

# SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

From rolling hills to bustling market towns, the South Downs National Park's landscapes cover 1,600km<sup>2</sup> of breathtaking views, hidden gems and quintessentially English scenery. A rich tapestry of wildlife, landscapes, tranquillity and visitor attractions, weave together a story of people and place in harmony.

For your guide to everything there is to see and do in the National Park visit [southdowns.gov.uk/discovery-map](https://southdowns.gov.uk/discovery-map)

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)



## YOUR COUNTRYSIDE CODE: RESPECT. PROTECT. ENJOY.

### Respect other people

- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Keep to the paths unless on Open Access Land



### Protect the natural environment

- Take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

### Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

# SERPENT TRAIL

Winding 65 miles across spectacular countryside this well marked trail takes in some of the most stunning heathland in the South Downs. Following this route is a great way to spot fantastic wildlife such as shy adders, sun-worshipping lizards and the beautiful silver-studded blue butterfly.

Keep your eyes on the ground for sundew, common cotton grass and a variety of heather, while above you might spot skylarks, Dartford warblers and the tuneful nightjar.

Scan here to download the Guide



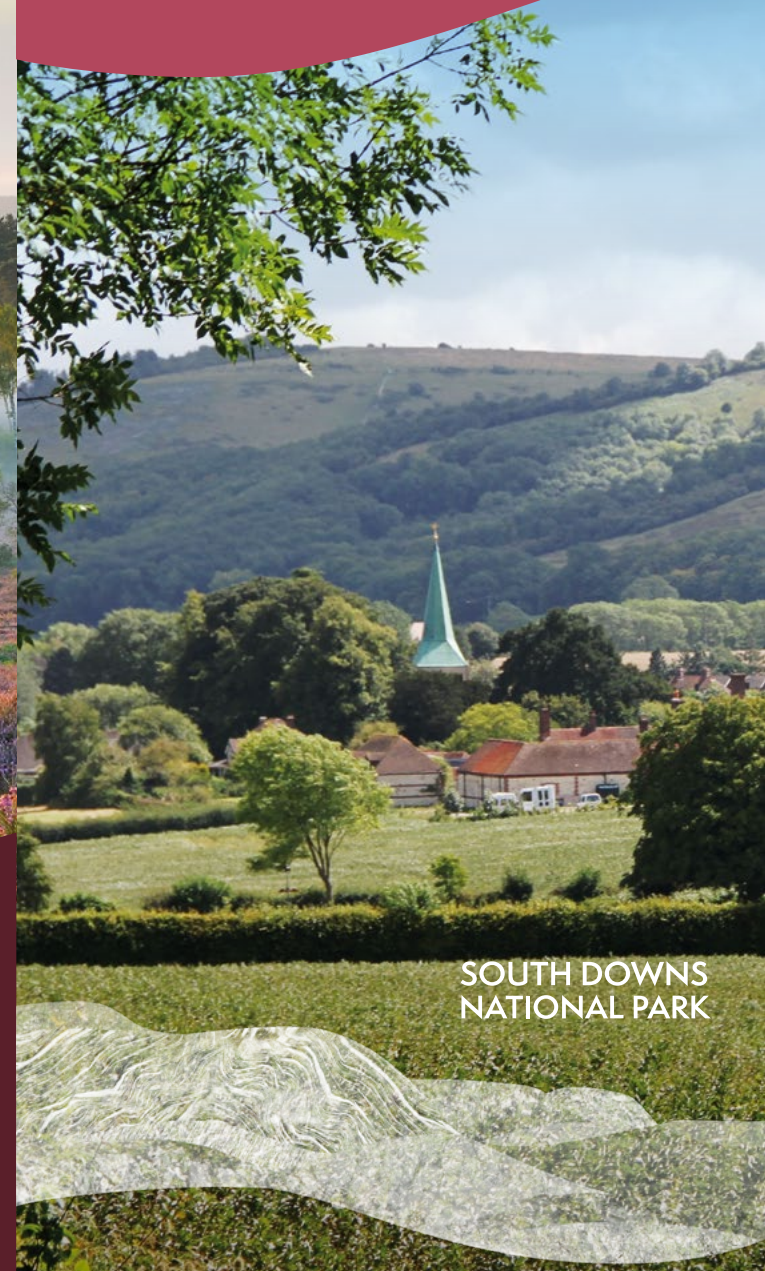
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## YOU CAN FIND THIS ROUTE ON OUTDOORACTIVE

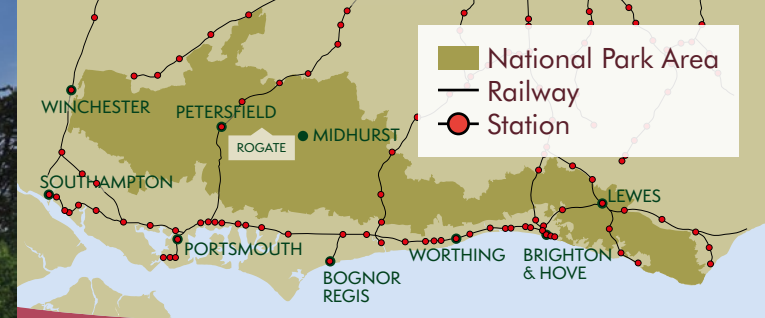
Download the free OutdoorActive app from your app store. Once registered you can search for South Downs National Park to view all our routes. All our routes on OutdoorActive are available for FREE – you do not need to buy any maps to view our walks and rides.

## SOUTH DOWNS WALKS

# ROGATE AND HARTING



SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK



## POINTS OF INTEREST

### SOUTH HARTING

Sitting at the foot of the beautiful South Downs, South Harting is home to one of the major landmarks in the Rother Valley, St Gabriel Church. The church's copper green tower can be spotted from the top of nearby Harting Down, nestled in amongst the picturesque Georgian cottages. The village has a thriving pub and village shop which are well worth a visit.

### RIVER ROTHER

Rising from several springs near Empshott in Hampshire, the River Rother winds its way through some stunning locations in the South Downs National Park.

Willow and alder trees border much of the river, along with a patchwork of traditional water meadows, pastures and hedgerows. The Rother Valley is a rich habitat for wildlife so keep your eyes

peeled for kingfishers and herons on the banks. Otter have also been spotted on some parts of the river so tread quietly and you might be in luck.

### NYEWOOD

At Nyewood you'll get a clear view of the old disused railway. This line from Petersfield to Midhurst was opened on 1 September 1860, with stations in Elsted and Rogate. The station at Rogate still stands today











on the parish boundary at Nyewood, however the line closed on 7 February 1955.

### TORBERRY HILL

As you approach South Harting from the north west you'll see the site of the iron age hill fort on Torberry Hill to your left. Now covered in trees you can still appreciate the commanding view it once had across the landscape.

## FIND YOUR WAY

Follow the arrows on waymarkers.

- Footpath  
- Bridleway  
- Restricted byway  
- Byway  
- Open access land  National Trail Acorn 



## TAKE THE LEAD

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

## GETTING HERE

By bus: Buses run from Petersfield, Midhurst and Chichester. Visit [traveline.info](http://traveline.info) for full details.

By rail: The nearest railway station is Petersfield. Visit [nationalrail.co.uk](http://nationalrail.co.uk) to plan your journey.

## CONTACT

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 @SDNPA  /SDNPA

 southdownsnp

## SOUTHDOWNS.GOV.UK

Cover image: The spire of St Gabriel church in South Harting. © SDNPA. 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.



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**MAP REF:**  
Find this area  
on OS Explorer  
OL8/OL33 (was  
120/133)

**START  
ROGATE**

**NYEWOOD**

**START  
SOUTH HARTING**

**KEY:**

- Point of interest
- Pub
- Refreshments
- Toilets
- Bus stop
- Parking
- Trail point
- Road
- Long Distance Path
- Bridleway
- Footpath
- Track
- Bridge
- Power lines
- Woodland
- Buildings
- Open access land  
(in shaded area)



# ROGATE

TRAIL: 

DISTANCE:  
7.5 miles (12km)

ALLOW:  
3–4 hrs

GRADIENT:  
Some moderate inclines.

PATH:  
Loose surface, uneven and  
muddy in places. Some stiles.

Explore patchwork fields and the peaceful River Rother.

**1** From the bus stop outside the shop, head west down the main road, round the corner and take the first footpath on your right just before Parsonage Estate. Cross the field, pass through the hole in the hedge and turn right along the lane.

**2** Continue along the lane as it bends to the left, pass Slade Farm and at the sharp corner take the marked Public Way straight ahead.

**3** Continue along the path until you reach a junction with the Sussex Border Path. Turn left following the Public Byway sign.

**4** Continue past Durleighmarsh Farm to the A272. Take care crossing the fast road then turn right and follow the old A272 slip road adjacent to the main road.

**5** Turn left at the road following signs to Durford Mill. Cross the River Rother, then turn left at Wenham Edge following signs for the Serpent Trail along the lane.

**6** Where the lane bends left, bear to the right of the grassy triangle and follow the Serpent Trail footpath right along the edge of the wood. Cross the stile and bridge to walk alongside the large sand pits.

**7** Cross another stile and continue to follow the Serpent Trail way markers, turning left at the T-junction around Down Farm and continue along the track under the power lines.

**8** Cross the field passing through the tree line and turn left where the path splits. (For a longer walk take the path right to join the Harting walk at point 4). Follow this path crossing two stiles and a concrete bridge until you reach the road at Nyewood.

**9** Turn left along the road, crossing where the pavement ends, then turn right at the bend following the Serpent Trail along the road.

**10** Where the road enters a small wood take the wooded footpath left at the next bend.

**11** Turn left onto the bridleway, then where the track forks follow the footpath (between the tracks) keeping the hedge on your left – bear right at the T-junction.

**12** Turn left at the road then immediately right at the signposted footpath. After 10m bear right following the signposted footpath between the hedges and follow the footpath across the field.

**13** Turn left along the lane and after 100m turn right to cross the River Rother using the wooden bridge. Bear left along the river, then turn right following the signpost across the field.

**14** Continue across the next two fields following the signposts. At the third field bear right across the field, through the housing estate, turning left at the T-junction, then right at the main road back to the bus stop.

# SOUTH HARTING

TRAIL: 

DISTANCE:  
6 miles (9km)

ALLOW: 2–3 hrs

GRADIENT:  
Some moderate inclines.  
PATH:  
Loose surface, uneven  
and muddy with some  
gates and stiles.

Enjoy a gentle walk around the rural parish of Harting.

**1** From the bus stop outside the White Hart Inn walk north up the road taking the road straight ahead past Harting Stores and then right onto the public footpath.

**2** Just before the copse, the footpath splits. Take the path left across the open field and over the footbridge. Follow the path to Tye Oak Farm where you will join the lane following it round to the left before finding your next footpath on the right to Nyewood.

**3** When you reach the road at Nyewood turn left (turn right to join the Rogate route at instruction 9). Continue down the road then take the first footpath on the right opposite the park and between the houses.

**4** After following the edge of several fields the footpath splits at the hedge line, take the path left (south west) going back on yourself across the fields. At the next open field head up the rise to a farm track and turn right towards Quebec.

**5** From the lane past Hill Ash Farm you will reach the road. Turn left and walk along the quiet lane bearing left at the top, then take the footpath on the right along the field.

**6** Carefully cross the B2146 at the junction. Walk up the driveway and turn left onto the footpath before the house to continue back into South Harting to the bus stop.