

## SOUTHERN ROUTE

The route you have chosen to take to day is from Haslemere, up to Blackdown, returning to Haslemere via a different route. The overall distance is 7 miles

Part of your route today is on the Sussex Border path; so look out for these along the way.



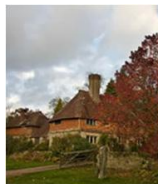
and this



- Depending on where you parked, head for the High Street. Go to the South end of the High Street towards the Town Hall and turn left onto the Petworth Road



- After about 250 yards, by the wooden bollards turn right onto the first footpath you find. Climb quite steeply, cross a road (Hill Road I believe) and the path soon levels out and passes by the edge of Haslemere Rec.
- At the next road, (Scotlands Lane) do a left and then an immediate right onto a path that drops quite steeply downhill to a series of lakes by Stedlands Farm. Take the track signposted to Valewood House and pass through the entrance marked Valewood Farm House on your left.
- . Soon pass the delightful 'Valewood **Farm** House' on your left, (GR905316).



- In another 150 yards take the first track on the left (no obvious sign) and follow the track to the left for 80 yards, gently uphill on clear track to gate. Pass through the gate and immediately turn Right to follow the well trodden path steeply up the grass field to a field gate at the top. You have very briefly Left the Sussex Border path; you regain it at the top of the field. Pass through gate and continue on trodden path across centre of field, with excellent views to the South West behind you, to gate into woodland, (GR909313).

- After a slight climb on track, go through gate and continue to follow the Sussex Border path, by bearing Right, initially in woodland and then it climbs onto heath land, as you have reached Blackdown. In about a mile you will be at a junction of five paths, with a grassy triangle in the middle. Turn Right; you should be at GR 918302. You now leave the Border path
- Follow this with hopefully glorious views to your right. Go past a bench, with attendant bronze plaque, identifying the places you can/might see. Continue on this hard sandy path, which climbs gently and turns more rocky. Follow the wooden sign to the Temple of the Winds, (GR 920292) and the curved bench.

***“You came and looked and loved the view  
long known and loved by me,  
green Sussex fading into blue  
with one grey glimpse of sea.”*** Lord Tennyson (who lived down his lane)

- They say the South of England is overcrowded, (which of course it is); but that doesn't quite resonate with this view. Try counting the houses you can see.
- Retrace your steps for 50 yards but now bear right, onto a bridle way heading North. After about 400 yards, ignore a fork to the left and walk through a beech hanger. After a bridleway merges from the left (about 100 yards past this) take a 90 degree left at 920303, onto a path, for just a very few yards. Then left back onto the Sussex Border path and about a minute later you are back at the complex junction with the grassy triangle. You should be at GR 918302 again.
- You need to turn first right onto a track which descends this mini valley. In about a mile you will have gone through “Boarden Door Bottom” and have passed through “Black Dog Copse”, (no, I don't make this up). You emerge by a house on your right and go right onto Chase Lane.
- As it quickly curves left, take the footpath to the right (GR914312) and climb past the boundary of a house to your left. As the foot path joins a tarmac drive, walk up this and take a footpath on the left which backs onto the bottom of several back gardens halfway up the drive, walk along this footpath to the end which appears to finish on a private drive but is still part of the footpath, walk up the last drive on your right which finishes up in Tennyson's Lane.
- Once you have reached Tennyson's Lane, turn left and in about 50 yards by a lamp post turn right down another footpath which has a tree and several tree roots on the path and walk to the end of this path.
- At the end of this footpath turn left onto a drive and in about 50 yards you will see another footpath on your right, take this footpath and walk to where it arrives at another tarmac drive and turn left.
- At the end of this drive turn right and follow this road to the T junction with Haslemere/Petworth Road.
- At the junction, carefully cross the road and turn left along the road towards Haslemere and within 50 yards you will see a footpath on your right. Take this footpath.

- Walk down this footpath and continue straight ahead through two gates which now puts you in Witley Copse and Mariners Rewe.
- After a short walk you will see another footpath on your left with a footbridge as shown in this photograph and turn left down over this small bridge( this can be easily missed ) which leads to a field.



- Once in the field walk straight along it in the same direction where in a few hundred yards you will see on your left "Speckled Wood" which is an eco building built for young National Trust volunteers to stay. You will arrive at a gate where there are farm type buildings and once through the gate turn right onto the main drive.
- After walking past a pond on your left carry on down the drive and after about 150 yards you will see a down hill footpath which goes through a gate on your right. Take this path through a field which eventually arrives at a small park with wooden benches.
- Turn right as you go through the wooden kissing gate until you arrive at Haslemere's well which is somewhat surprisingly still in use; well I saw a frog in it..... and turn left which takes you straight back into Haslemere.



**"Ribbit"**

**THANK YOU AND VERY WELL DONE.**