



The grid squares are 1km

A From Liss Station turn left, and then fork right at the mini roundabout. Follow Hill Brow Road uphill for 0.5 km until there is a path on right opposite the school. Take this path which is indicated by a green metal fingerpost across fields, following the signs turning left and right and crossing a track until a road is reached.

The fields are part of the Hillier tree nursery. There are good views across to the Hangers, including Wheatham Hill. The word hanger comes from the old English Hangra meaning wooded slope.

B Turn right along the road and after 100 metres turn left continuing uphill along a sunken lane. Follow this lane to a dual carriageway. Cross carefully to the other side of the dual carriageway (B2070).

This used to be the original London to Portsmouth A3 before the new bypass was built.

C Take the footpath along the private drive and continue along this signed route which passes through Durford Wood, keeping to the road to avoid the large houses and gardens. At the end of the private drive continue straight on along the signed footpath to a path T junction. Turn left and follow the field edge ignoring field entrances on the right, until a track is reached, which is the Sussex Border Path.

D Turn right on the track following a sunken lane downhill, past Durleighmarsh Farm to the main road. Cross over and follow a lay-by on right. After passing an interestingly shaped small stone bungalow, immediately turn left into a lane. After a few metres take a path on the right between two cottages. The fingerpost for this path which is the Serpent Trail is on the left hand side of the road.

The fields here are farmed by Durleighmarsh Farm & farm shop which also does PYO during the summer. There is a very large extent of asparagus produced, the ridged rows being visible, covering 100 acres.



The farm shop sells both local and ordinary produce, both grown and made. The lay-by used to be the old A272 – rather narrow by current standards for an “A” road. You pass by the site of Durford Abbey, some remnants of which are built into the Abbey Farm farmhouse.



E Climb over the stile and follow the path directly across the fields. These may well be muddy in winter. Continue following the marked path climbing over a stile and bearing right opposite the ponds. At a very large field, climb over the stile, the path goes directly across and is marked by a post under the large Oak tree continue to the edge of the field (aim for the Butser Hill mast). Don't go over the stile but turn right following the edge of the field until another stile is reached. Cross this and then a bridge over the River Rother and follow the path and metalled track to the right to a road junction.

F Turn right for a few metres (Penns Place) then turn left and walk on the path by the playing fields and housing to a road junction. Turn left and left again at the main road junction. After 100 metres take the path across Petersfield Heath which leads through the woods diagonally from the crossroads. Follow the path with the pond on your left as far as the play equipment, then cross the road and take the steps up between two large houses. Follow this path, then the road to a T junction. Cross over and take St Peter's Road and walk into Petersfield town centre and square. Take Chapel Street and Lavant Street to the railway station.



You are on the Serpent Trail, a 103 km (64 mile) trail which starts at Haslemere and finishes in Petersfield covering magnificent heathland.

The River Rother has very rich wildlife both in the river and along its surrounding banks.

The path along the playing fields follows the route of the old Mid Hants railway which connected Burgess Hill to Winchester.

You will see some iron age tumuli (burial mounds) on your left. Petersfield Heath used to be a golf course but is now being managed for wildlife and recreation.

The pond was created when some marshy ground was dammed to help the local farmers and their stock.



5. LISS TO PETERSFIELD STATION VIA DURFORD WOOD



About the walk:-

START / Grid Reference: SU 777278. Begin the walk at Liss Railway Station.

DISTANCE: 10.2 km (6.3 miles) allow 2½ hrs.

TERRAIN: Fairly strenuous walk (ascent 146 metres) with some steep climbs, a number of stiles and paths which will be muddy in the winter.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: South West Trains (Portsmouth - Waterloo line with trains every hour).

Stagecoach Bus 38 runs between Petersfield and Liss.

Buses run Monday to Saturday only, excluding evenings and public holidays. Check timetables before starting.

FACILITIES: Liss village centre has a number of cafes and a pub for refreshments prior to undertaking the walk. The Taro Centre at Penns Place has a cafe. Petersfield town centre has a wide range of cafés, restaurants and pubs where you can reward yourself at the end of the walk.

PLEASE NOTE: *You are asked to keep dogs under control at all times to avoid disturbance to animals. Leave gates and property as you find them and follow the Countryside Code.*