



# RAIL TO RAMBLE

## TWO WALKS FROM HASLEMERE RAILWAY STATION



## HASLEMERE COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

Haslemere Community Rail Partnership is a joint venture committed to promoting the town as a destination and as a gateway to the South Downs National Park and the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Among its many activities, the Rail Partnership has developed a series of walks designed to encourage people to leave their cars behind to discover the beautiful countryside by public transport.

### TAKE THE LEAD

For a safe and fun visit with your dog please remember to keep them on a lead around livestock and wildlife. Always bag and bin your dog poo – any public bin will do!



## SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

## HASLEMERE

As well as being a charming market town, Haslemere offers an important gateway to the South Downs National Park. The walks begin at Haslemere Railway Station and follow roads, lanes, tracks and footpaths to finish either in Liphook or Liss.



The routes incorporate long sections of the **Serpent Trail**, which 'snakes' its way 64 miles from Haslemere to Petersfield. Designed to showcase the heathland habitat and outstanding landscape of the greensand hills, their wildlife, history and conservation, it passes through the purple heather, green woods and golden valleys of Sussex.



The **Sussex Border Path**, another long distance footpath featured here, takes 150 miles to circumnavigate the Sussex border using the most scenic and unspoilt pathways.

These routes feature the heathlands of Marley, Lynchmere, Stanley and Chapel commons as well as the dramatic ancient woodland of Rake Hanger.



© SDNPA/A.Purkiss

### GETTING HERE

**By rail:** South Western Railway service between London Waterloo and Portsmouth Harbour. Visit [nationalrail.co.uk](http://nationalrail.co.uk) for details.

**By bus:** Visit [traveline.info](http://traveline.info) for details of services.

### CONTACT

South Downs National Park Authority:  
**01730 814810**  
@SDNPA /SDNPA  
southdownsnp

## SOUTH DOWNS.GOV.UK

Details correct at time of going to print. Please be aware that routes are shared with other users (vehicles, pedestrians, dogs, horses etc) and users of this route do so at their own risk. We do not accept any responsibility for loss, damage or injury, however caused, arising directly or indirectly from use of this leaflet. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013.





**MAP REF:**  
Find these areas  
on OS Explorer  
OL33 (was 133)

**LONGMOOR ENCLOSURE  
(MINISTRY OF DEFENCE LAND)**

**CHAPEL  
COMMON**

**LIPHOOK**

**LIPHOOK  
GOLF COURSE**

**PUBLIC HOUSE  
(CLOSED)**

**LISS**

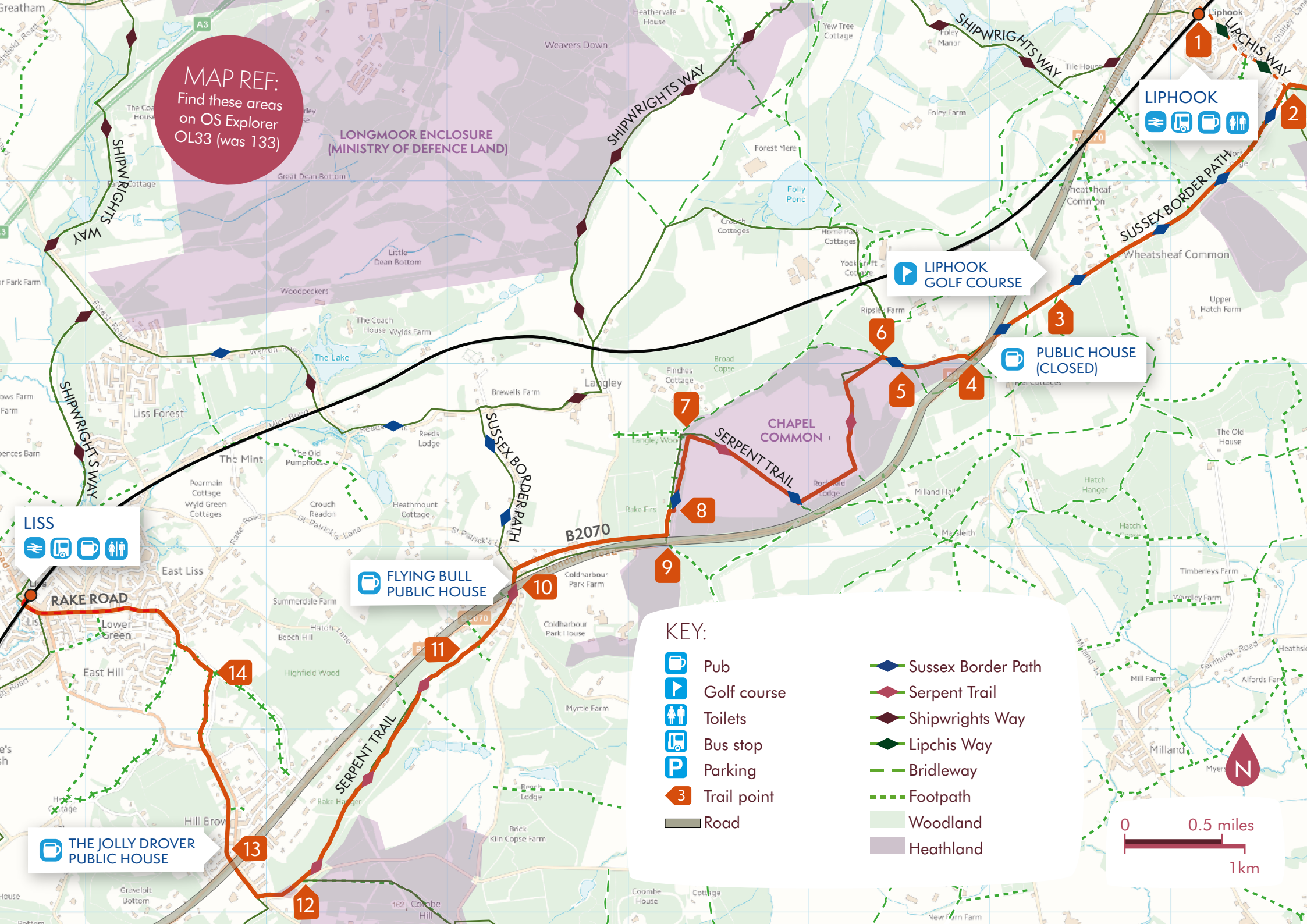
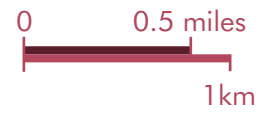
**FLYING BULL  
PUBLIC HOUSE**

**THE JOLLY DROVER  
PUBLIC HOUSE**

**KEY:**

- Pub
- Golf course
- Toilets
- Bus stop
- Parking
- Trail point
- Road

- Sussex Border Path
- Serpent Trail
- Shipwrights Way
- Lipchis Way
- Bridleway
- Footpath
- Woodland
- Heathland





# LIPHOOK TO LISS

Discover the heathland on Chapel Common and the tranquillity of Rake Hanger

**DISTANCE:**  
7 miles (11.2 km)

**GRADIENT:**  
Some short steep climbs

**TRAIL:**



**ALLOW:**  
3 hours

**PATH:** Uneven, sometimes muddy, surfaces – take care crossing or walking along roads/lanes.

**1** From Liphook Station forecourt go right under the footbridge and up the steps to the road. Turn left and follow Midhurst Road for approx. 1km/0.6miles.

**2** Just after the pavement runs out turn right onto a wide track marked Serpent Trail.

**3** After 2km/1.2miles beware of flying golf balls when crossing Liphook Golf Course. Continue along path to the main road.

**4** [Carefully] Cross the road to the former Public House. At the end of the pub car park turn right onto a wide track marked Serpent Trail and Sussex Border Path which leads onto Chapel Common.

**5** Pass through the gate with Liphook and Ripsley Cricket Pitch on the right. Cross the lane and go through gate.

**6** Turn left at the footpath junction and left again immediately onto Serpent Trail (easy to miss). The trail climbs the hill continuing on the Serpent Trail, which snakes across 3 sides of Chapel Common for about 1.6km/1 mile. Enjoy the extensive views.

**7** Just before the bridle gate turn left onto open common by the information board and continue on the footpath to the trees on the far side.

**8** Turn right down slope, through the gate and then left on the Serpent Trail uphill to the main road.

**9** [Carefully] Cross the main road and immediately turn right. Continue on the Serpent Trail along a grass verge into Rake.

**10** Turn left at the Flying Bull Inn and head downhill towards Rogate. At the bottom of the hill turn right onto Serpent Trail and Sussex Border Path.

**11** Continue past houses and through Rake Hanger. Note information boards. About 200m/220yds after 2nd information board, bear left at fingerpost on Sussex Border Path and Serpent Trail (easy to miss) on gently rising path to road.

**12** [Carefully] Turn right on road and walk up hill. Ignore Serpent Trail on the left. Beware of oncoming traffic on bend near top of hill. Reach T junction at top of hill and turn right.

**13** Pass the Jolly Drover and cross the main road onto Hill Brow Road. Carefully head downhill on the pavement. As the road bends left turn right into Woodlands Lane.

**14** Turn left at the lane T junction and then left again when you reach the main Rake Road. Head into Liss and take Station Road. Liss Station will be on the right.



## DISCOVER HEATHLANDS

The Heathlands Reunited project is a partnership of 11 organisations working from 2016-2021 to create bigger, better, joined up heathlands supported by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant. The project aim is to expand, create new and improve existing heathland to cover an area greater than 1,200 football pitches.

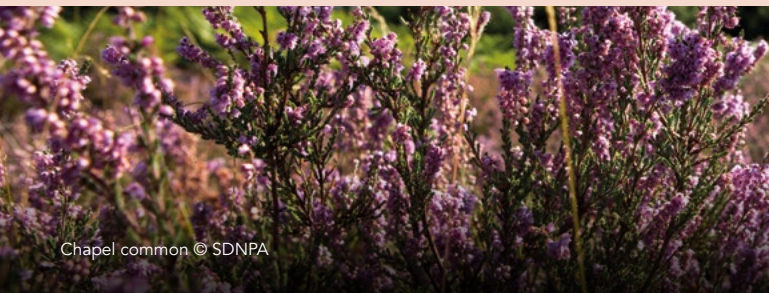
The project is also working to re-engage and inspire communities to visit their local heathlands, learn more about them and work together to protect them for future generations to enjoy.

[southdowns.gov.uk/heathlands-reunited](http://southdowns.gov.uk/heathlands-reunited)

### RARE HABITAT

Heaths are home to amazing wildlife such as the Dartford warbler and the sand lizard that don't live anywhere else.

Increasingly, heathlands have been separated into 'islands' where plants and animals have become isolated and are vulnerable to extinction.



Chapel common © SDNPA



Rake Bottom © SDNP





KEY:

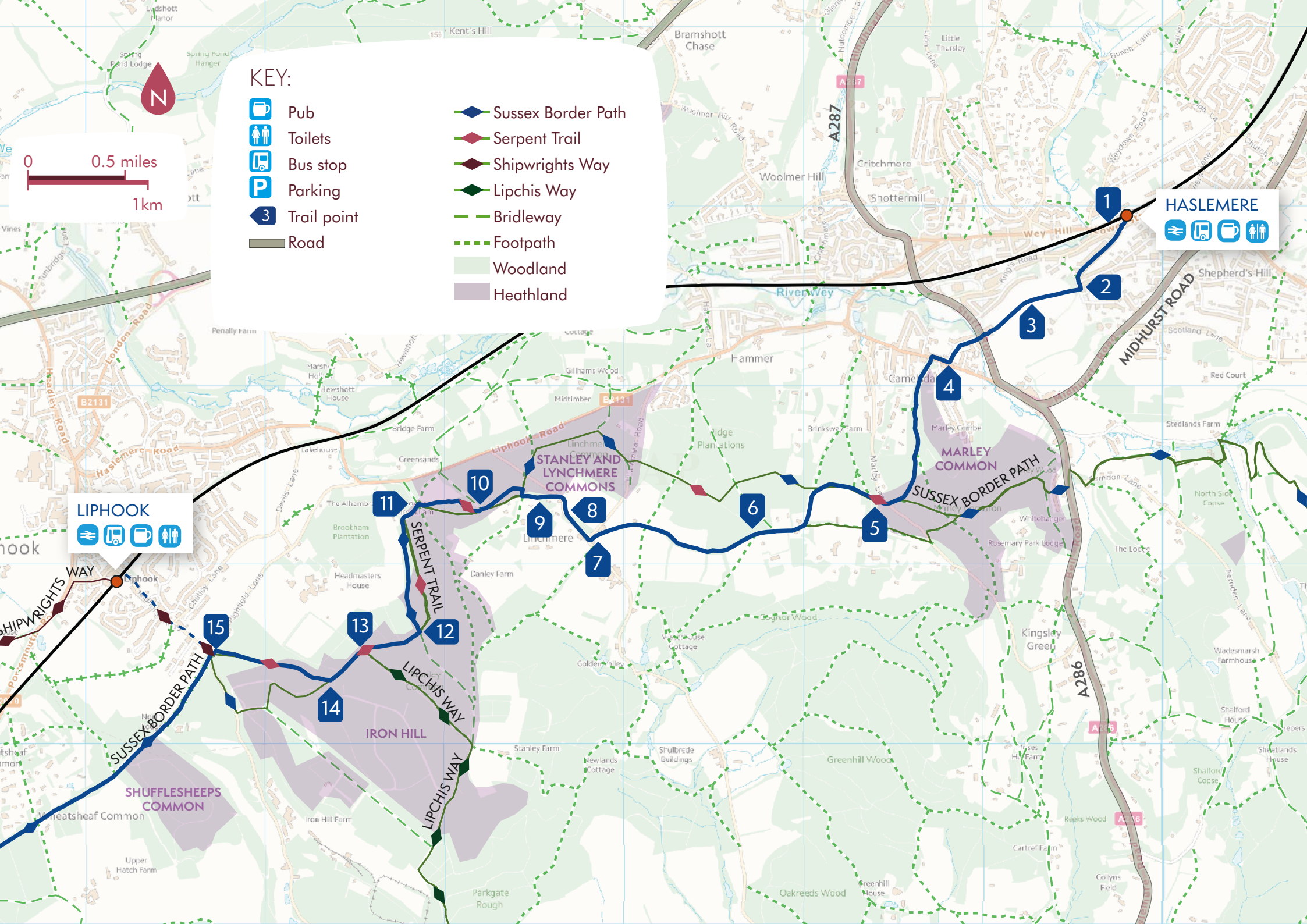
-  Pub
-  Toilets
-  Bus stop
-  Parking
-  3 Trail point
-  Road
-  Sussex Border Path
-  Serpent Trail
-  Shipwrights Way
-  Lipchis Way
-  Bridleway
-  Footpath
-  Woodland
-  Heathland



**LIPHOOK**



**HASLEMERE**





# HASLEMERE TO LIPHOOK

Explore the heathland of Marley,  
Lynchmere and Stanley commons

**DISTANCE:**  
5 miles (8 km)

**ALLOW:**  
3 hours

**GRADIENT:**  
Some short steep climbs  
and one steep descent

**PATH:** Uneven surfaces –  
take care crossing or walking  
along roads/lanes. One stile

**TRAIL:** 

**MAP REF:**  
Find these areas  
on OS Explorer  
OL33 (was 133)

**1** Leave station forecourt. Cross into Longdene Rd opposite. Climb this residential street and keep straight on at the bend into Hedgehog Lane.

**2** Turn right onto a footpath opposite a house called Ridgeways. Continue through a gate and cross a field, then take the stile by Sturt Farm to join the road.

**3** Cross road diagonally to the right, go through railings and down steep path onto residential Sturt Ave. Continue until T junction, turn right and cross road to bus shelter.

**4** Turn right and then turn left at the fingerpost. Head uphill on steep wooded footpath to Marley Common, continuing at first and second marker posts. You are now within the South Downs National Park. At third marker post bear right and go through a gate marked '3'. Continue on to a 5 bar gate.

**5** Go through gate and cross multi-lane junction bearing right on a tarmac lane marked as the Serpent Trail. Follow the path straight ahead, passing the Lynchmere Society information board which is worth a read.

**6** Pass a sign for house 'Harboury' and continue on the wooded Sussex Border Path until reaching a tarmac lane.

**7** Cross over the lane and the grassy triangle and bear right to the road (heading towards Liphook).

**8** Walk along the road. Pass Danley Lane on the left and then bearing left, go through a 5 bar gate and follow the Sussex Border Path onto Lynchmere Common.

**9** The Sussex Border Path joins the Serpent Trail. Turn right at the next finger post (with some cattle pens on your right). As you enter the open common turn left and follow the power lines for 3 posts.

**10** Continue past a turning to the right and then bear right through some birch trees to a marker post for the Sussex Border Path. Continue on this rough path through the heath to the bottom of the hill.

**11** Bear left before the 5 bar gate to a wooden bench by a spring fed pond. The path climbs here. Continue straight on at the fingerpost and keep going alongside the fence on an undulating path, still on the Sussex Border Path/Serpent Trail.

**12** Turn right at 4 way junction, climbing uphill. Bear right at the top onto a wide track, which soon becomes well surfaced.

**13** Don't cross the cattle grid. Turn left at the Serpent Trail sign and go downhill to the Lynchmere Society Information Board 'Stanley Common'.

**14** At the sign turn right through gate. Continue along path and soon rejoin Sussex Border Path until you reach the road. Turn left and walk the few steps to the junction. If continuing to Liss skip to 2 on next walk (overleaf).

**15** To finish at Liphook Station turn right and follow Midhurst Road on pavement for 1km/0.6miles. Take footbridge over railway and turn right down steps to station.

 Keep up to date with the latest news and events from the South Downs National Park. [southdowns.gov.uk/newsletter](https://southdowns.gov.uk/newsletter)



Dartford warbler © B Middleton



Emperor moth (*Saturnia pavonia*) female on heather © B Middleton



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