



North Downs Way - Section 2: Guildford to Dorking

12.0 miles (20.65 km) allow 7 hours

A walk of contrasts with the popularity of Newlands Corner followed by the peaceful walk along the chalk ridge above the Tillingbourne Valley and onwards to Denbie Vineyard.









Optohedral sculptural bench, point 7 on the walk.

How to get there -

Parking: Shalford Park car park (Mon-Fri) or Guildford town centre; Dorking Station

Train: Nearest stations: Guildford or Shalford (limited services); Dorking mainline or Dorking Deepdene

Bus: 32 Redhill – Reigate – Dorking – Guildford

S	Start	Shalford Park Postcode GU4 8AA
///	what3words	claims.bucket.slug
F	Finish	London Rd, Dorking RH5 6AE
///	what3words	month.lazy.fall
	Gates	11
	Stiles	0
	Steps	2
	Terrain	Bare earth, gravel tracks, grass, surfaced tarmac roads, chalk.
	Views	Great views from the Downs
	Refreshments	Cafes in Guildford, Newlands Corner cafes, Denbies Vineyard

Route description

1. From Guildford Gateway sign at Shalford Park, cross the A281 and continue ahead into Pilgrims Way. After 400m cross onto the wide access track to Chantry Woods, marked North Downs Way. Pass a small car park on your left and continue up the slope ignoring any side paths.
2. As the track turns sharp left (towards farm buildings) continue on footpath straight ahead through Chantry Woods. At the T-junction with a road turn left for 30m, cross to the footpath on the other side and continue up the slope.
3. Continue ahead as the path opens up onto wide sandy track and keep climbing until you reach the crest of St Martha's Hill. Continue ahead with church on your right on the wide sandy path through pine trees and down a slope with views of Chilworth to your right.
4. Keep right when the path splits. Stay on the main path. Go through a wooden barrier. After about 100m turn left onto a smaller path. Continue ahead.
5. Turn left just before road junction (White Lane), through a wooden gate onto a bridleway marked NDW and then turn almost immediately right following a fence line on your left and the road running parallel on your right. After 400m take 10 steps down to the road.
6. Cross over and continue on path up the hill. At T-junction, turn right on to a broad track. After 25m bear left up the slope towards the top of the hill. Visit Newlands Corner Café, visitor centre, toilets and Plucky Pheasant Café (opposite).
7. Re-join the footpath marked NDW on your right. Bear left towards the road, cross over and pick up the footpath on the other side. Turn right and continue ahead on the footpath. After 300m you arrive at Surrey Hills Arts bench called *Optohedron* by artist Will Nash.
8. Continue ahead on the main track through woodland. At the next cross-roads, continue straight ahead. Continue through West Hanger Woods until you come out at a car park (there is often a café trailer parked here).
9. Cross the road to continue through Shere Woodlands until you pass a concrete depression on your left and meet a road. Turn right and after 30m turn left to continue on wide track for 200m to where the track meets another.
10. Continue ahead Follow the bend around past the entrance to 'Hollister House'. Keep left passing farm buildings. Continue ahead for quite a distance.
11. Continue ahead at Netley Plantation crossroads through woodland on a wide track for about 1.8km ignoring any paths left or right until you come to 'Little Kings Viewpoint.' 250m after the viewpoint the track splits.
12. Take the right fork (avoiding the bridleway which bears right after 25m). Stay on main footpath bearing left. (Do not go through wooden kissing gate at Hackhurst Downs). Continue ahead ignoring any paths left or right.
13. Cross Beggars Lane and continue ahead. At next junction turn left up the slope and through a kissing gate next to a wooden gate and out onto Blatchford Downs. Continue ahead through 2 kissing gates. Continue ahead as the path descends. Pass pill box on right (accessible).
14. Go through a kissing gate next to wide gate and 1 step. Continue up slope, ignoring paths left and right. At next junction go right down the slope to junction with road (White Down Lane). Turn right and pick up the path almost immediately to your left. Continue ahead.
15. Go through another kissing gate. Keep straight ahead. At next junction ('White Down Lease') turn left through wooden gate and head up hill. As path levels out bear right down the slope (avoid the bridleway straight ahead). Continue ahead through woodland. Cross next junction.
16. Cross another crossroads Continue ahead past barrier (do not go through kissing gate on right). Continue to kissing gate at 'Steers Field'. Look south to see Leith Hill Tower. Bear left across field. Go through the gate into Ranmore Common East car park.
17. Turn right, follow road to junction. Take left fork following path beside road towards church. Continue ahead. Where road bears left at Ashmore Park Mansion continue ahead on the cement track. After 50m turn right onto a track between fields. Stay on track until it reaches crossroads.



St Barnabas Church, Ranmore

18. Turn left along tarmac track. Pass through metal gates. Continue down the hill through a second metal gate. Visit Surrey Hills Arts sculptural bench *Radius* by James Tunnard at viewpoint down 17 steps on right. Continue parallel to hedge with vines on right for about 150m.
19. Re-join NDW. Continue ahead to next crossroads. Continue ahead on main tarmac track (or turn right to visit Denbies Vineyard café, shop and toilets). Where wide tarmac track bears right continue straight ahead.
20. At junction with Mole Gap Trail keep straight ahead through woodland with the vineyard on your right. At the end of the track pass through a wooden gate with a house on your right. Pass under a railway bridge and down to the Dorking NDW Gateway.

Directions to railway station

Turn right at main road and continue on wide tarmac pavement. Cross over the road at the underpass or traffic lights, which is about a 15min walk to the mainline station or an extra 2-3 mins to Deepdene Station beyond.

Points of interest

3. St Martha's Church



This Grade II listed church has Saxon origins but was replaced in Norman times. Disaster struck in 1745 when it was wrecked by an explosion at Chilworth Gunpowder Mills and not rebuilt until 1850. The graveyard has several notable plots including that of actress Yvonne Arnaud.

6. Newlands Corner

This is one of the most visited viewpoints in Surrey. With wonderful views over the surrounding countryside, open chalk grasslands, numerous walking routes and woodlands to explore, there is more than enough to make this a full day destination in its own right.

13. WW2 Pill Boxes.



This section of NDW passes numerous pill boxes and other WWII military structures which formed part of the General Headquarters Line. This was a defensive ring built around London during the early part of WWII and intended as a last chance of defence against a German invasion.

16. View over Westcott towards Leith Hill Tower

The NDW offers numerous wonderful views from the Surrey section. This view looks southwards to the wood covered Leith Hill on the nearby Greensand Hills. Leith Hill Tower is visible at the peak of this, the highest point in south-east England – land 294m (965ft) plus 19.5m (64ft) tower.

7. Optohedron



18. Radius

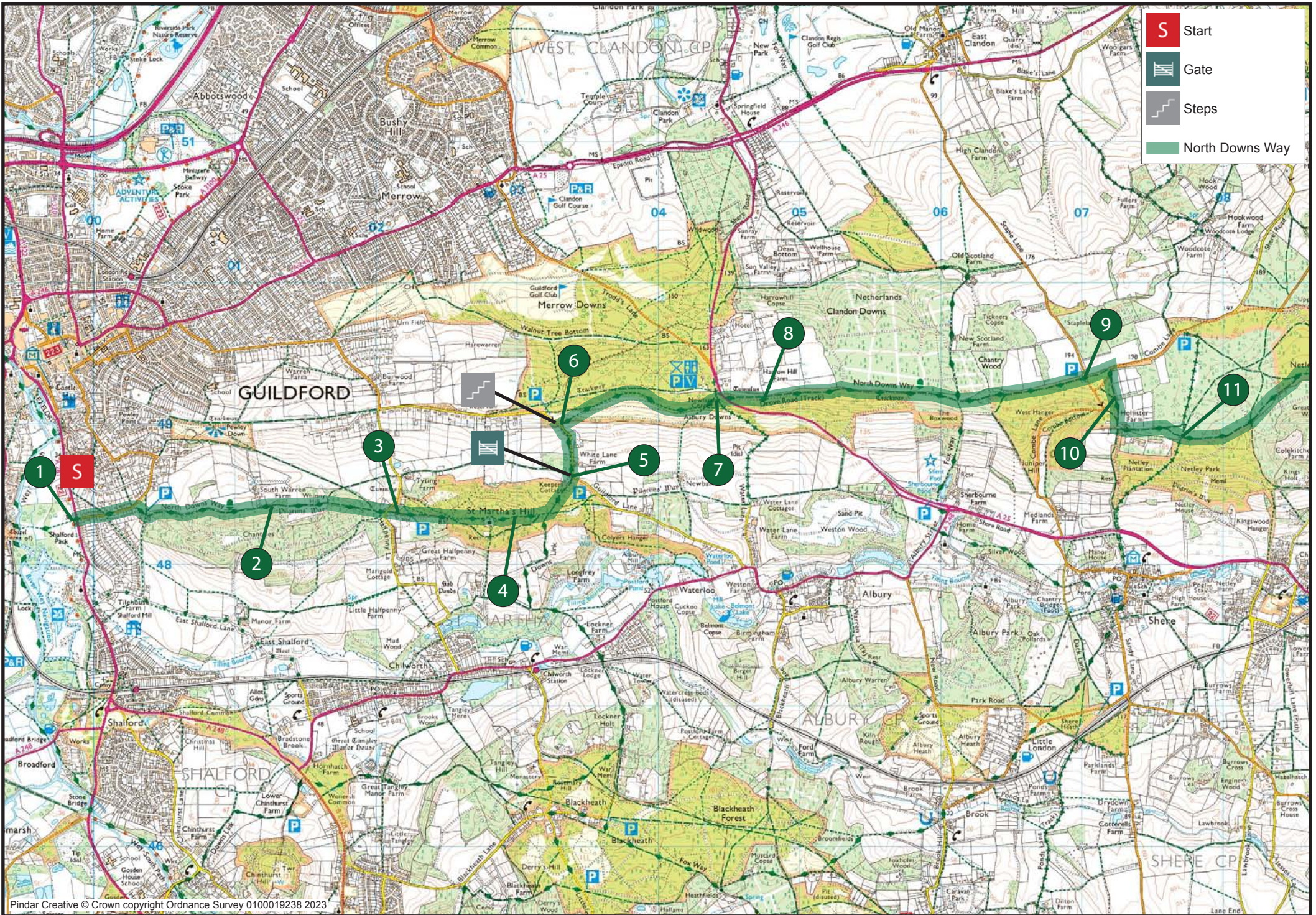


These two sculptural benches form part of a Surrey Hills “Inspiring Views” project which aims to incorporate structural art into the countryside as focal points from which to enjoy the scenery of the Surrey Hills and beyond.


19. Denbies




Denbies was the first modern vineyard created in Surrey and is still amongst the largest in the country. Privately owned, the estate comprises 627 acres, 200 as woodlands, and 265 under vines. The chalky soil is ideal for growing vines and Surrey wines (especially sparkling ones) are testament to this.



F Start

 Gate

 North Downs Way

