Explore the Surrey Hills

One of England’s Finest Landscapes

www.surreyhills.org
Explore the Surrey Hills

Farnham Highlights
1. Hogs Back Brewery – A real ale brewery offering tours and good gift shop.
2. Farnham Castle – Former residence of the Bishops of Winchester.
3. Farnham Museum – Explore the history of Farnham.
4. Rural Life Centre – A museum of past village life.
5. Farnham Maltings – Community arts centre with a varied events programme.

Haslemere Highlights
7. Ramster Gardens – 20 acres of gardens with sculpture and embroidery exhibitions.
8. Grayshott Pottery – A unique visitor attraction with lots to admire and buy.

Guildford Highlights
12. Surrey Hills Llamas – Enjoy a day trekking with your very own llama.
13. Hatchlands Park – 18th century house set in 430 acres of parkland.

Dorking Highlights
16. Box Hill – Famous beauty spot with easy access footpath for visitors with limited mobility.
17. Bocketts Farm – A farm park with excellent facilities for children.

Reigate and East Surrey Highlights
21. Godstone Farm – Farm park ideal for all the family.
22. Mountain boarding at Priory Farm – A fast paced action sport.
23. Woldingham Walk – 5½ mile walk through hidden valleys and chalk downland.
24. Titesse Place & Gardens – One of the most beautiful estates in Surrey.
25. Outwood Windmill – The oldest working windmill in Britain.

Puttenham – a unique visitor attraction with lots to admire and buy.

Devil’s Punch Bowl – Fantastic for views, walking and family outings.

Pride of the Valley Sculpture Park – Nearly 200 sculptures set in a stunning garden.

 WHY THE SURREY HILLS IS SUCH A

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for other attractions and accommodation in Surrey visit... www.visitsurrey.com or contact the local tourist information centre
Explore
The Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is one of 36 nationally protected landscapes in England, having equal landscape status and protection to a National Park. One of the first landscapes to be designated in 1958, the Surrey Hills boasts a diverse and rich landscape just waiting to be discovered.

This Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty stretches across the chalk North Downs that run from Farnham in the west, above Guildford, Dorking and Reigate, to Oxted in the east. To the south are the Greensand Hills that include Black Down, the Devil’s Punch Bowl and Leith Hill. In between are the river valleys of the Wey, Tillingbourne and Mole.

From traditional villages to vibrant market towns, wildlife or history, events or relaxation, excitement, heritage, culture and style, there is no doubt that the Surrey Hills is an outstanding landscape with something for everyone.

Within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the National Trust cares for over 15,000 acres (6,000 hectares) of beautiful countryside, plus a hillside arboretum, a 20 mile waterway, a mill, education centre and many houses and gardens of outstanding interest and importance. For further information about the countryside and properties owned by the National Trust, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk

We want you to enjoy your visit to this area and discover why the Surrey Hills is such a treasured landscape. This leaflet was will help you to get more out of your visit.

For more detailed information on attractions, walks, itineraries and much more visit www.surreyhills.org or contact the local Tourist Information Centre.

“With its rich heritage of wooded slopes and rolling grassland, the Surrey Hills has provided inspiration to some of the country’s greatest artists and writers. It is truly an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for us all to respect, cherish and enjoy”.

Penelope Keith CBE, Surrey Hills Patron
Farnham

Farnham is a vibrant and lively old English market town with narrow streets lined with some of the finest Georgian architecture in the south of England. It is a happy blend of old and new with a parish church and castle dating back to the 12th Century. The North Downs Way National Trail starts here and there are numerous other walking and cycling opportunities.

Things to do

Discover fascinating specialist shops as well as familiar High Street names, lively cafes, restaurants and pubs with character and history. Galleries and craft shops are a special attraction, as well as a monthly farmers market. Meet Farnham’s past ‘face-to-face’ at its museum, which tells the story of the town. Or why not visit Farnham Castle. Built in the 12th century it was a residence of the Bishops of Winchester and today you can enjoy guided tours. Contact the Tourist Information Centre for opening times and prices.

If you fancy some exercise why not try a 1 hour guided town walk of Farnham, a chance to explore the town further with a local guide telling you stories of past and present. Contact the Tourist Information Centre for full details. If you fancy a longer walk why not follow part of the North Downs Way National Trail which winds its way from Farnham to Dover through the Surrey Hills and Kent Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. To find out more visit www.nationaltrails.gov.uk

Highlights

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2. Farnham Castle – Former residence of the Bishops of Winchester.
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5. Farnham Maltings - Community arts centre with a varied events programme.

Surrounding Towns & Villages

Just outside of Farnham you will discover the picturesque villages of Frensham, Tilford and Churt. The Great and Little Ponds in Frensham are well worth a visit with miles of footpaths and bridleways. You can download walking routes from www.surreyhills.org.

If you explore further towards Godalming you’ll discover, Elstead, graced by a magnificent mill, and Secretts farm shop in Milford which hosts a monthly farmers market.

A wealth of events and activities regularly take place throughout the Farnham area. Call Farnham Town Council for information on all attractions, accommodation and events.

Farnham Town Council, Council Offices, South Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7RN
Tel: 01252 712667
**Haslemere**

Once described as the ‘fashionable capital of the beautiful Surrey Highlands’, Haslemere is an attractive market town perched where three counties meet. It is a gateway to some magnificent Surrey Hills countryside which has helped to inspire many great artists and authors. Add this to the quirky cafés, country pubs and specialist shops and you’ve got something of the flavour of the place.

**Things to do**

Haslemere’s town crest bears the motto ‘Life is more satisfying through the muses and arts’ and to celebrate this and its historic associations the town holds a biennial Charter Fair and the Haslemere Festival of Arts and Music.

The Haslemere Educational Museum provides a fascinating insight into the area. You’ll discover a treasure trove of geology, archaeology and natural history exhibits, including an Egyptian Mummy with an unravelled toe!

For those who enjoy fresh air and beautiful scenery, the countryside surrounding Haslemere is a paradise for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. Many circular walks start in Haslemere, as does the Greensand Way, which passes through a varied landscape of heathland and woodland, to Hamstreet near Ashford in Kent.

**Highlights**

6 Haslemere Educational Museum – A fascinating museum founded in 1888.

7 Ramster Gardens – 20 acres of gardens with sculpture and embroidery exhibitions.

8 Grayshott Pottery – A unique visitor attraction with lots to admire and buy.

9 Devil’s Punch Bowl – Fantastic for views, walking and family outings.

10 Pride of the Valley Sculpture Park – Nearly 200 sculptures set in a stunning garden.

**Surrounding Towns & Villages**

Haslemere neighbours Hindhead, which lies 850ft above sea level and offers views which prompted writers and painters to dub the area ‘Little Switzerland’. Hindhead sits on top of the Devil’s Punch Bowl, a remarkable natural basin owned by the National Trust with a true wilderness feel.

Just outside of Haslemere you can discover the picturesque villages of Grayswood, Brook, Witley and Grayshott, with its famous pottery. Why not visit Chiddingfold with its historic inn and tile-clad cottages clustered around the village green or Thursley, one of the prettiest villages in Surrey which has won the “Best Kept Village Award” more than any other.

A wealth of events and activities regularly take place throughout the Haslemere area. Call in at the Haslemere Visitor and Local Information Centre for information on all attractions, accommodation and events.

Haslemere VIC, Haslemere Educational Museum, 78 High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2LA

Tel: 01428 645425

www.surreyhills.org
Guildford

Guildford with its cobbled High Street, has all the charm of a country town. Tucked into a gap where the River Wey cuts through the North Downs, you’ll never lose sight of the rolling Surrey Hills. Guildford offers visitors first-class entertainment, excellent restaurants and some of the finest shopping in the South East as well as a traditional weekly street market and monthly farmers market.

Things to do

Guildford provides the ultimate in modern culture. The Yvonne Arnaud Theatre hosts an impressive bill of famous names and West End shows. Or why not visit the Cathedral, a striking model of mid-20th century architecture.

The River Wey calmly winds its way through the centre of Guildford and is alive with activity including an abundance of river cruises as well as rowing and narrowboat hire. At National Trust owned Dapdune Wharf you can discover the story behind England’s oldest working waterway through exhibitions, models and displays.

More fast-paced activities are available at Guildford Spectrum Leisure Complex where you can enjoy ice-skating, tenpin bowling and other fun activities. Summer swimming is also available at the outdoor Lido.

The rolling hills around Guildford conceal a wealth of stately homes, beautiful parks and gardens. Why not visit Loseley House, one of the finest examples of Elizabethan architecture in Surrey, or Clandon Park, an outstanding Palladian house with a magnificent marble hall. If you enjoy peace and tranquillity why not visit the world-renowned Royal Horticultural Society Garden at Wisley set in 250 acres. Or within easy reach of Guildford is Painshill Park where you will discover the restored Hamilton Landscapes.

Highlights

11 Guildford Castle – Now known as ‘The Great Tower’ and set in stunning gardens.
12 Surrey Hills Llamas – Enjoy a day trekking with your very own llama.
13 Hatchlands Park – 18th century house set in 430 acres of parkland.
14 Dapdune Wharf – Discover the story of England’s oldest working waterway.
15 Winkworth Arboretum – Tranquil hillside woodland with sweeping views.

Surrounding Towns & Villages

Why not explore the picturesque villages of Shere, Gomshall and Abinger Hammer or Albury with its unique chimneys. Not far away is Newlands Corner, which commands some of the best views over the Surrey Hills and is a great place to start a walk. Or just outside Guildford is the historic market town of Godalming. The museum is well worth a visit and includes displays dedicated to garden designer Gertrude Jekyll. A short trip from Godalming is England’s largest village, Cranleigh, a popular place for shopping.

A wealth of events and activities regularly take place throughout the Guildford area including guided walks, call in at the Guildford Tourist Information Centre for information on all attractions, accommodation and events.

Guildford TIC, 14 Tunsgate, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3QT
Tel: 01483 444 333

For a list of itineraries in the Guildford area visit...
**Dorking**

Dorking nestles at the heart of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is a delightful market town steeped in history yet offers excellent shopping facilities and a wide selection of restaurants, cafes and bars.

**Things to do**

Why not visit the Dorking Caves, a labyrinth of passages built under the town during the 17th century. Or explore West Street, one of the oldest streets in Dorking and home to one of the largest concentrations of antiques dealers to be found anywhere in the country.

If you’re after local produce it’s well worth visiting the monthly farmers market in Dorking where you can sample seasonal, fresh and tasty produce. Or if you enjoy a tipple or two visit Denbies Wine Estate, England’s largest vineyard, which is situated amongst the lush green hills of the North Downs. At Denbies you will not only be able to taste quality English wines but also enjoy a wine tour and 360 degree cinema experience.

Just outside of Dorking you will find Polesden Lacey, an exceptional National Trust Regency house with extensive grounds, lawns and landscape walks. Explore the area further by following the Mole Gap Trail, a walking route along the River Mole linking Leatherhead and Dorking with some stunning countryside.

**Highlights**

- **Box Hill** – Famous beauty spot with easy access footpath for visitors with limited mobility.
- **Bocketts Farm** – A farm park with excellent facilities for children.
- **Denbies Wine Estate** – England’s largest and most spectacular vineyard.
- **Polesden Lacey** – Exceptional Regency house set in extensive grounds.
- **Leith Hill** – The highest point in South East England, fantastic for views and walking.

**Surrounding Towns & Villages**

Dorking is surrounded by picturesque villages with ancient churches and tile clad cottages clustered around village greens. Visit Brockham, Ockley or Holmbury St Mary to experience the delights of village life.

Leatherhead is also well worth a visit offering great shopping as well as an abundance of cafes and restaurants and a fascinating museum.

A wealth of events and activities regularly take place throughout the Mole Valley area. Call in at the Mole Valley Visitor Information Centre for information on all attractions, accommodation and events.

www.dorkingtownpartnership.co.uk

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For a list of itineraries in the Dorking area visit...

www.surreyhills.org or www.visitdorking.com
Reigate & East Surrey

Glorious countryside, vibrant town centre, a fine collection of pubs and restaurants and a variety of attractions, this is Reigate in the 21st Century. Reigate is a market town with a long and colourful history and a perfect balance of modern culture.

Things to do

Reigate’s ancient side walks and landmark old Town Hall are well worth exploring, but away from the High Street you can also discover the beauty and tranquillity of Reigate Castle grounds and Priory Park.

Discover the history of Reigate by visiting Reigate Priory museum, which charts the history of the area as well as housing a collection of period costumes.

One of East Surrey’s hidden gems is Gatton Park, a manor and park with a history dating back to the Domesday Book. The Park was enhanced in the 1760s by the great landscaper Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown who blended the gardens with a serpentine lake and woodlands. Adjacent to Gatton Park are National Trust sites, Reigate and Colley Hill, where you will discover a Victorian Hill Fort and the Inglis Memorial which commands spectacular views towards the South Downs. It is an ideal location for a family outing and picnic.

For those of you who are into extreme sports why not try mountain boarding, one of the fastest growing action sports worldwide. Often described as a combination of snowboarding, skateboarding and mountain biking. This fast paced sport is well worth a try. Priory Farm in Nutfield is the venue and offers tuition for beginners.

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Surrounding Towns & Villages

The pretty villages of Betchworth, Buckland and Bletchingly are well worth a visit.

On the outskirts of Reigate you’ll discover Redhill, a popular shopping venue with an abundance of cafes and restaurants, and the Harlequin Theatre which offers a wide range of entertainment.

Further east it is worth exploring the market towns of Caterham and Oxted, and delightful villages such as Outwood, Limpfield and Godstone which is set around a stunning village green.

A wealth of events and activities regularly take place throughout East Surrey, visit www.surreyhills.org for information on all attractions, accommodation and events or alternatively visit www.tandridgedc.gov.uk or www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk
**Travel Information**

**By Rail**
The Surrey Hills is very well served by public transport, particularly by rail. Lying midway between London and the south coast, travelling times are remarkably fast – to the centre of London, to the rest of the UK, to the Channel ports and on to Europe with Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels from London St Pancras.

*For details of train services and fares telephone 03457 48 49 50 or visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or www.thetrainline.com*

**By Road**
Surrey is served by the M25, M3 and M23. All major routes (to the North, to Wales, the Channel ports etc) can be accessed from the M25. The M23 connects with major routes along the south coast as well as Gatwick Airport.

*For details of bus services and fares telephone Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.*
*Comprehensive bus and train guides are available from all Tourist Information Centres.*
This leaflet will help you to get more out of your visit to the Surrey Hills and the Farnham, Haslemere, Guildford, Dorking and Reigate areas. For more detailed information on attractions, walks, itineraries and much more visit www.surreyhills.org

This leaflet has been prepared by the Surrey Hills Board, with support from:

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