

The grid squares are 1km

A From Liss station turn right and walk up the road to the entrance to St Mary's church. Cross the churchyard to the footpath at the back of the houses on the right. Follow this to a road. Cross the road and follow the track to the next road which is also crossed and take the footpath. After about 100 metres climb the stile and cross the field to the opposite corner.

B Go through the gate and cross over the A3, then turn right following along the side of the hedge, continue on path through left hand gate. Climb over stile, cross over the stream and follow the path via the farm yard to the road, Snailing Lane. The footpath continues 50 metres to the right, over the stile, and through a private garden via a gap in the hedge on the right. Follow the signposted path uphill passing a small barn (see photo above) to field edge. Turn right downhill.

C Cross over a stream. Follow the path for 600 metres, crossing another stream until the road is reached. Turn right for 50 metres and turn left onto the byway uphill.

The stream is a tributary of the Rother which passes through Liss at the start of the walk.

D Turn left and follow the road for 300 metres. Take path on the right, which is part of the Hangers Way. After a short distance the path crosses the fence and continues to the woodland. Go over the stile and turn to the left, scramble up 50 metres to the footpath which is to the left of the large fallen tree.

E There is now a steep climb up the side of Noar Hill. When reaching the top where 6 paths meet, go straight across on a path (designated with a blue marker) After 250 metres a gate to the Nature Reserve is reached. Continue uphill to a track junction.

F Turn right on the track for 400 metres until a track junction with a seat to admire the wonderful views to towards the South Downs. Take the track on the left which is followed to an information board describing the nature reserve. At this point leave the track and head across the reserve behind the information board in a westerly direction downhill until a bridleway is reached. Turn right and follow the track to a road.

The hollows are mediaeval chalk pits.



Where the path leaves the road there is often a small spring fed ford.



This woodland was flattened during the 1987 storm with very few of the mature beech trees surviving. The habitat is slowly recovering naturally. Noar Hill is a very important SSSI and Nature Reserve managed by Hampshire Wildlife Trust. Increasing numbers of cowslips can be seen in spring, and eleven species of orchids grow in the summer.



G Cross the road and continue straight on until the road bends. Just after the bend follow the path straight ahead across the field onto a road. Cross over and follow a tunnel like bridleway gradually up hill for 800 metres going through the gate and following the blue waymarked path. Take the second track on the right which follows the crest of the hill through Selborne Common.

H At the end of the woodland the top of the “zig-zag” is reached (just below the seat and stone). There is a steep descent on a path with about 25 zig-zags and with good views over Selborne. Descend the path to the village.

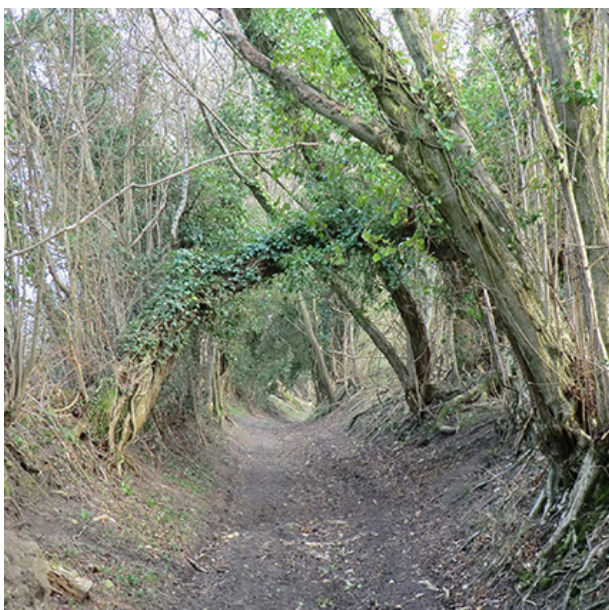
Selborne

The village has the Gilbert White & Captain Oates Museum, an art gallery and pottery. The church and churchyard are also worth a visit.

The Short Lythe and the Long Lythe are National Trust areas of land behind the church which are worth walking to.

Selborne Common is an old wood pasture owned by the National Trust, comprising rich beech forest. Recently it has been managed by letting cattle roam free throughout the common.

The path was cut by naturalist Rev. Gilbert White and his brother in 1753. Gilbert White was one of the first naturalists, publishing “The Natural History of Selborne” which is still in print.



Bee Orchid



7. LISS TO SELBORNE VIA NOAR HILL



About the walk:-

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

DISTANCE: 10.5 km (6.5 miles) allow 3 hrs.

TERRAIN: Strenuous walk for the fit and able (ascent 366 metres) with 2 climbs, one is very steep, descents, numerous stiles at field boundaries and tracks which may be muddy in winter.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: South West Trains (Portsmouth - Waterloo line with trains every hour). South West Trains also run a service between Waterloo and Alton should you wish to use this alternative route.
Finish - bus # Stagecoach Bus 38 travels between Alton and Petersfield, via Selborne and Liss.
Buses run Monday to Saturday only, excluding evenings and public holidays. Check timetables before starting.

FACILITIES: The village of Selborne offers two pubs and a shop. Liss village centre has a wide range of cafes and a pub.

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.*