Copse after 100m on your left and continue up to the next lane joining from the right.
6.5miles/10.4km	220yds/200m	SU 90773 27402	Turn right at the junction of lanes, marked as a dead end.
7miles/11.2km	880yds/800m	SU 90773 27402	When the lane ends at the gates to Surney Farm, take the path to right of the gates, marked 'Restricted Byway'. This becomes a wide green way through woodland. The route rises through woods to pass a house called Overnoons, to reach a lane at Bexleyhill.

7.8miles/12.6km	0.9miles/1.4km	SU 91061 25302	At Bexleyhill, turn right onto a lane called Easebourne St.
8miles/12.9km	330yds/300m	SU 90808 25176	Take track leaving lane to the right, towards Poor's Common.
8.2miles/13.2km	330yds/300m	SU 90621 24973	At track T-junction at Poor's Common, turn right.
8.3miles/13.4km	220yds/200m	SU 90418 24917	The route reaches a staggered crossroads at this point. You need to first turn left, then almost immediately right, onto route marked Restricted Byway.
8.4miles/13.6km	220yds/200m		At the crossroads of tracks alongside Witter's Copse, continue straight ahead.
8.6miles/13.9km	330yds/300m	SU 90149 24635	At T-junction, turn left.
9.2miles/14.8km	990yds/900m		At Y-junction, take right-hand fork.
9.3miles/15km	220yds/200m	SU 89482 23880	Where five tracks meet, take care not to miss the correct route. Take second-left option, bearing slight left from your previous path (OS maps show the first left option as Wick Ln) and continue down to the A286.
9.8miles/15.8km	880yds/800m	SU 89110 23229	When track meets A286, cross over and turn left, following pavement downhill.
10miles/16.2km	440yds/400m	SU 89140 22828	At the crossroads on the outskirts of Easebourne, turn left, crossing at lights and take Wheelbarrow Castle towards Cowdray Park.
10.3miles/16.6km	440yds/400m		Wheelbarrow Castle meets Easebourne Ln, A272, at a bend. Continue straight ahead to Easebourne St on the left. Turn left here for Easebourne's village shop and White Horse pub. For Cowdray Park, continue straight ahead.
10.4miles/16.7km	110yds/100m	SU 89572 22532	Turn right off the A272 taking the entrance to the Cowdray Estate. St Mary's church is on the corner to your right, Easebourne Priory immediately after it. To continue, walk on down the drive towards Cowdray Castle ruins
11miles/17.7km	0.6mile/1km	SU 89028 21712	Opposite Cowdray Castle ruins take the footbridge right over stream, then turn sharp left to follow riverside path as it curves right, with wooded St Anne's Hill ahead of you.

11.2miles/18km	330yds/300m		At the foot of St Anne's Hill, take the footpath that bears right, climbing up and over the hill to emerge on the outskirts of Midhurst, on a lane called St Anne's Hill.
11.4miles/18.3km	330yds/300m	SU 88702 21457	You are now in the old part of Midhurst with St Mary Magdalene & St Denys church to your right. For the modern town centre, turn right and follow Knockhundred Row round to the left until it meets North St, the A272.
			<b>Day 2</b>
11.3miles/18.3km	0		From St Mary's, turn left into Edinburgh St, then left into South St, looking out for The Wharf on your left.
11.4miles/18.4km	110yds/100m	SU 88710 21323	Turn left into The Wharf and walk through the light industrial estate.
11.5miles/18.6km	220yds/200m	SU 88949 21363	At the end of the estate, turn right onto a track to cross a stream and continue on footpath signed New Lipchis Way. The New Lipchis Way, generally well-signposted with roundels depicting a sailing ship, coincides with our route from here to a few miles short of the village of Singleton.
11.6miles/18.7km	110yds/100m	SU 88967 21302	Where footpaths divide, turn left and continue along, initially with trees and the River Rother on your left.
12.3miles/19.8km	0.8mile/1.2km	SU 89752 21287	After Kennels Dairy, where the route joins a lane, go straight on, crossing Costers Brook, and look out for a footpath to your right.
12.4miles/19.9km	110yds/100m	SU 89959 21065	Turn right off the lane onto the footpath, walking along the field margin, and then entering a wood. New Lipchis Way signs are a good guide through the woods, marked Todham Rough on OS maps.
12.5miles/20.2km	330yds/300m		Turn right, still on the New Lipchis Way.
13.2miles/21.3km	0.7mile/1.1km		Cross disused railway via bridge and keep straight on. New Lipchis Way signs continue to be a good guide.
14.1miles/22.7km	0.9miles/1.4km	SU 89924 18905 SU 89924 18905	Where the path meets a lane, turn right onto the lane. After 30m, turn left off the lane onto the path signposted New Lipchis Way, and follow it to the village of Heyshott.

14.7miles/23.6km	990yds/900m	SU 89871 18060	At the junction with the lane in Heyshott, turn left for Unicorn pub (in 70m), right to continue on the route through Heyshott.
14.8miles/23.9km	330yds/300m	SU 89746 18116	Reach St James's church, Heyshott. To continue, turn left onto the lane after the church,
14.9miles/24km	110yds/100m	SU 89680 18037	Take the footpath that leaves the lane on the left, continuing to follow the New Lipchis Way as it climbs the South Downs, rising steeply on the final stretch through woodland.
15.9miles/25.7km	1.1miles/1.7km		At this point the route reaches a five-bar gate and crosses the South Downs Way. From here the route descends through Charlton Forest
17.3miles/27.8km	1.3miles/2.1km	SU 88946 14527	At this point, just past Broadham House, the route leaves the New Lipchis Way, which goes right, while you go left.
17.6miles/28.3km	550yds/500m	SU 89008 14152	Turn right into North Lane, a track.
18.3miles/29.5km	0.8mile/1.2km	SU 88768 13063	Reach Charlton village. Turn left for The Fox Goes Free pub (100m). Or go straight on to continue on the route, taking a lane called Knight's Hill that rises towards The Trundle, with Goodwood Race Course to your left.
19.7miles/31.7km	1.4miles/2.2km	SU 87965 11315	At the foot of The Trundle you'll reach a car park. Cross the road (Kennel Hill) and take the chalk path ahead, up the hill.
19.9miles/32.1km	440yds/400m		Reach the summit of The Trundle, also known as St Roche's Hill. To continue, bear west from the summit, taking the path leading through gate and onto a track down past another car park.
20.4miles/32.8km	770yds/700m	SU 87159 11001	Turn left onto a byway called Chalkpit Lane to descend to the village of East Lavant.
21.9miles/35.2km	1.5miles/2.4km	SU 86529 08642	Turn right onto Pook Ln for East Lavant.
22miles/35.5km	330yds/300m		The Royal Oak pub and restaurant is on your right.
22.1miles/35.6km	110yds/100m		St Mary's church, East Lavant, is on your right.
22.3miles/35.9km	330yds/300m	SU 85923 08367	At the village green, bear right, then take the footpath branching off to the left to emerge alongside the Earl of March pub on the A286.
22.4miles/36.1km	220yds/200m		Turn left onto A286.

22.5miles/36.2km	220yds/200m		Reach Robson's Orchard, visited by William Blake. The house is set back from the road, tucked in on your left, a few houses after the Earl of March. NOTE: Robson's Orchard is a private house and is not open to the public. Continue along the A286 to the mini-roundabout, then straight ahead onto Lavant Rd for a few more metres.
22.7miles/36.5km	330yds/300m	SU 85695 07934	Turn off the A286, taking the footpath to the right
22.8miles/36.6km	110yds/100m	SU 85577 07922	Turn left to follow the route of a former railway, re-joining the New Lipchis Way for a short stretch.
23.5miles/37.9km	0.8miles/1.3km	SU 85516 06642	Immediately after passing under the second road bridge, turn left to walk up to Brandy Hole Ln, and continue along the lane.
23.8miles/38.3km	440yds/400m	SU 85892 06606	Reaching the A286, Lavant Rd, cross diagonally left and continue along The Broadway. You re now on the outskirts of Chichester.
24miles/38.6 km	330yds/300m	SU 86213 06592	Turn right at the end of The Broadway onto Summersdale Rd.
24.3miles/39.1km	550yds/500m	SU 86213 06592	Bear right into Wellington Rd, cross over and go left through the entrance to Oaklands Park. Turn right inside the park and follow the boundary to the next corner, where you turn left, walking parallel with the A286, Broyle Rd, leading towards the centre of Chichester, passing the Festival Theatre on your left.
24.9miles/40.1km	0.6mile/1km	SU 86078 05371	When Broyle Rd meets Churchside at a large roundabout, bear left, then take the underpass under Oaklands Way and continue ahead into Northgate.
25miles/40.2km	110yds/100m	SU 86107 05202	When you reach North Walls, turn left into Priory Ln for Chichester Guildhall, or right to continue on towards Chichester Cathedral.
25.2miles/40.5km	330yds/300m	SU 85883 05131	Turn left on Tower St. The cathedral is straight ahead of you.
25.4miles/40.9km	440yds/400m	SU 85883 05131	Arrive at Chichester Cathedral.

