

Experience the mythical Devil's Punchbowl

### ADVENTURE SUMMARY

**Adventure type**  
Walk

**Adventure location**  
Haslemere, Hindhead, Hampshire

**Getting there**  
London Waterloo - Witley Station

**Getting home**  
Haslemere Station - London Waterloo

### ADVENTURE STATISTICS

<b>15 km</b> Walking Distance	<b>4 hrs</b> Walking Time	<b>485 m</b> Total Ascent	<b>1</b> Local Legend
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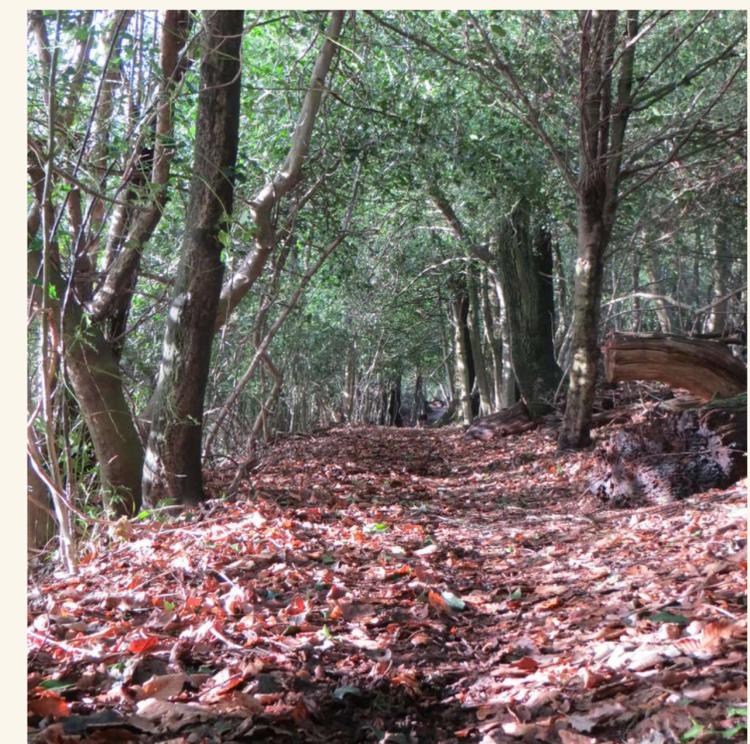
### ADVENTURE HIGHLIGHTS

GREAT VIEWS FROM GIBBET HILL

THE DEVIL'S PUNCHBOWL AMPHITHEATRE

### CURATOR'S VIEW

*Here's a perfect example of the Vespucci Impulse Adventure. No excuses. Regular trains from Waterloo and Clapham Junction to Witley Station (although buy your return to Haslemere), just 50 minutes down the line. A walk that builds to a crescendo of views as you crest the Devil's Punchbowl and Gibbett Hill. The view of forty miles is equally as breathtaking as the climb up the hill. The area has a fascinating history with Hindhead Hill being dubbed "certainly the most villainous spot that God ever made" due to the number of highwaymen which lived in the Punchbowl. Some of those highwaymen were caught and hung atop the hill giving it the name we know it by today; Gibbet Hill. Take a picnic or enjoy the National Trust café. All this to be topped off by a drink at the Station Hotel before heading back from Haslemere. Seriously, what are you waiting for?*



### ROUGH COSTS

**£32 Per person**  
£23 Return train (subject to timings)  
£5 Drink at the pub  
£4 Coffee at National Trust cafe

\*We always recommend bringing a picnic, it keeps the costs down and heightens the sense of adventure.

### WHEN TO GO

This is a real good year-rounder! The astounding view from Gibbet's Hill is at its best in the winter thanks to the clean, pollen-free air. The heathland is most beautiful in the autumn, the forests most inviting in the springtime. During summertime the place is full of life, the highland cattle grazing happily... Hindhead has always been famous for its clean air, so much so it became known as 'the Switzerland of England' in the Victorian period.



### WITLEY STATION

The adventure begins! The path begins at the far end of Platform 1 next to the Oyster Card machine. Follow signs for Greensand Way.

0 km



### COSFORD FARM

The path descends through woodland past a small fishing lake, join the small lane, taking you past the handsome Cosford Farm. Keep left and then follow the footpath signs, uphill to the A3.

4.58 km



### A3 UNDERPASS

Having crossed the field you'll come to the underpass. Once through to the other side, the path can be found on your left about 20m to the right. Keep an eye out for the signpost. At Upper Highfield Farm you will reach a lane, keep left. Follow the lane to the boundary of the Punchbowl marked with a metal National Trust signpost. You have rejoined the Greensand Way.

5.53 km



### THE DEVIL'S PUNCHBOWL

A local legend puts the creation of this impressive topographical feature down to a confrontation between the Devil, who was said to reside in 'The Devils Jumps' in nearby Churt, and Thor, the Norse god of thunder who lived in Thursley (Thor's Lie). The Devil would regularly taunt Thor who would attempt to strike the Devil with his lightning hammer; and in one such altercation The Devil is said to have scooped up a great handful of earth and hurled it back, the depression left by this action would lead to the features rather pleasing name. It is in fact the result of active erosion by the spring found at the head of the valley.

8.5 km



### NATIONAL TRUST CAFE

Enjoy the National Trust Viewpoint, take in the scenery in front of you. Refreshments can be found in the National Trust Cafe just nearby; or if you're in the mood for something more substantial, across from the Cafe is The Devil's Punchbowl Inn. Head for Gibbet Hill to your left, following signs.

9.3 km



### GIBBET HILL

Delight at the impressive view of forty miles and check out the Trig Point, showing you bearings and distances to surrounding towns & cities. On a clear day, you can even make out the sky-scrapers of London! If looking out at the view your path leaves the hill to your right, stay on the crest of the hill. Follow the road past the Royal School campus and turn left down Stroatly Hollow. At Bunch Lane, the path can be found over the river and on your right.

10.5 km



### HASLEMERE STATION

You'll reach Weydown road, head down this road and go under the railway underpass, you'll soon see the station. Enjoy a pint at The Station House opposite the station before returning to London via Waterloo Station.

15 km



# THE DEVIL'S BACKYARD

## Impulse Adventure

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