

BMC London and South East Area Group Walk – Pre Event Information

Date: Saturday 2nd March 2019

Start Time: 10:30 prompt

Location: Haslemere rail station (main entrance) (SU 89792 32939)

End Time: 16:00 approx

Location: Haslemere rail station (main entrance) (SU 89792 32939)

Distance: 16km (10 miles)

Total Ascent: 450m (1500'). The route is undulating throughout with two notable steady uphill sections each a mile long.

BMC Participation Statement

The BMC recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

The Start

The walk will start from Haslemere National Rail Station which is a 1 hour train ride from London Waterloo and will finish at Haslemere Station. If travelling from London a return ticket should be purchased (£23.20 off-peak return).

Car parking (£2 for the day) and bike racks are available at Haslemere Station.

The walk will begin at 10:30, if you are going to be late please call or text the walk leader using the details on the next page.

The Walk

This circular walk visits a part of the Surrey Hills AONB famed for myths, legends and even a few ghosts. After leaving Haslemere station the route briefly follows the Greensand Way to Hindhead Common, at which point the trail is left and a path leads along the edge of the valley to the National Trust café and viewpoint overlooking the Devil's Punch Bowl with far reaching views to the South to enjoy along the way. The route circumnavigates the large natural amphitheatre escarpment including a brief descent into Highcombe Bottom before arriving at the monument on Gibbet Hill, once an area of disrepute due to the activities of highwaymen and robbers, now a popular visitor spot. At 272 meters it is the second highest hill in the Surrey Hills offering more far reaching views, this time to the north. Leaving the high point, a steady woodland walk is taken back to Haslemere.

The walk is approximately 16km long and 450m of ascent will be encountered in total.

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The walk follows many well used rights of way including some bridleways. Depending on the weather beforehand these can get very muddy.

It is not anticipated any stiles will be crossed on this walk.

What to wear and what to bring with you

As the walk is taking place in March and mainly follows non-metalled tracks it is essential that a good pair of walking boots are worn with a decent sole to aid with stability on the muddy and slippery sections.

Although hopefully the weather will be mild, it is advisable to bring an additional warm layer as well as a waterproof jacket.

Please bring sufficient food and drink to last the day. Snack and lunch stops have been factored into the route.

Toilets are available at Haslemere Station and at the National Trust café 3 miles into the walk at Devil's Punch Bowl.

Under 18's

It is expected that most, if not all, participants will be adults. Under 18's are however welcome provided they are to be directly supervised at all times on the day by their parent or legal guardian who will take full responsibility for their care and welfare throughout.

Health Issues

If you have health issues that you believe might affect your ability to complete the walk safely then please let the leaders know in advance.

Please let the leader know if you suffer from any allergies in particular allergic reactions to stinging nettles or bee / wasp stings.

Contact

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