

Main walk last checked	Option a) last checked	Chilworth options last checked	Shalford options last checked
30 September 2023	30 September 2023	15 October 2021	15 October 2023
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Guildford Circular via Chantries Hill

The Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Length	Main walk:	20.3km (12.6 miles)
	a) Short cut through the woods	saves 1km (0.6 miles)
	b) Ending at Chilworth	13.1km (8.1 miles)
	c) Ending at Shalford	17.5km (10.9 miles)
	d) Starting at Chilworth	14km (8.7 miles)
	e) Starting at Chilworth, ending at Shalford	11.2km (6.9 miles)
	f) Guildford Circular via Chilworth	17.1km (10.6 miles)
	g) Guildford to Chilworth (short)	7.9km (4.9 miles)

Toughness 4 out of 10: two extended hill climbs near the start: otherwise fairly gentle gradients

Maps Explorer 145, Landranger 186

Features

This walk explores pleasantly hilly scenery in the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It starts on the tranquil River Wey Navigation, briefly follows the North Downs Way, and then veers off up to climb the wooded Chantries Hill for fine escarpment views at the top. The hill has extensive bluebell woods in late April/early May, and glorious golden beech colours in autumn. You then rejoin the North Downs Way to climb to the hilltop church of St Martha's, before descending to lunch in the pretty village of Albury.

In the afternoon, you are in somewhat different terrain – sandy heathlands and woods around the village of Blackheath. Finally you descend by an easy track through Tangley Manor for a further stretch along the River Wey into Guildford. While it is not mud-free, the sandy soils in many parts of this walk mean that it is drier underfoot in winter than many other walks.

Walk options - main walk

You can vary the main walk in the following ways (*see overleaf*):

a) Short cut through the woods. This direct path through the woods saves only **1km (0.6 miles)** and cuts out Chilworth and a pleasant valley section of the walk, but it is perhaps useful if you are in a hurry to get to lunch in Albury, or in late autumn, when it has fine beech colour.

b) Ending at Chilworth. In paragraph 91 of the directions on page 8 there are instructions to cut short the walk at Chilworth station. This makes a walk of **13.1km (8.1 miles)** from Guildford. The **Percy Arms** is a possible tea stop on this walk.

c) Ending at Shalford and Shalford tea options. This alternative route, starting in paragraph 106 on page 9, enables you to finish at Shalford station, shortening the walk to **17.5km (10.9 miles)** from Guildford. Or, if you still plan to walk to Guildford, it gives you access to some tea and pub options in an attractive village before taking you back onto the main walk route via the pretty Shalford watermeadows: this adds **0.8km (0.5 miles)** to the walk distance.

d) Starting at Chilworth. This allows you to cut 6.3km (3.9 miles) off the start of the walk, making a total walk of **14km (8.7 miles)**, and gets you to the lunch pub in Albury after just 2.8km (1.7 miles). However, you miss out the viewpoints of Chantries Hill and St Martha's Hill. *To do this option, start with the directions in paragraph 61 on page 7. You don't need to print pages 4 to 6.*

e) Starting at Chilworth, ending at Shalford. Using the option **d)** start and option **c)** ending makes a walk of **11.2 km (6.9 miles)**, with a relatively early lunch stop in Albury after 2.8km (1.7 miles)

Other walk options

f) Guildford Circular via Chilworth You can cut out Albury to create a shorter walk circular walk from Guildford of **17.1km (10.6 miles)**. There are two ways to do this, depending on whether you want to have a pub lunch or not. Both options diverge from the main walk route in paragraph 40 on page 5.

i) Short cut via the Downs Link. There is **no pub lunch** on this option, but unlike option ii) below it avoids road walking altogether and crosses an interesting area of heathland managed by the National Trust. There is a good **picnic** spot about halfway.

ii) Short cut via the Percy Arms. This takes you through an interesting area along the Tillingbourne River that was once the site of a gunpowder factory and is now managed as a nature reserve, before delivering you to the Percy Arms, a possible lunch stop. After lunch there is an 600 metre stretch along a quiet, but not traffic-free, road on which some care may be needed.

g) Guildford to Chilworth short walk via Chantries Hill and St Martha's Hill. This is a very a very scenic walk of just **7.9km (4.9 miles)**. Refreshments only at the start and finish. *You only need pages 1 to 6.*

Transport

Guildford is reached by frequent trains from **Waterloo** (usually at least four an hour), whose final destination is usually Portsmouth or Haslemere. Avoid the slow trains via Clandon or Effingham Junction. Catch a train from Waterloo about **9.30am** to start the walk at around 10.00am

If doing options **b)**, **d)**, **e)** or **g)**, trains to or from **Chilworth** are only every two hours in either direction. Travelling from Waterloo with a change at Guildford from Waterloo usually provides the best connection (one hour journey time in total), but it is worth checking London Bridge via Redhill if that is more convenient to you. Currently there is a 10.30 and 12.30 option from Waterloo Monday to Saturday, and 9.30 and 11.30 on Sundays.

Another possibility to or from Chilworth is the **number 32 bus** which runs roughly hourly from Chilworth station (same side of road, ie the opposite side of the road to the Percy Arms) to Guildford until around 7pm **Monday to Saturday**, journey time 16 minutes. On **Sunday** buses are only every two hours and the last bus is just before 6pm.

From **Shalford** (option **c)** trains to Guildford are hourly. There are also several bus routes into Guildford, with one continuing hourly into the evening.

Lunch

The Drummond at Albury (01483 202 039) 9.1km (5.6 miles) into the main walk, or 2.8km (1.7 miles) if you start from Chilworth, is a large and pleasant pub serving both restaurant-style meals and cheaper bar classics. It has a garden with outside tables by the river. Food is served 12-3pm and 6-9pm Monday to Friday, but all afternoon on Saturday and Sunday.

The Percy Arms in Chilworth (01483 561 765), 7.9km (4.9 miles) into the walk, is a lunch stop on option **fii) Guildford Circular via Chilworth**, and can also be reached by a **1.6km (1 mile) diversion** off the main walk route (see paragraph 40 of the walk directions on page 5). It is more of a restaurant than a pub inside, but will serve food in its bar area as well as in its large garden. It is open and serves food 12-3pm and 6-10pm Monday to Friday and all afternoon weekends.

Tea

Guildford has various options in and around its picturesque high street (paragraph 113). As a backstop there is a decent-sized and quite pleasant **Costa Coffee** at Guildford station open well into the evening.

Earlier tea options in **Shalford** (reached by a small diversion from the walk route) include the **Queen Victoria** and **Seahorse** pubs, the former more traditional, the latter more modern, and a highly recommended cafe, the **Snooty Fox**, though this closes at 4.30pm daily. Outside these hours you can get hot drinks and pastries at the **village shop** by the station entrance (also run by the Snooty Fox and selling some of its products).

If ending in **Chilworth** (option **b** or **g**), the **Percy Arms** is a possible tea stop.

WALK DIRECTIONS

To start from Chilworth go to paragraph 61 on page 7.

Guildford station to Chantry Hill (4.1km/2.5 miles)

- 1** Exit **Guildford station** and go down the station approach towards an office block named Bridge House. Just before the road go right down a pedestrian underpass.
- 2** Turn left into the tunnel and at the far end of it turn right up the ramp. Follow the fenced-off pavement around to the left to get to the river.
- 3** Turn right on the riverbank, under the road bridge. In 100 metres carry on past the town bridge and down a road to the right of White House pub (*if you prefer, there is a path that goes to the left just before the pub and then turns right on the riverbank, but it soon comes back out onto the road again.*)
- 4** 200 metres or so after the pub turn left over a footbridge across the river that leads into the park. Just beyond the bridge turn right along the edge of a canal (the Wey Navigation).

The weir mentioned in the next paragraph failed some time ago, and

Guildford Council seem in no rush to repair it. The path across the weir is thus closed. To get round it requires a road walk: instead of turning right along the edge of the canal in the previous paragraph, keep straight on. In 100 metres you come to a main road, where you turn right. In 350 metres, just beyond the Weyside pub garden, turn right to cross a footbridge over the river. At the bottom of the steps turn left and cross the grass, with the river to your left, to come to a weir. You are now on the right-hand bank of the River Wey. Continue with the directions in paragraph 7 below.

- 5** In 120 metres the path crosses over a weir: 20 metres beyond this take the park forking right across the grass.
- 6** In 150 metres this brings you to the canal again, where you turn right across another weir and carry on along the Wey Navigation tow path.
- 7** Follow this for 700 metres until you see a large wooden footbridge over the river. Turn left across the bridge, joining the North Downs Way (NDW).
- 8** On the far side of the bridge turn left and then in 30 metres right, to keep on up NDW going away from the river.

In another 200 metres, when the path comes to an open space/playing fields, go straight on across it.

- 9 In 200 metres more cross a main road and go straight on up a suburban side road, Pilgrims Way.
- 10 In 200 metres ignore Clifford Manor Road to the right. But in another 250 metres, just after the houses end to the right, fork right up a tarmac lane on the right-hand side of a triangular open space following the NDW signpost.
- 11 In 120 metres, just past a car park to the left, turn right in front of a white house, ignoring the track ahead (which is the NDW), and then immediately turn left uphill into an open space.
- 12 In 70 metres the open space narrows to a point and a clear path enters the wood. Follow this all the way to the top of the hill. It is a long (700 metres or so) steady climb but the way is never in doubt.
- 13 Where the path finally levels out there is a grass and shrub-filled clearing to the left. Carry on along the right-hand side of this on a car-wide path.
- 14 In 150 metres take a wide path to the right.
- 15 This winds around the crown of a wooded hill until 100 metres after the bend you can see the open escarpment through a kissing gate 20 metres to the right. Pass through this gate and follow the path to the left along the edge of the escarpment.
- 16 In 100 metres, just before you come to a field boundary, by a bench, take the path forking right, to keep to the very edge of the escarpment.
- 17 In 50 metres pass through a gate. Beyond, **curve to the right** and in another 80 metres you come to some benches, from where you get **a fine panoramic view**.

Chantries Hill to the Downs Link junction (1.9km/1.2 mi)

- 18 Beyond the viewpoint keep on along the edge of the escarpment on a clear path. You pass through another kissing gate in 120 metres and have a clear view of the hill on which St Martha's Church stands ahead.
- 19 In another 100 metres ignore a path forking left to keep to the escarpment

edge. In a further 100 metres, at the next field boundary, pass through a kissing gate and keep straight on, with a fenced-off area just uphill to your left.

- 20 In 100 metres take the path forking left to a kissing gate in the fence. Beyond this veer right diagonally across the field, passing to the right of two oak trees and heading for its far corner.
- 21 In the corner of the field take the rightmost of two exits into the wood. In 80 metres ignore a path to the right and another forking right.
- 22 In 70 metres at a crosspaths with a car-wide path turn right uphill. In 40 metres pass through metal posts and turn right at a T-junction for 25 metres to a road.
- 23 Turn left on the road and then **in 30 metres turn right off the road** up a path, signposted North Downs Way, which passes to the left of a white house.
- 24 You now keep straight on along this path for 800 metres to **St Martha-on-the-Hill Church**. (Ignore all side paths, including a broad sandy bridleway forking right after about 500 metres.)

It is tempting to think of medieval pilgrims stopping at **St Martha's-on-the-Hill** church on their way from Winchester to Canterbury, but there is actually scant evidence for this. The church is on what is described as The Pilgrim's Way on Ordnance Survey maps, but this turns out to have been the romantic notion of Victorian map makers rather than having any basis in historical fact.

Chaucer and his pilgrims certainly didn't come this way – in *The Canterbury Tales* they were travelling down Watling Street from London to Canterbury: what is now the A2. Nor is the church you see today that old – it is essentially a Victorian reconstruction of a Norman ruin. But still, it is the kind of place you can imagine medieval pilgrims *might* have come, and maybe that is enough.

- 25 Go into the churchyard and round the far side of the church, where you will find some benches with fine views, a possible **picnic** spot. Carry on beyond the church along the line of the ridge.

- 26** In 100 metres or so the path starts to descend.
- 27** In 200 metres, at the bottom of the slope, you pass through a wooden barrier and your surroundings get more wooded.
- 28** 150 metres beyond this the North Downs Way forks off to the left. Ignore this, however, and keep straight on. However, **in 40 metres more**, just before a World War II pillbox to the left, there is a path sharp right downhill to the right, almost doubling back on yourself, signposted **Downs Link**.
- For the **main walk route**, turn right onto the Downs Link and go to paragraph 37 opposite.
 - For option **a) Short cut through the woods** - 2.1km (1.3 miles) to lunch in Albury versus 3.1km (1.9 miles) by the main walk route - continue with the directions in the next section.

Short cut through the woods **(2.1km/1.3 miles to Albury)**

- 29** Ignoring the right turn onto the Downs Link in paragraph 28, keep straight on along the broad main path.
- 30** In 250 metres you come to a multiple path junction, with three paths ahead and one left. On the right of the path is a four-armed signpost. **Take a well-concealed path to the right**, downhill from this signpost, indicated as a public footpath (all the other signs are for public bridleways).
- 31** The path curves gently left and right downhill, merging with another path from the left in 120 metres, and 30 metres later curving right into a gully, still going downhill.
- 32** In another 100 metres, at a T-junction in front of a field, turn left, still downhill.
- 33** In 250 metres the path climbs slightly, then levels out, going across the face of a slope under beech trees.
- 34** For the next 500 metres or so, the path is level, or climbs and descends only slightly, until eventually it descends past a white house to emerge by a pond.
- 35** Turn right onto the tarmac drive of the house, with the pond to your left.

- 36** In 40 metres, where the drive curves right, turn left onto a path between a pond left and a stream right. You now resume the main walk directions in paragraph 73 on page 7.

Downs Link junction to **Tillingbourne bridge** **(1.1km/0.7 miles)**

- 37** After you have turned sharp right in paragraph 28, the path slants downhill through the trees. In 200 metres there are fields visible left and right. In another 300 metres you emerge more or less into the open and in 100 metres more the path turns left downhill with the field boundary.
- 38** In 300 metres more, at the bottom of the hill, you come to a T-junction with a track and turn left, following the Downs Link signpost.
- 39** In 100 metres ignore a private drive left and carry on along the track, crossing a stream and ignoring a path to the right through a kissing gate in another 30 metres.
- 40** The track then begins to rise slightly, and in 60 metres more, just before a metal railed bridge over a larger stream (which is also crossed by a large metal pipe), there is a non-signposted path through wooden barriers to the right.
- **To continue with the main walk**, go straight ahead across the bridge and continue with paragraph 66 on page 7.
 - For option **fii) Guildford Circular via Chilworth via the Percy Arms**, or to divert from the main walk route to lunch at the **Percy Arms** or to end at **Chilworth station** on the option **g) short walk**, turn right on the non-signposted path and refer to paragraph 41 overleaf.
 - For option **fi) Guildford Circular via Chilworth via the Downs Link**, go straight ahead across the bridge and continue with paragraph 51 overleaf.

Tillingborne Bridge to the Percy Arms in Chilworth (0.8km/0.5 miles)

*This is option **fii**) Guildford Circular via Chilworth via the Percy Arms and also the way to get to **Chilworth station** if you are on the option **g**) short walk.*

- 41** Having turned right on the footpath in paragraph 40, in 50 metres you are passing the derelict buildings of an abandoned gunpowder works – once one of the leading gunpowder makers in the country.
- 42** In 100 metres more, just beyond the end of the buildings, stay on the main path as it veers right away from the stream.
- 43** In 200 metres, by some picnic tables, look out for a path to the left which leads in 30 metres to a footbridge over the stream (with what looks like rails also crossing the stream to its left).
- 44** Cross this footbridge to emerge on a path between two open fields. This brings you in 200 metres to a main road, where you turn left. The **Percy Arms** is on the left in 120 metres.

*For directions to **Chilworth station**. or to continue with option **fii**) Guildford Circular via Chilworth via the Percy Arms, see paragraph 45.*

To return to the main walk after lunch, come out of the pub and turn right on the road, and continue with paragraph 62 on page 6.

Chilworth to Blackheath (1km/0.6 miles)

- 45** Turn left out of Percy Arms (or carry on past it if not stopping for lunch) and then in 30 metres turn right up the minor road (Sample Oak Lane) just before **Chilworth station**.
- 46** In 130 metres, 10 metres before a white house on the right-hand side of the road, and just after a complex of buildings on the left that includes Oak House, turn left up a track leading to two fieldgates and then immediately turn right onto a footpath that runs parallel to the road on its left-hand side.
- 47** In 300 metres, when the path rejoins the road, carry on uphill along it, taking care of the occasional traffic.

You pass several more houses in the next 250 metres. Ignore a signposted bridleway between the two houses on the left towards the end of this section.

- 48** After the last house, and with a driveway leading to St Augustines Abbey to the right, the road enters a cutting. In 200 metres, at the top of this, ignore another drive to St Augustine's Abbey to the right, but in 50 metres more, at the top of the hill and just before a 'Max 20 mph' sign, **turn right** up a broad track, signposted Downs Link.
- 49** In 100 metres curve left with the track, ignoring a track forking right.
- 50** In another 170 metres you come to a house called Tangleway. Keep to the right of this on a track.

Continue with the directions in paragraph 94 on page 9.

Tillingbourne bridge to Blackheath via the Downs Link (2 km/1.2 miles)

*This is option **fi**) Guildford Circular via Chilworth via the Downs Link.*

- 51** Having stayed on the track in paragraph 40, in 350 metres you come to the main road, the A248: cross this with care and carry on up Dorking Road beyond, crossing the railway line on a bridge in another 100 metres.
- 52** Beyond the bridge keep straight on up an earth bridleway running to the right of a private tarmac driveway.
- 53** In 300 metres, where the field to your right ends, the path splits into a footpath on the right-hand side and a bridleway on the left, running parallel to each other. The bridleway is easier in summer, when it is wider and less overgrown than the path, but the path may be less muddy in winter. They rejoin in the next paragraph
- 54** In 200 metres the footpath rejoins the bridleway by a house called Bridleway Cottage.
- 55** In another 170 metres you emerge by a white house to the right onto a track (which to the left becomes a tarmac road). Cross over this and take the path forking right, signposted Downs Link, ignoring a bridleway forking slightly left.

- 56** Follow this path across heathland, ignoring ways off. In 300 metres or so, you can see a war memorial on a hill about 50 metres to the left. There is a bench here which makes a good **picnic** spot.
- 57** Otherwise, carry on along the Downs Link path, which now descends, skirting a pine wood.
- 58** In 300 metres at T-junction with a track go left to reach a road in 30 metres. Cross the road and carry on up a broad track beyond, signposted Downs Link.
- 59** In 100 metres curve left with the track, ignoring a track forking right.
- 60** In another 170 metres you come to a house called Tangleway Way. Keep to the right of this on a track

Continue with the directions in paragraph 94 on page 9.

Chilworth to Tillingbourne bridge (0.8km/0.5 miles)

*This is the **d) Starting from Chilworth** option and also the start of option **e) Starting at Chilworth, ending at Shalford**.*

- 61** Come off platform one at **Chilworth station** (the arrival platform if coming from Guildford) and walk 30 metres down to the main road. Cross the road and turn left passing the **Percy Arms**
- 62** In another 120 metres, just past a school on your right, turn right up 'Vera's Path', a signposted footpath, ignoring a house driveway to the left to carry on up a path between fences.
- 63** In 80 metres there are fields left and right. In another 120 metres cross a stream on a footbridge. Beyond it, ignore a path to the right along the bank of the stream, and instead veer slightly right for 30 metres to a path T-junction, with picnic tables beyond it. Here go right on a broad path.
- 64** In 170 metres ignore a fork to the left to keep straight on up a path that in 50 metres brings you to ruined buildings (once one of the biggest gunpowder works in the country). Keep on down the right-hand side of these, with the stream now to your right.
- 65** In 150 metres more you come to a T-junction with a track. Go right here, across a bridge over the stream.

Continue with directions in the next section.

Tillingbourne bridge to Albury (2km/1.2 miles)

*This is the continuation of **the main walk route**.*

- 66** 10 metres after the bridge, just after a metal fieldgate to the left, turn half left over a stile and carry on diagonally across a field.
- 67** In 100 metres pass over or around a wooden hurdle (a stile is missing here) into the next field and keep on across it in the same direction with a slight ditch to your right.
- 68** In 180 metres cross a stile and a plank footbridge to keep on along a path between fences.
- 69** In 220 metres cross another stile and carry on, still between fences.
- 70** In 150 metres you come to a tarmac driveway T-junction. Here go left, with houses to your left and a lake to your right.
- 71** In 120 metres, where the houses end, carry on along the tarmac drive.
- 72** In another 180 metres, where the tarmac lane turns decisively left, **go right** up a path between a stream to your right and a pond to your left.
- 73** In 250 metres you come to a main road. **Cross this with care** and turn left uphill on the far side.
- 74** Follow this main road for 600 metres to come to the lunch pub, **The Drummond at Albury**. (In 250 metres or so the road curves right downhill and in another 150 metres curves left again into the village centre. The pub is in another 200 metres on the left.)

Albury to Blackheath (3km/1.9 miles)

- 75** Coming out of the pub turn right, retracing your steps. In 70 metres turn left up a road signposted to 'The Church' and 'Weston Fields'.
- 76** In 150 metres, where the road curves left to Albury church, keep straight up up Blackheath Lane.
- 77** In 400 metres, near the top of the hill, you pass an open sided barn on the right. In 80 metres more, just past the

- top of the hill, **veer right off the road** onto a path running parallel to it, with fine views over the fields to your right. *(The road you have just left is in a deep cutting to your left, a fine example of a holloway, where a road over the centuries has worn its way down into the hillside.)*
- 78** In 300 metres cross a railway line, with a kissing gate either side of it. Beyond this go half right downhill, diagonally across the field, heading towards farm buildings (ignoring a faint path down the left-hand edge of the field).
- 79** In 150 metres cross a stile to the left of a metal kissing gate and turn right on a tarmac lane.
- 80** Follow the lane for 200 metres as it curves left downhill past farm buildings, descends into a dip, and rises up on the other side.
- 81** Climbing up the far side of the dip, you come to a complex of farm buildings. In another 40 metres, just before a house on the left-hand side, turn left up a signposted footpath.
- 82** **Take care with the next directions which contain an important turning.** For 150 metres there is a field to your left: after this there is a wood to your left and a field with a new plantation visible to the right. In another 100 metres there are woods both sides and **you come to a path junction**. Ignore a path to the left and straight ahead here, and also the *first* path to the right, but instead **take second path to the right**, uphill.
- 83** In 100 metres, near the top of the hill, you come to a broad path crosspaths and **go left** on it, gently uphill into pine trees.
- 84** The path on the next section can be very indistinct, but head initially just to the left of the crown of a small hill 100 metres ahead, and beyond it keep straight on along a flatter section.
- 85** In 300 metres you emerge onto open heathland (though some young trees are growing here). Here keep straight on, ignoring paths left and right.
- 86** In 100 metres ignore a path slanting to the right past a two-armed post, and keep straight on.
- 87** In another 150 metres you come to a junction with **a double car-wide sandy bridleway**, where you go right.
- 88** In 350 metres you come to a parking area. Keep straight on through this and carry on down the tarmac road beyond.
- 89** In 180 metres you pass a row of three white terraced cottages on your right. Just beyond this turn right into a tarmac parking area and in 20 metres take a signposted bridleway to the left, roughly parallel to the road you have just left.
- 90** In 70 metres ignore any apparent path straight ahead, veering left with the path following a blue-topped post. In another 70 metres you are skirting a house garden to your left.
- 91** In 100 metres more you come to a road.
- **For the main walk**, go right and then immediately left to carry on up a bridleway on the far side of the road. Continue with paragraph 92.
 - **To finish the walk at Chilworth station (option b)**, 1km/0.6 miles from this point, turn right on the road and stay on it, **taking care** as it has some fast traffic. In 100 metres the road starts to descend and soon enters a cutting. In 250 metres you emerge from the cutting and pass houses right and then left. In 60 metres ignore a bridleway to the right after the first house on the right, but in another 200 metres, just before a house with red-tiled walls on the left, veer right off the road up a side path that climbs and then runs parallel to the road with a field to its right. In 300 metres this re-joins the road, and **Chilworth station** is in another 80 metres on the right. The platform on this side of the level crossing is for Guildford, or for **buses** carry on 40 metres to the main road: the stop you need is on this side of the road. The **Percy Arms** across the road is a possible tea stop.
- Blackheath to Broadford Bridge (4.8 km/3 miles)**
- 92** Keep to the bridleway, ignoring ways off. In 200 metres go straight on at a crosspaths marked by a three-armed footpath sign. In another 40 metres, turn left at a T-junction onto a track.
- 93** In 80 metres you pass a house called Tangley Way on your left.

- 94** In another 170 metres, where the garden hedge of Tangleway ends to the left, ignore a bridleway forking right to keep straight on, signposted Downs Link.
- 95** The way is not now in doubt for another 800 metres. At the end of this you find yourself at a track junction in the heart of a farm. Here keep more or less straight ahead (in fact, slightly to the left), along a track, still on the Downs Link.
- 96** In another 300 metres, 60 metres **before** the track comes to a car road, turn right at a three-armed footpath sign (currently fallen over), still following the Downs Link.
- 97** In 180 metres cross over a main road, to continue on a bridleway that passes to the right of a house.
- 98** In 350 metres, at a three-armed footpath sign, turn right up a signposted public bridleway, ignoring a way ahead signposted Tower Trail.
- 99** Stay on this clear path, ignoring ways off. In 400 metres the path makes a decisive turn to the left and then descends for another 600 metres to a road. Cross this and continue straight ahead down another road, Tannery Lane.
- 100** In 250 metres you come to a bridge. Go down to the **left** of this and in 20 metres fork right to go over a mini-bridge which is below and to the left of the main bridge.
- 101** Beyond this, at a path T-junction, go right under the bridge, on a clear path with industrial buildings on your right and the River Wey on your left.
- 102** Keep to this path for 800 metres or so, until it comes to a main road, the A281. Turn right on its pavement to cross the bridge over the river in 40 metres.
- 103** In 80 metres more, with Somerswey cul-du-sac on your right, cross the road. 10 metres beyond a brick wall on the left, turn left on a signed path.
- 104** In 180 metres you emerge from the path with brick cottages to your left. Continue ahead along a tarmac path
- 105** In 100 metres continue on a gravel path with an office block on your right.
- 106** In a further 150 metres you come to the A248 and a bridge.

- **For the main walk** continue with the directions in the next section
- For option **c) Ending at Shalford**, or for the **Shalford tea options**, cross the main road with care here and *turn right* along its far side. Continue with paragraph 116 overleaf.

Broadford Bridge to Guildford (3.4km/2.1 miles)

*This is the **main walk route**.*

- 107** Turn left on the main road over the bridge and then right at the far end of it to pick up the riverbank path on the other side. The River Wey is now on your right.
- 108** Keep straight on along the riverbank for 2.5km, ignoring all ways going under a pair of railway bridges in 500 metres, passing St Catherine's Lock in another 500 metres, and going under a footbridge which carries the North Downs Way in 800 metres. You are now back on your outward route.
- 109** 700 metres after the footbridge, the riverside path crosses a weir. Just beyond it turn left into a park between two branches of the river.
- Since 2019 the path across the park has been blocked by the collapse of the weir mentioned in paragraph 110, which is awaiting repair. If this is still the case, the only alternative is to walk along the main road. From the weir mentioned in paragraph 109 above, keep straight on across the grass to cross a footbridge over the Wey. On its far side turn left along the main road. In 350 metres turn left up the driveway towards the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, and pass to the left of it on a footpath. In 60 metres this brings you to the river by Millmead Lock. Keep straight on here to cross another arm of the river on a footbridge. Continue with paragraph 112 below.*
- 110** In 150 metres merge with a path from the right and go over a bridge with metal railings and another weir. Now the canal is on your right and the river on your left.
- 111** In 80 metres turn left at the end of Millmead Lock and cross a bridge.
- 112** On the far side of the bridge turn right on a road, with the river now on your right-hand side.

- 113** In 130 metres fork right off the car road to follow the riverside terrace path. In 80 metres, just beyond the White House pub, turn left before the bridge to come to the road again.
- **For tea**, cross the bridge over the river. On the far side cross a main road and carry on up the high street to find various refreshment options.
 - **For Guildford station** do not cross the bridge but carry on past along the river bank, with the river to your right, and continue with the directions in the next paragraph.
- 114** In 100 metres carry on under a road bridge and just beyond it turn left up the steps.
- 115** In 50 metres curve round to the right with the road, and cross it via the underpass. This brings you up at the start of the approach road to **Guildford station**.

Broadford Bridge to Shalford **(0.6km/0.4 miles)**

*This route takes you to **Shalford** for **tea**, with the option of finishing the walk at **Shalford station**.*

- 116** Having crossed the main road and turned right in paragraph 106, in 100 metres fork left off the road into a grassy space, passing cottages to your left.
- 117** Ignore a gravel track forking left around the front of the cottages, but instead fork right along the right-hand edge of the grassy space on a stone and earth path (with the road you have just left parallel to you about 50 metres to the right).
- 118** In 180 metres you come to a row of brick houses (Juniper Terrace). Keep to the right of these, up an earth and gravel track.
- 119** In 30 metres more, at the start of another line of houses on the left-hand side, **you have a choice**.
- **For the Seahorse pub** stay on the track. In 70 metres ignore a track forking right to keep on along a track alongside houses. In another 70 metres cross a tarmac driveway coming from Dagley Farm to continue across a railway bridge on a broad tarmac path. Continue with

the directions in paragraph 122 below.

- **To finish at Shalford station**, or for the **Queen Victoria** pub or **Snooty Fox cafe**, fork right off the track onto a path that goes diagonally across the grass, and continue with the directions below.

- 120** In 170 metres you come to a main road. The entrance to **Shalford station** (and the **village shop**) is on the other side of this.
- For the **Snooty Fox cafe** (*not the same as the village shop, which has the same branding...*), cross the road and keep up the left-hand side of the village green for 70 metres.
 - For the **Queen Victoria**, cross the main road and turn left over the railway bridge to find the pub in 100 metres on your right.

Shalford to Guildford **(3.6km/2.2 miles)**

- 121** **From the Snooty Fox** turn right out of the cafe to return to the main road, cross it with care, and keep up a tarmac drive on the right-hand side of the grassy area beyond. In 150 metres, at the end of the grassy area, turn right onto a broad tarmac path over a railway bridge. Continue with the directions in paragraph 122.

From the Queen Victoria cross the main road and follow a track across the grass towards a churchyard. In 60 metres, when you get to the churchyard gates, do not go through them, but veer left along the churchyard wall on a grassy path. In 180 metres you come to a T-junction with a broad tarmac path and turn right on it, with allotments to your left. Continue with the directions in the next paragraph.

- 122** Keep on the tarmac path. In 170 metres there is a kissing gate 10 metres to the left with a fine view over the valley.
- **To carry on to the Seahorse pub**, ignore the kissing gate and stay on the tarmac path. Continue with paragraph 128.
 - **For the suggested walk route across Shalford watermeadows** turn left through the kissing gate and continue with the directions in paragraph 123 overleaf.

(If the watermeadows look flooded, stay on the track and continue with the directions in paragraph 128: both routes are about the same length)

123 Having passed through the kissing gate, descend the hill on grassy steps.

124 At the bottom of the hill carry on across a broadwalk. At its end, in 120 metres, turn left along the riverbank.

125 In 200 metres curve right with the path across a weir, and beyond turn left and then right to emerge onto the bank of the Wey Navigation, passing a house on your right.

126 You now follow this bank for 300 metres to a lock, turn left across a bridge over the Wey just beyond the lock, and beyond turn right onto the riverside path.

127 Follow the river path, going around a long loop in the river for 800 metres until you come to the bridge over the Wey carrying the North Downs Way that you crossed this morning. Carry on beyond the bridge on the riverside path, still with the river on your right. *Continue with the directions in paragraph 109 on page 9.*

128 Having ignored the kissing gate to the left, stay on the track. In 300 metres, where the track forks **you have a choice.**

- **To go to Guildford without going to the Seahorse pub** (ie if you are using this as a dry alternative to the watermeadow route), *fork left*. Continue with the directions in paragraph 130.
- **To go to the Seahorse pub** *fork right*. The path curves right to come to a road in 120 metres. The Seahorse pub is on the right. Leaving the pub, **to get to Shalford station** turn right on the road. **To get a bus to Guildford** turn left on the road: the stop is in 130 metres on the left. However, **to continue the walk**, turn left at the end of the pub car park up the signposted bridleway you came down. Continue with the directions in the next paragraph.

129 In 100 metres fork right off the tarmac path up 20 metre earth track leading to a fieldgate with a kissing gate to its left. **Here you have a choice:**

- **For a simpler, but less picturesque route back to Guildford** (2.8km/1.7 miles from this point) do **not** go through the kissing gate, but turn right on the path before it, alongside a fence. Continue with the directions in paragraph 130.

- **To go back to Guildford via the Shalford watermeadows** (3.4km/2.1 miles from this point), go through the kissing gate and on downhill towards the river.* In 70 metres turn left along the river bank on a grassy path. In 40 metres ignore a fork to the left, to curve right with the path along the riverbank. Keep to this, mostly under trees, for 270 metres, until it emerge into a big open space. Veer right past the end of a long wooden broadwalk, still on the riverbank, and continue with paragraph 125.

** In October 2023 this path was flooded in 60 metres, at the bottom of the hill. If this is still true, return through the kissing gate and turn right on the tarmac path. In 300 metres go through a kissing gate on the right and continue with paragraph 123 opposite.*

130 In 200 metres the path turns tarmac and runs along the front of a water treatment plant (this route looks a bit unlikely, but is the official path)

131 In 200 metres, at the end of the plant's car park, pick up the tarmac path again, still with the plant and its fence to your left initially.

132 In 250 metres you emerge into a grassy open space. Here leave the tarmac path (which goes right to a road) to keep on down the left-hand edge of the open space

133 In 300 metres, near the end of the open space, turn left up a broad path into the trees.

134 In 40 metres this emerges into the open and carries straight on.

135 In 100 metres it passes through a tree boundary and in another 100 metres comes to the banks of the Wey Navigation.

136 Cross the river using the footbridge to your left and then turn right on the far bank. *Continue with the directions in paragraph 109 on page 9.*