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## Around Hascombe Hill

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Distance: 4 km=2½ miles

easy walking

Region: Surrey

Date written: 7-mar-2009

Author: Schwebefuss

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Refreshments: Hascombe

Last update: 10-jul-2018

Map: Explorer 134 (Crawley & Horsham)

*Problems, changes? We depend on your feedback: [feedback@fancyfreewalks.org](mailto:feedback@fancyfreewalks.org)*

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*Wooded hills, village*

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### In Brief

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This is a glorious undemanding walk round a Surrey beauty spot with views in all directions. You can combine this walk with *Hascombe and Hydon's Ball* in a figure-of-eight.

The *White Horse* pub, the start and end point of this walk, is an original coaching inn, dating back to the 1500s. The *White Horse* has a large garden and a restaurant serving locally-sourced food. The bar is open all day every day and food is available every day, all day at weekends. Unusually perhaps, it also offers coffee and afternoon tea and an imaginative selection of soft drinks. For enquiries, ring 01483-208258.



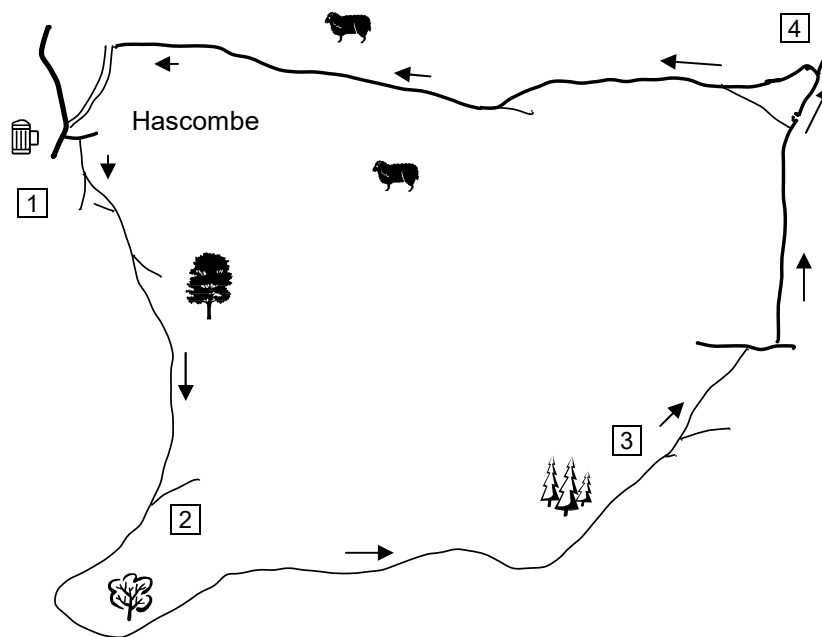
All the paths on this walk are wide and easy to follow, but you will benefit from wearing boots because many of the paths are shared with horses and tend to get churned up. Any kind of sensible clothing will be fine. It is a quite perfect walk for your dog too.

The walk begins at the car park opposite the **White Horse pub** in Hascombe, Surrey, **postcode GU8 4JA**. For more details and for alternative transport see at the end of this text (→ **Getting There**).

*Hascombe Hill was a hillfort, covering 6 acres=2.4 ha. Excavations indicate occupation around 100 BCE. The top of the fort was shored up to discourage invaders, with a 1½-meter-deep ditch around it. In more recent times, it became a naval semaphore station (compare Wisley in Surrey). The height of Hascombe Hill is just short of 200m.*

July 2018: there is a temporary closure of one of the paths on this walk (see end of Section [2](#)) where they are felling trees because of an "infestation". The problem should be cleared in a few weeks. Since Hascombe Hill has a large free-range area, there should be an alternative path. Please email any new information so this guide can be updated.

## The Walk



- 1 Cross the road and take the driveway on the **right** of the pub. In about 100m, turn **right** beside a garage built in the centre of a wide footpath. (If this path is very muddy, you can delay the right turn by going another 5m, scrambling up a bank and taking a high path above the main path.) There is a yellow arrow pointing this way and you will be following them for most of the first part. After a gentle ascent in a sunken path, veer **left** uphill. You join a track coming in from the right. *In spring, bluebells are in evidence.* In about another 200m, at a fork, take the more level path **right**, ignoring the wider track left. *The slope below was cleared of brushwood recently, giving you good views across to the Loxhill valley and the Hurtwood.* At a T-junction by some tall beeches turn **right** through rhododendrons.
- 2 This fine path curves round the hill and occasionally you have good views on your right. *On your left, beyond the steep banks, are the remains of a Celtic hill fortress.* You eventually pass, on the left, a large sandy bank with a large log serving as a seat and opposite, on the right, an opening in the trees with fine views to Dunsfold Aerodrome and the South Downs. 350m further, you suddenly enter a forest of thin silver birches. You meet a junction with a rough wide path on your left. Shortly after, you will see two perfectly conical conifers on your left – the second slightly thinner than the first. Just 30m after them, fork **left** on a clear but narrower rising path, leaving the main descending track. *Don't miss this turning! [Jul 2016: there's a temporary closure affecting this path. See note in intro.]*

- 3 This pleasant path rises into a high area with holly and beech and passes by an old metal fence. A smaller path joins it from the left and the path begins to descend into a valley with open fields on the other side. After a wooden barrier, it meets a junction near the field. Turn **right** here on a sunken path for a short distance. At the top of a rise, at a crossing path, take the wide path **left** running up a ridge with the field visible on your left and steep woodland on your right. Soon you have a bank on your right and a coppice (trees cut down to the roots and allowed to regrow) on your left. Ignore a marked footpath left here. At a major fork, keep **right** ignoring the blue arrow and continue along the edge of the hill to another junction of paths at the corner of the hill. Turn sharp **left** here.
- 4 You are now on the return journey on the other side of Hascombe Hill. Continue on this broad track. Soon, on your right, a field comes into view and you pass a junction with a bridleway. The path descends gradually, weaving left and right and follows a hedge and fence, eventually coming out to a road in Hascombe village. Continue ahead to the village pond where there are ducks and benches to sit on. This is a wonderfully peaceful spot. Hascombe church is Victorian. The road by the pond leads back to the *White Horse* where the walk began.



*For final refreshments, the White Horse pub is the perfect place to chill out after the walk. See intro.*

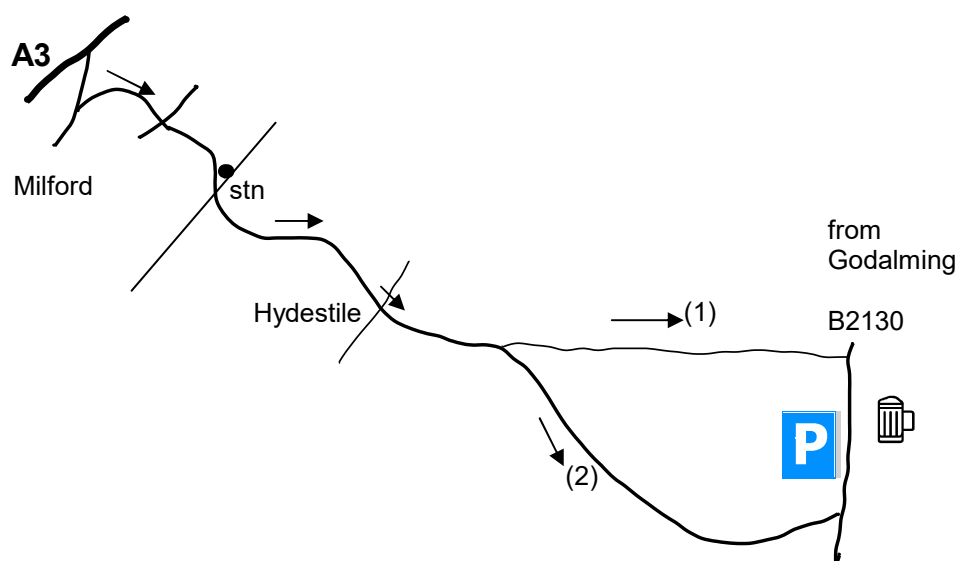
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## Getting there

By car: The car park is the sandy area opposite the White Horse pub in Hascombe, Surrey. To get there: take the A3 through Guildford and later turn off for Milford. At the first traffic lights in Milford, turn sharp left. Along this road on your left is Secretts, a huge farm shop which sells an astonishing range of delicacies as well as organic produce. At the mini-roundabout turn right and then immediately left signposted *Milford Station* and *Hydestile*. Continue on this road for 1½ miles ignoring all turnings off. Cross a major road at Hydestile and continue for just over a mile. You ignore a turning left for Godalming and then pass some fine woods. After ½ mile, where the main road curves right, there is a house on the left called Mare Pond House. Here you have a choice:

(1) For the *adventurous* driver, fork left along a very narrow lane. As there are not many passing places you have to hope that you'll meet nothing coming the other way. Eventually you come out to the village of Hascombe. Turn right when you reach the main road. The White Horse is close by on the left and the car park is opposite it.

(2) For the *cautious* driver, stay on the main road ignoring the left fork. You eventually come to a T-junction at a main road where you turn left. The White Horse is about a 1½ miles on the right and the car park is opposite it.



By bus: Arriva bus 42 or 44 from Guildford or Godalming. Check the timetable.

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