



Walk 8:

Churt Crossways, Avalon Orchard, Hyde Lane, Devil's Punch Bowl, Gibbett Hill, Thursley, Upper Ridgeway, Pitch Place, Hankley Common, Rushmoor, Stony Jump, Jumps Road, Old Kiln.

*Originally created and published in 1994 by Michael Stenning
Revised in 2021 by Churt Environment Working Group*

Summary: On a clear day this walk has exceptionally good views of the Punch Bowl, Flashes and London – but it is a long walk with a lot of roadwork, many hills, stiles, and gates, making it unsuitable for young children. In wet weather the sections around Begley Farm can be very muddy and the A3 underpass flooded. There are some alternatives for avoiding mud during wet weather and reducing roadwork.

Distance: 13.1 miles / 21.1 km

Elevation gain: 531 m

Time: Approx. 4 – 5 hours

Grid reference / postcode of start-point:

SU 855 382 / GU10 2JA

Parking, if required at Redhearn Green, accessed via Old Kiln Lane:

SU 853 385 / GU10 2NT

Map: OS Explorer Series 133, Haslemere



Punch Bowl from East Rim



View from Gibbett Hill

Walk Detail

1. From Churt Crossways take Hale House Lane for 45 metres, turn right along a footpath staying to the left of Crossways Close bungalows, then on through Parkhurst Fields housing estate and turn left when you reach Green Lane. Follow Green Lane bearing sharp right at the junction with Green Cross Lane. After the dip turn off the lane at the second sharp right bend through a gate on the left into Avalon orchard and follow the path. Cross straight over Old Barn Lane into Applegarth orchard keeping to the right-hand edge of the field. As the path drops, pass through two metal stiles locking them after you. Follow the path to the Tilford Road.
2. Turn left and immediately right into Hyde Lane. After approximately 1.5 kilometres at the junction of Hyde Lane and Sailors Lane which is approximately 140 metres past the duck pond by Upper Ridgeway Farm and on a sharp left bend, turn right onto a bridleway which climbs between high banks on either side. Carry straight on until meeting a junction of four wide paths, take the track to the left leading steeply downhill; at the bottom turn left towards Keepers Cottage and cross a stream via a footbridge. As the track climbs, go through a gate and immediately turn right at a Nature Trail signpost. Continue climbing the side of the Punch Bowl and turn left at a T-junction by a seat.
3. After a sharp right bend, when the hill levels out, immediately take the wide path on the right which winds along the East rim of the Punch Bowl. At a junction of several tracks carry straight on uphill on a narrow path through gorse. There are good views of the Punch Bowl. When the path meets a byway turn right for 40 metres then right on a path marked Pedestrian Path which eventually re-joins the byway where you turn right. After 40 metres turn left up a wide track and carry on straight ahead uphill when the track splits. After some distance as the track starts a wide right curve, turn left at a green metal gate on the left side of the road onto a footpath, then right at the next track up to Gibbet Hill monument with good views of London on a clear day. Leave Gibbet Hill by the path you took up but go straight on instead of turning towards the green metal gate. Keep on this main path ignoring all crossing tracks until Boundless Road.

4. On meeting Boundless Road, turn right and continue to the T junction where you turn left. Continue and after about a further 300m take the left fork and after a further approx. 300m turn left on a bridleway / byway. When you come to a sharp left turn back towards Blackhanger Farm, continue straight ahead on the bridleway. Go to 5.

Alternative route (dotted black on map) with less road work - but this track can be very muddy in wet weather.

On meeting Boundless Road turn left for about 300m and then right on a footpath starting to the right of Begley Farm gate. At a T junction turn left. Enter a field and turn immediately right under overhead wires. Continue along the track to Blackhanger Farm drive, turn right and follow the road. After the bridge at a sharp right bend turn left onto a bridleway. Go to 5.

5. A few hundred metres after passing over the stream and at the first drive on the left (to Hole Farm, but unsigned) take the footpath sharp left into the farm drive. Continue straight and just before a sign stating 'No Entry Shooting', bear half right uphill through a kissing gate and two further gates through the A3 underpass (can be flooded). Turn right on the road for 100m then turn left through a metal kissing gate. Bear half right across a field to a kissing gate on the opposite side. This leads into another field; keep straight ahead and look for the kissing gates and stiles through multiple fields into Thursley.
6. On meeting the road turn left past the Saxon Church and follow the lane for 800m. On a left bend immediately past Hedge Farm entrance take the narrow footpath on the right leading straight off the bend. The enclosed path continues along fields then drops steeply where you cross a footbridge over a stream. Climb the track on the other side keeping straight ahead on emerging into Hyde Lane.
7. After again passing the duck pond by Upper Ridgeway Farm turn right at the bottom of a short hill and proceed along a downhill track which later becomes a sunken path between high banks. Taking great care on the road when you meet it at Little Pitch, turn left on the road for 270m, then right onto Hankley Common just past March Hares. Follow the track beneath overhead wires. At a junction of tracks turn left uphill beneath wires. Keep straight ahead past a cottage on the left. The track climbs, bears right at the top and then falls steeply. At the bottom turn left and then right following the line of more overhead wires for 65m and then turn left.
8. On meeting the Tilford Road turn left for 80m, then right along the footpath to the left of a phone box just past Sandy Lane and where there is also an electricity substation. After about 100m at a junction of three tracks, turn left and carry on uphill on the main track. Near the top, take the right fork to the top of Stony Jump with views of the Flashes. Return via the same path for a few metres and then take the right fork downwards. Near the bottom by a wire fence turn right passing a house on the left.
9. At a T junction turn left uphill and on meeting Jumps Road turn right and continue for approximately 400m. Turn left into a driveway signed as leading to Old Kiln Farm, Pixie Cottage and Brook House. Continue on the driveway past Pixie Cottage and after 70m take the narrow footpath to the right. On meeting a track, cross straight over through the gate opposite. At the end of the path pass through a gate and turn left along Old Kiln Lane. Proceed uphill, then on dropping downhill take the first road left, which is Redhearne Fields, into the recreation ground. Head half right for the bottom corner of the rec and proceed along the footpath, at the end of which turn right to the Crossways.



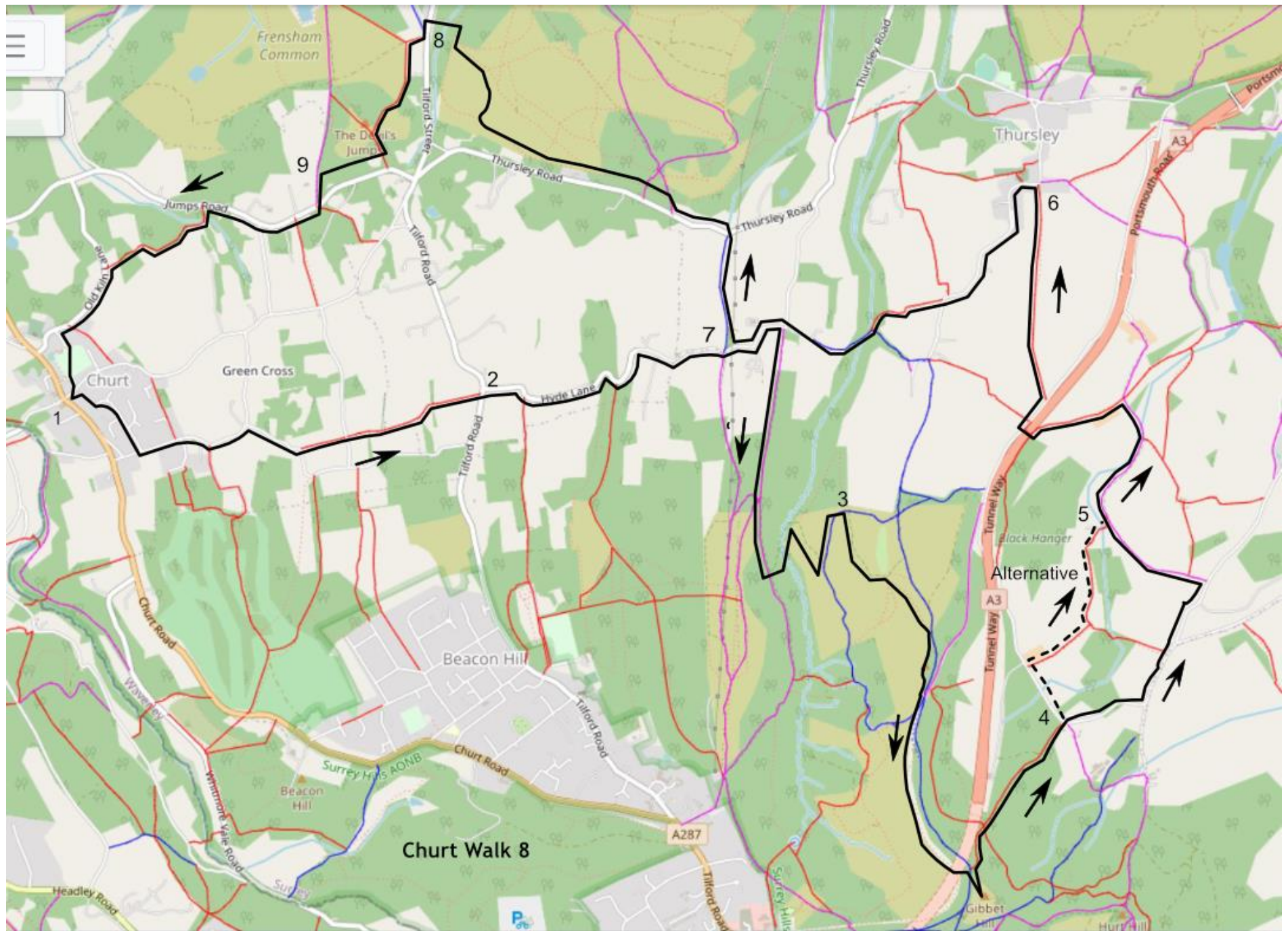
Avalon Orchard



Hankley Common



Dartmoor pony in the Punch Bowl



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