



Box Hill Circular walk

A fairly strenuous walk in a beautiful part of the North Downs

Length	<p>Main Walk: 16¼ km (10.1 miles). Four hours 40 minutes walking time. For the whole excursion including trains, sights and meals, allow at least 9 hours.</p> <p>Two Short Walks, omitting Headley Heath: 13 and 13½ km (8.1 and 8.4 miles). Both around three hours 45 minutes walking time.</p>
OS Map	Explorer 146. Box Hill & Westhumble station is in Surrey, 2 km N of Dorking.
Toughness	8 out of 10 (6 for the Short Walks).
Features	<p>Although they share the same station, this short but strenuous North Downs walk takes in a different area from the Westhumble Circular walk (2–14b). It traverses a series of hills in a clockwise loop north and east of Box Hill & Westhumble station: Norbury Park, Mickleham Downs, Headley Heath and finally Box Hill itself. There are many fine viewpoints and in several places you can see your earlier route from a new perspective. The area is deservedly popular and the famous sites are likely to be crowded on fine weekends, but there are quieter places in between.</p> <p>Norbury Park Nature Reserve is described by Surrey Wildlife Trust as a ‘working landscape’ which includes a sawmill and three farms. The prominent house at its centre (in private ownership) was built in 1774 and has had several famous owners and tenants, including Leopold Salomons (who donated Box Hill to the National Trust) and Dr Marie Stopes, the family planning pioneer.</p> <p>Box Hill (named for its abundant box trees) and Headley Heath are both owned by the National Trust, which has introduced special breeds of sheep and cattle to restore more of the downland to its original ‘unimproved’ condition. This unfertilized land is rich in wildflowers and supports many butterflies: 40 of the 58 British species have been found on Box Hill.</p> <p><i>You may come across areas grazed by sheep and cattle in Norbury Park, Headley Heath or Box Hill. Access through all these enclosures should still be possible but there may be temporary fences and gates (not mentioned in the text) to control the livestock.</i></p>
Walk Options	A slightly longer alternative ending is available from the Box Hill Visitor Centre. Instead of the gradual descent along the Burford Spur, this takes the route of the Box Hill to

Leatherhead walk (1–49, in reverse) down long flights of steps to the famous **Stepping Stones** across the River Mole, followed by a new stretch through Burford Meadow.

Two **Short Walks** replace the afternoon loop through Headley Heath with more direct routes through Box Hill Country Park, cutting out one of the four hills. One has good views from Juniper Top (also on Walk 1–49) and the Burford Spur, the other takes in a folly tower and the stepping stones.



The directions mention several short cuts which cut out some of the other climbs, as well as detours to points of interest.

Additional Notes	<p>This walk originally had an option to finish in Dorking, but even though the town used to have a much better train service this option was hardly ever taken. As the service to Box Hill was significantly improved in 2019 (see below) it has been replaced with the alternative ending mentioned above.</p> <p>A flaw in the original walk was that the lunch stop came too soon, so in 2019 the morning section in Norbury Park was extended with a 1½ km loop around Updown Wood on Fetcham Downs. The afternoon section of the Main Walk is still longer (and tougher) than the new morning route, but the lunch pub is now at the halfway point of the Short Walks.</p>
Transport	<p>Box Hill & Westhumble is served by trains to Dorking (Main) from both Waterloo and Victoria, taking around 50 minutes. In May 2019 the off-peak service improved from one train an hour to three: two from Waterloo and one from Victoria (but the other way round on Sundays).</p> <p>The obvious ticket is a return to Box Hill & Westhumble, although oddly a return to Dorking Stations is actually slightly cheaper from London Terminals. The cheapest ticket from central London is a “Southern Only” return to either Dorking or Box Hill, although this would restrict you to the direct line from Victoria.</p> <p>From Mickleham you could take London bus 465 to Dorking or Leatherhead if you want to finish the walk after lunch. There are no other public transport options in the afternoon until you descend from Box Hill, where you are close to the station.</p> <p>If driving, there is a small free car park “for railway users” at Box Hill & Westhumble station. There is also a free car park at Ryka's Café near the Burford Bridge roundabout, which you pass on the main return route.</p>
Suggested Train	<p>Take the train nearest to 10:00 from Waterloo or Victoria to Box Hill & Westhumble.</p>
Lunch	<p>The suggested lunchtime pub is the King WilliamIV (01372-372590) in Mickleham, after 6¼ km. This free house – hidden away on a path leading up to Mickleham Downs – serves local beers and good home-cooked food (to 2pm Mon–Sat, all afternoon Sundays). It has an attractive terraced garden, but limited space inside. Just off the main route, the Running Horses (01372-372279) in Mickleham village is a good alternative. Both pubs are fairly expensive.</p>
Tea	<p>There is a popular café inside the National Trust Visitor Centre at the top of Box Hill, plus a servery offering hot and cold drinks, cakes and ice-creams. There is ample seating both inside and outdoors.</p>

At the foot of Box Hill the sound of motorbikes will guide you to **Ryka's Café** (01306-884454; open to 5pm Mon–Fri, 6pm weekends), which serves a wide range of food and drink. In Westhumble Street the **Stepping Stones** (01306-889932) pub is usually open all day, and at the station itself the Old Booking Hall houses **Pilgrim Cycles** (01306-886958; open to 5pm Tue–Sat; 4pm Sun; closed Mon), a bicycle shop with a convenient café to serve people waiting for a train; it may stay open later than its posted times if called in advance.

Help Us!

After the walk, we would love to get your feedback

You can upload photos to the  SWC Group on Flickr (upload your photos) and videos to  Youtube. This walk's tags are:



By Car

Start RH5 6BT

Help

National Rail: 03457 48 49 50 • Travelline SE (bus times): 0871 200 2233 (12p/min) • TFL (London) : 0343 222 1234

Version

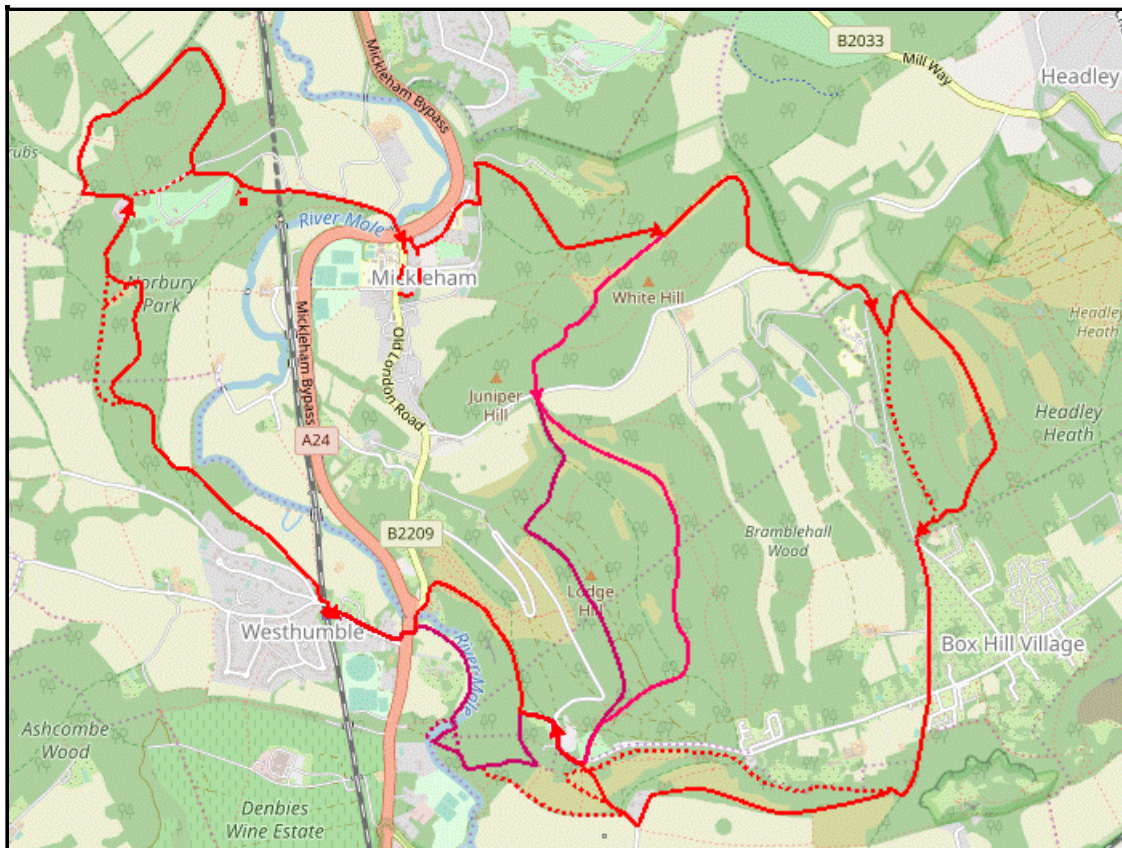
Oct-20

Copyright

© Saturday Walkers Club. All Rights Reserved. No commercial use. No copying. No derivatives. Free with attribution for one time non-commercial use only.
www.walkingclub.org.uk/site/license.shtml

Walk Directions

Walk Map



All maps © OpenStreetMap contributors

Walk Options (Main | Short)

M. Main Walk (16¼ km)

i. Main Walk, with alternative ending (17 km)

a. Short Walk 1, via Juniper Top and the Burford Spur (13 km)

b. Short Walk 2, via the Tower and Burford Meadow (13½ km)

Walk Directions

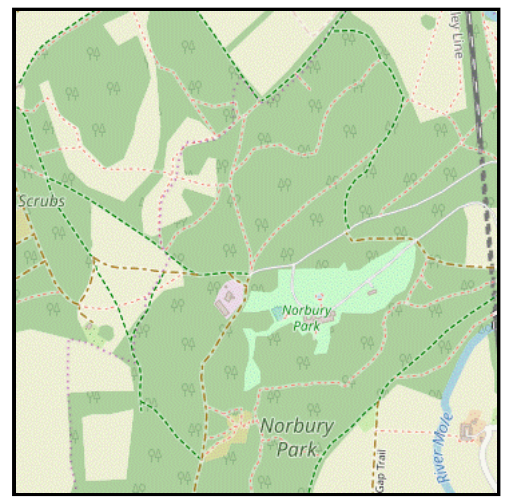
A. Box Hill & Westhumble Station to Norbury Park Sawmill (2¾ km)

1. From the station car park, go up the concrete steps to the right of the footbridge between the platforms. These lead to a road where you turn left, crossing over the railway. On the other side of the bridge, **immediately turn right** onto a public footpath heading **N**, alongside the railway.
2. Go through a gate into a large field and **bear left** (leaving the public footpath) onto a faint grassy path which runs near the left-hand edge of the field. At the end go through a gate and continue in the same direction through a wood.
3. After a climb, **fork left** in front of a gate leading into a field. The path goes up another short slope and comes to a T-junction. Turn right briefly onto a broad path, then in 60m **turn left** onto a narrow path winding gently uphill through the trees.
This path used to be signposted to Druids Grove, but the sign was missing when last checked.
4. For 200m the path stays fairly close to the broad path below, then veers left and climbs more steeply. In a further 175m there is a short flight of steps going up the slope on your left.
 - For an easier route to the viewpoint and sawmill, climb the steps and turn right onto a track. You could simply follow this track for 1 km all the way to the sawmill (and continue the directions at §B), but it is worth forking right at a Viewpoint signpost after 500m and picking up the directions at [7].
5. For the main route, follow the narrow and potentially slippery path for a further 650m as it contours along the wooded hillside. You go past clumps of box trees and several ancient yew trees, although nowhere along the path is actually identified as **Druids Grove**.
6. **The turning off this path is easy to miss**. At the start of a straight stretch lined with box trees **veer left** onto a zig-zag path of steps climbing up the wooded hillside, which comes out at a **viewpoint**¹ looking eastwards across the Mole valley.
7. With your back to the view, bear right onto a path alongside the boundary fence of **Norbury Park House**, soon meeting a broad track. Turn right and follow this track alongside the green chainlink fence, heading **N**. In 400m you pass the entrance to **Norbury Park Sawmill** on your left.

B. Norbury Park Sawmill to the Mickleham Bypass (3 km)

8. After passing the sawmill entrance the track forks in front of a triangular area with some wooden benches and an information panel about the history of **Norbury Park**.
 - If you want to cut out the loop around Updown Wood (saving 1½ km) **keep right** to continue on the sawmill's access road. After passing a security gate for Norbury Park house and descending for 175m, **turn right** onto a signposted public bridleway and resume the directions at [15].
9. For the main route **fork left** in front of the triangular area onto a broad track heading **W**. In 125m keep ahead where the track splits and go up to a "Chalk Grassland" information panel in front of an open area, on the edge of **Fetcham Downs**.
10. **Turn right** at the panel onto a broad grassy path leading to a belt of trees and take the **left-hand of two paths** into them, past a wooden barrier engraved "Walnut Tree Clump". This leads into a semi-open area with scattered trees and shrubs (where there might be cattle grazing) with a clear grassy path ahead.
11. In 300m keep ahead at a path crossing. The path curves right, then goes into a more wooded area with a fenced enclosure on the right. Follow the path past another "Walnut Tree Clump" barrier to a T-junction with a broad track.

12. Turn left onto this track, heading **NE** and soon coming to a corner of the wood where there are views across the downland to Leatherhead in the Mole valley. Stay on the main track as it heads **NE** along the edge of the wood, passing a “Woodland Management” information panel.
13. In 300m (with more views to the left, and a post marked 15 Z) follow the main track round to the right to head **E**, soon bending right again to head **SE**. After going in this direction for 200m the path bends right again to head **SW** and merges with another path coming up from the left.
14. In a further 100m **fork left** by another marker post (4 M). In 150m this path veers left to go down and across a dip and emerges onto the tarmac lane from the sawmill. Go across this (slightly to the right) onto a signposted public bridleway.
15. Follow the bridleway up a slope, alongside the boundary fence of Norbury Park House again. In 200m you pass a security gate into the grounds and **bear right**, ignoring the (seemingly unused) driveway down to the left. At the next path junction there is a sign pointing right to Centenary Copse & Viewpoint.
 - If you wish you could make a short out-and-back detour to this viewpoint, a small terrace with a wooden bench 100m away.
16. For the main route **fork left** at the signpost and follow the bridleway downhill through the trees to an open area by a communications mast, with views across the valley to **Cherkley Court**.
17. Carry on downhill, later on a broad grassy strip alongside the driveway you crossed earlier and then the tarmac lane from the sawmill, which both merge from the left. Where the lane swings off to the left **keep right** on a path between hedges.
18. Follow the path down to a lane and turn right. After crossing the **River Mole** the lane comes to the A24 (Mickleham bypass) opposite its junction with Old London Road. **Cross this busy dual carriageway with great care**, to the left of the junction.



C. The Mickleham Bypass to The Gallops (1¾ or 2¼ km)

If you are going to the alternative lunchtime pub (the Running Horses), or want to visit Mickleham church, follow the directions in [20].

19. Main route

- a. On the other side of the A24, **turn left** along the pavement for a short distance. At the end of a high brick wall in front of the first house, **turn right** into a driveway (as indicated by a bridleway signpost on the other side of the carriageway).
- b. In 40m, where the drive swings round to the left at Old House Cottage, keep ahead along a path. 30m later, follow it round to the left at a path junction.

20. Alternative route (+500m)

- a. Go along Old London Road for 250m to reach the **Running Horses**² pub on your right, opposite the churchyard.
 - b. To resume the walk, go through the churchyard and turn left onto a grassy path 40m behind **St Michael's church**³. Follow this footpath out of the churchyard, straight ahead across Dell Close, then **turn right** at a path T-junction.
21. Head **E** along the path, between hedges. Ignore footpaths on either side of a recreation ground on the right and continue on a tarmac lane (School Lane). This curves round to the left, passes St Michael's School and comes to Byttom Hill. Turn right onto this unsurfaced lane, away from the A24, then in 40m **turn right** up a flight of steps to reach the entrance to the **King William IV** pub.
 22. The walk continues up the the narrow path past the pub to a crosspaths, where you **turn sharp left** onto a broad level path flanked by low brick and flint walls, with views across the valley. In 200m, just before the path meets a lane, **turn right** through a gap to the right of a metal fieldgate onto a signposted footpath.

23. Follow the path for 600m as it climbs steadily up the wooded **Mickleham Downs**, later with a wire fence on the left. At the top of the hill **turn half-left** to stay alongside the fence, now heading **E** on a bridleway.
24. Continue in this direction for 450m, crossing a couple of chalky tracks along the way. Eventually the bridleway swings right and emerges onto the middle of **The Gallops**⁴, a 1 km long strip of open grassland.
If you are doing the Main Walk (via Headley Heath), go to §G.

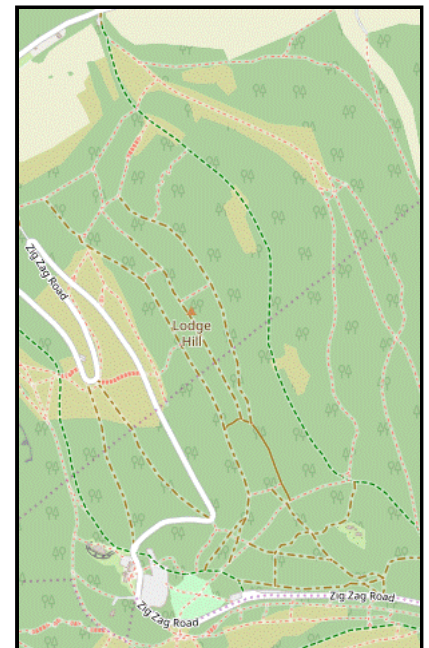


D. The Gallops to Box Hill Country Park (1¼ km)

25. For the **Short Walks** **turn right** to head **SW** along The Gallops. In 300m pass to the left of a clump of trees, where there is an “Archaeology on Mickleham Downs” information panel. Just before the end of the open area, **fork left** onto a grassy path into the trees.
26. Follow this winding path for 250m, still heading roughly **SW**. 25m after passing a prominent beech tree, **keep left** at a little triangle of paths to end up on a broad path heading **SE**. This soon turns right and comes out into the open, with a fine view across the valley to Juniper Top, in the main part of Box Hill Country Park.
You are now following the route of Walk 1–49 (in reverse) down White Hill.
27. Continue downhill on the path, heading **SW** again. In 150m the path bends left and goes steeply down a long flight of steps. At the bottom Headley Lane is popular with speedy cyclists so **take care as you cross it**. Go through Whitehill car park onto a track into **Box Hill Country Park**. In 30m there is a fieldgate on the left and a choice of routes.
If you are doing Short Walk 2 (via the Tower), go to §F.

E. The Country Park to the Visitor Centre via Juniper Top (2½ km)

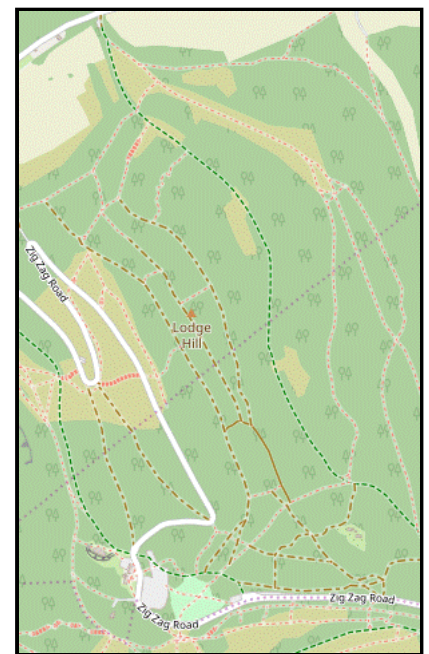
28. **Fork left** off the main track, going through a wooden side gate. Go uphill on this path, which soon opens out into a broad grassy area with increasingly fine views behind you as you climb.
29. Where the grassy path levels out at the top, keep right. In the top right-hand corner go through a wooden side gate next to a fieldgate onto a track. Follow the track **S** for 800m, ignoring several turnings to the left.
30. Just before a major path junction up ahead, **fork right** by a small wooden post, finally leaving the Walk 1–49 route. Go straight across a bridleway at the junction, following a signpost to Car Parks/Cafe.
31. The path curves round to the right, heading **W**. In 150m keep ahead (slightly to the left) at a path junction, now heading **SW**. In 200m a track merges from the right, the route via the Tower.
32. Continue along the path until it bends right in front of a large clearing, **Donkey Green**. You could stay on the path and go through the NT car park directly to the Visitor Centre, but the suggested route is to go straight across the clearing. On the far side cross Zig Zag Road to come to the famous viewpoint at the **Salomons Memorial**⁵.
33. To reach the Visitor Centre, turn left onto the tarmac path behind the viewpoint. This curves round to the right and goes alongside Zig Zag Road to reach a large picnic area in front of a cluster of buildings.
There is a Servery for light refreshments up ahead but the NT Café (in the first building on the left, with the Gift Shop) often has a shorter queue.
Complete the directions at §J (or §K to switch endings).



F. The Country Park to the Visitor Centre via the Tower (2¼ km)

34. Ignore the path to the left and continue on the main track, along Juniper Bottom. In 250m the track goes through a gate and comes to a more open area. **Veer right** onto a chalky path climbing steeply up the open hillside, with a flight of steps cut into the grassy bank for part of the way.

35. At the top go through a gate into a more wooded area. After a short final climb **turn right** at a T-junction and follow the path round to the left. Immediately after a path joins from the right, **fork right** at a Y-junction. In 100m you come to a round flint tower, **Broadwood's Folly**⁶.
36. Turn left at the tower to go gently uphill on a track, heading **SE**. Soon there are views on the right across a valley to the Burford Spur. Stay on this woodland track for 1 km, gradually curving to the right to head **S**. Eventually a path merges from the left, the route via Juniper Top.
37. Continue along the path until it bends right in front of a large clearing, **Donkey Green**. You could stay on the path and go through the NT car park directly to the Visitor Centre, but the suggested route is to go straight across the clearing. On the far side cross Zig Zag Road to come to the famous viewpoint at the **Salomons Memorial**⁵.
38. To reach the Visitor Centre, turn left onto the tarmac path behind the viewpoint. This curves round to the right and goes alongside Zig Zag Road to reach a large picnic area in front of a cluster of buildings.
*There is a Servery for light refreshments up ahead but the NT Café (in the first building on the left, with the Gift Shop) often has a shorter queue.
Complete the directions at §K (or §J to switch endings).*

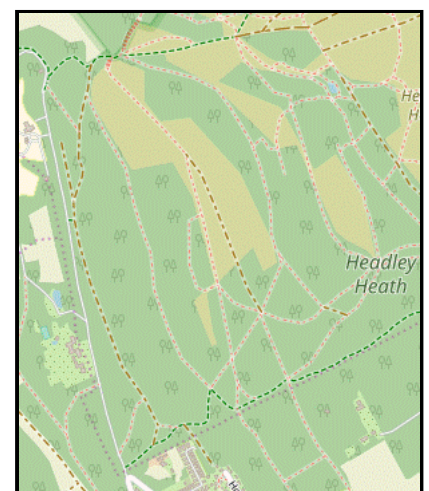


G. The Gallops to Headley Heath (1½ km)

39. For the **Main Walk** **turn left** to head **NE** along The Gallops. **The next turning is easy to miss**. For the best route down the steeply wooded hillside on your right, **veer right** onto an unmarked path into the trees right at the end of the open area, ignoring the NT "Box Hill Hike" waymarker pointing straight on.
 - If you miss this path you could follow the waymarkers and turn right onto a signposted bridleway 60m ahead; this route is slightly shorter but drops down very steeply near the bottom of the hill.
40. On the suggested route the narrow path soon broadens as it winds its way down the side of White Hill, less precipitously than the bridleway. At the bottom **turn left** onto a well-defined path near the edge of the wood, heading **SE**. In 200m continue through Cockshott Wood car park, meeting the bridleway from The Gallops at the far end.
After this small variation the route now follows the waymarked "Box Hill Hike" all the way to Box Hill.
41. Headley Lane is popular with speedy cyclists so **take care as you cross it**. Take the bridleway to the left of Cockshott Cottage, which bends left and goes uphill between trees and a wire fence.
42. At the top the bridleway levels out and bears right to go alongside a brick buttress supporting a tarmac lane on the right, the access road for **High Ashurst** (Outdoor Education Centre). Ignore an awkward bridleway going steeply downhill to the left and continue parallel to the lane for 40m, then **turn left** through a wooden side gate into **Headley Heath**.

H. Across Headley Heath (2 km)

43. Go downhill on a broad stony track, which in 150m comes to a path junction.
 - If you want to take a direct route through Headley Heath, fork right uphill and follow this woodland track near its western edge. In 900m (having ignored several turnings off to the lane), veer right where the path forks and keep right at the next junction to come to a small car park at a corner of the heath. If you take this short cut, continue the directions at §I.
44. For the suggested route **turn sharp left** at the junction. Follow the track for 250m, at first downhill and then curving round to the right. Just before the path starts to climb a short way ahead, **turn right** to climb a flight of steps cut into the slope on your right.
45. Continue on a broad grassy path up an open spur, with increasingly fine views of the heath and back across the valley. Follow the main path for nearly 1 km, later through a more wooded area, to a six-way path junction in a small clearing.



46. **Take the second path on the right**, turning half-right from your previous direction to head **SW**. In 125m keep ahead at a path crossing, after which the path narrows and winds downhill. In 125m go past a wooden horse barrier and straight across a staggered path junction, joining a bridleway coming in from the left at a hairpin bend.
47. The stony track goes down across a small dip and curves to the right up the other side. A track merges from the left and you **fork left** at the next junction. In a further 150m you come to a small car park at the south-western corner of the heath.

I. Headley Heath to Box Hill Visitor Centre (3½ km)

48. Go through the car park and turn left onto a lane. Take the right fork (almost straight on) and follow this lane **S** past houses for 750m to Box Hill Road. Cross over and continue on the bridleway opposite, in a belt of trees.
49. In 200m the path starts to descend and shortly afterwards merges with the **North Downs Way**⁷ (NDW) above a steeply wooded disused quarry, the site of the old **Brockham Lime Works**⁸. After going steeply downhill for 200m **turn right** up a flight of steps with a wooden handrail, staying on the NDW. At the top the path forks.
- If you want to take a shorter and easier route to the Box Hill viewpoint, fork right and follow the NDW signs for 1½ km, at first through woods and then on a path close to Zig Zag Road, to reach the viewpoint. If you take this short cut, continue the directions at [53].
50. For the main route **fork left** (leaving the NDW) and follow this track gently downhill, with extensive views to the south (the village below is Brockham). In 300m you go over a stile by a gate and along the southern edge of **Box Hill Country Park** for the next 800m, eventually leaving it through a wooden gate.
51. Just before the track comes to a metal fieldgate in front of a private property, **veer left** as indicated down a narrow fenced path alongside a large field. This leads into a driveway which you follow downhill for 50m, then **turn sharp right** onto a track to start going back uphill. In 100m keep left to go through a wooden gate, re-entering the Country Park.
- If you want to skip the final climb up Box Hill you can take a level route along the bottom edge of the Country Park to the walk's alternative ending: the narrow left-hand path goes through a belt of trees for 600m and then woodland for a further 200m, eventually swinging right to meet the NDW on its descent from the summit. If you do this, turn left onto the NDW and complete the directions at [61] in SK.
52. For the walk's final (and steepest) climb follow the main path up to the right. After going through a small wooden gate the most direct route is to take any of the broad grassy paths on the right climbing very steeply uphill to the famous viewpoint at the **Salomons Memorial**⁵.
- For an easier climb you could carry straight on and eventually turn sharp right at a path junction (almost doubling back) to reach the viewpoint.
53. To reach the Visitor Centre, turn left onto the tarmac path behind the viewpoint. This curves round to the right and goes alongside Zig Zag Road to reach a large picnic area in front of a cluster of buildings. *There is a Served for light refreshments up ahead but the NT Café (in the first building on the left, with the Gift Shop) often has a shorter queue.*
If you are doing the alternative ending (via Burford Meadow), go to SK.

J. The Visitor Centre to Box Hill & Westhumble Station via the Burford Spur (1¾ km)

54. Go around the right-hand side of the Served and through a small car park to the old **Box Hill Fort**⁹ behind it. Go past its right-hand side and then **veer left** through a gap in the stone wall. Go over the grass rampart and through a belt of trees to a T-junction with a chalky path at the top of a steep wooded cliff.
55. **Turn right** onto this path, heading **N** with views across the Mole Valley to **Denbies Vineyard** and the wooded Ranmore Common. As you go down the **Burford Spur** the downland opens out and the descent becomes steeper. The most direct route is to keep left, aiming to come out onto Old London Road not too far from the prominent roundabout on the A24.
- For a less precipitous descent you could carry straight on and then double back to meet the road a little further along.

56. Unless you want to nip across Old London Road to **Ryka's Café** (next to the large car park) head **S** along the road, passing the up-market **Burford Bridge Hotel** just before the large roundabout. Keep ahead briefly on a footway alongside the A24, crossing the **River Mole** on **Burford Bridge**.
57. Go down the subway ramp and under this busy main road. On the other side go up the ramp on the left to a road junction and **turn right** into Westhumble Street, signposted to [Box Hill &] Westhumble station. You soon reach the **Stepping Stones** pub on the left.
58. The station is a further 300m along this narrow street, but there is a path in the belt of trees on the right for most of the way. Before the road rises to cross the railway bridge, bear left into the station car park. **Pilgrim Cycles** (and its café) is in the old station building on the left. Cross the station footbridge to Platform 1 for trains to London.

K. The Visitor Centre to Box Hill & Westhumble Station via Burford Meadow (2½ km)

59. Go around the right-hand side of the Servedy and through a small car park to the old **Box Hill Fort**⁹ behind it. Go past its right-hand side and then **veer left** through a gap in the stone wall. Go over the grass rampart and through a belt of trees to a T-junction with a chalky path at the top of a steep wooded cliff.
60. **Turn left** onto this path, heading **S**. Shortly after passing a headstone for **Major Peter Labellière**¹⁰, ignore a fork to the left leading back past **Swiss Cottage**¹¹ to the Visitor Centre. The main path goes gently downhill and in 150m meets the **North Downs Way**⁷. **Turn right** onto the NDW to go all the way down the wooded hillside, on long flights of steps.
61. At the bottom of the hill the path levels out and a concrete footpath marker offers a choice of Stepping Stones (left) and Footbridge (right). The route continues from the other side of the footbridge so the right-hand fork is shorter, but the suggested route is to **fork left** to see the famous **Stepping Stones**¹² across the **River Mole**.
There are paths between the stones and footbridge on both banks so you can choose whether to attempt a crossing on the stones (which is not always possible).
62. From the footbridge take the grassy path on the right all the way through **Burford Meadow**, leaving the NDW and following the course of the tree-lined river as it curves left below the steeply wooded hillside of **The Whites**. At **Burford Bridge** go up a small bank onto a footway in front of the A24.
63. Go down the subway ramp and under this busy main road. On the other side go up the ramp on the left to a road junction and **turn right** into Westhumble Street, signposted to [Box Hill &] Westhumble station. You soon reach the **Stepping Stones** pub on the left.
64. The station is a further 300m along this narrow street, but there is a path in the belt of trees on the right for most of the way. Before the road rises to cross the railway bridge, bear left into the station car park. **Pilgrim Cycles** (and its café) is in the old station building on the left. Cross the station footbridge to Platform 1 for trains to London.

Walk Notes

1. From the **Norbury Park Viewpoint** the village below is Mickleham, with Mickleham Downs beyond it. The prominent mansion away to the left is Cherkley Court, once the country estate of Lord Beaverbrook. The two open areas leading up Box Hill on the right are Juniper Top and the Burford Spur; Broadwood's Folly is just visible in the trees between them.
2. The **Running Horses** pub was renamed after the two horses which tied in the "Dead Heat Derby" of 1828, *Colonel* and *Cadland*. They are pictured on opposite sides of the inn sign.
3. **St Michael, Mickleham** dates from Saxon and Norman times but most of the original features were lost in an 1842 renovation. It has a 'weeping chancel', one which is out of alignment with the nave.
4. As the name implies, **The Gallops** was used for leisure riding and for exercising horses racing at Epsom (which were stabled at the Running Horses pub in Mickleham).
5. The **Salomons Memorial** commemorates Leopold Salomons of Norbury Park, who bought Box Hill when it was offered for sale in 1912 and donated it to the National Trust two years later.
6. **Broadwood's Folly** was built in the 19thC by the piano manufacturer Thomas Broadwood, who owned the prominent house in the valley below, Juniper Hall. A holm oak growing inside it had to be removed since it was dying and damaging the structure of the tower.

7. The **North Downs Way** runs for 246 km along the length of the North Downs (with two sections at its eastern end), from Farnham in Surrey to Dover in Kent.
8. **Brockham Lime Works** was a major industrial site in Victorian times. Chalk from the quarry was burnt in kilns to produce quicklime, used in the manufacture of mortar and fertiliser.
9. **Box Hill Fort** was one of a chain of mobilisation centres built to defend London at the end of the 19thC, but the idea was soon abandoned. It has now been colonized by several species of bats.
10. **Major Peter Labellière** was an eccentric local resident who insisted on being buried upside down, reasoning that "as the world is turned topsy-turvy" he would be the right way up in the end.
11. **Swiss Cottage** is where the television pioneer **John Logie Baird** conducted some of his early experiments in 1930.
12. The **Stepping Stones** might have been installed by a 19thC landowner to facilitate access to his orchard on the level ground at the foot of Box Hill. The current stones were laid in 1946, the originals having been destroyed in World War II as an anti-invasion measure.

» *Last updated: October 4, 2020*

© [Saturday Walkers Club](#). All Rights Reserved. No commercial use. No copying. No derivatives. Free with attribution for one time non-commercial use only. www.walkingclub.org.uk/site/license.shtml

[Saturday Walkers Club](#) • © 2000-2020 All Rights Reserved • saturdaywalkers@walkingclub.org.uk