



Milford to Haslemere walking guide

This challenging walk, with lots of ups and downs, takes in heathland, sandy tracks and the lakes at Warren Mere. Thursley Common is peaceful, and there are fine views after ascending the impressive Devil's Punchbowl, overlooked by 273-metre high Gibbet Hill.

Leave Milford station and turn right to Milford village. Turn right at the Alldays supermarket, then left to a T-junction. Turn left and cross to Lower Mouse Hill Lane. Keep straight on over the bridge and pass Dairy Farm House (1). After 25m, follow the public footpath right at the three-way sign, then right over a stile by a gate in about 80m; go straight on over three stiles.

Cross the grounds of a house ahead on your right, don't go left, but follow pylons through Bagmoor Common. As they bear off right, go straight on to a tarmac road and lake ahead (2).

With the lake to your right, look left for a low post with footpath sign. Follow the path left and in 25m find two waymarks low to the ground. Follow the blue arrow right passing under pylons in 250m. Follow the faded blue arrow on a low post to your left (3). Reach a "National Nature Reserve Thursley" sign. Continue for 400m, bearing right on a wider bridleway track (shed on your left).

Follow a lakeside track by Warren Mere, left, until it bears right and uphill to meet the bridleway again (4). Go left and on towards a cottage to your left. Turn right, then left in 10m, forking right in 25m. The bridleway climbs before descending to meet a junction of tracks in 500m. Turn left on the sandy track ahead, then right in 100m passing a "Pedestrians only please" sign. Continue on this track as it climbs steeply, then levels off. Keep straight on over a crossing track, ignoring the "Permissive Bridleway" sign left and enter woods to leave by Foldsdown Cottage (5). Turn right to the Three Horse Shoes pub for a well-earned lunch.

Turn left out of the pub, then left at the Old Vicarage to Wild Goose Cottage. Turn right to the parish church, and leave by the gates. Turn right, following the path to rejoin the road at the sign for Homefields. Pass Hedge Farm and turn right in 30m over a stile. Crossing another stile, go downhill then left to cross a stile, a stream and left uphill to Ridgeway Farm (6).

Continue to the junction with Hyde Lane. Go left on the bridleway uphill, ignoring ways off, through a kissing gate, and at a four-way junction turn left downhill. Continue on this track passing a cottage below to your left. Go through a gate, then left through the kissing gate on the left downhill. Cross the stream, go uphill passing a house on the right. Pass through a gate then right by a yellow salt bin, the track undulating as you enter the Devil's Punchbowl.

When you come to boggy ground bordered by railway sleepers to your right and a small stump to the left, go right uphill. Turn right and parallel to the road at the top on a track to emerge below the Devil's Punchbowl Café, left (7).

Cross the A3 and take the footpath nearest to the hotel. Continue downhill through a gate and straight on to the first crossing paths. Here follow the Greensand Way (GW) arrow uphill. Keep straight on over the next three path junctions, emerging on a road opposite Little Scotstoun House (8). Turn right, then left after Thursley House, 350m. Follow the byway to a tarmac road, 500m. Turn left, cross a stream, turn right following the GW sign. Cross a stile and tarmac road and continue on the signed path to Ventnor House. Turn right downhill to St Bartholomew's Church, 150m. Bear left along Tanner Lane and after the bridge turn right to Pathfields. Follow the signs to "town centre", where Haslemere station is signposted.