

Horsell Walks D1: Wheatsheaf Common, Bedser Trail, Muslim Peace Garden and the Basingstoke Canal

Time: 90 minutes, Distance: 3 miles

1. Horsell High Street to St Mary's Churchyard: From the Beijing Restaurant looking out into Horsell High Street, turn left and walk down Horsell High Street. Turn left through the entrance to the Queen Elizabeth 2 Gardens and follow the main path round to the left and turn right at the top of the path, going behind the tennis courts. At the junction, turn left and then at the next junction turn right onto the path at the top of the hill. On your left is Pares Woodland Garden which was restored by the Second Thursday Club; (take a look inside.) Continue following the footpath which comes out into Pares Close and go straight down the hill to Wilson Way. Cross over to the other side and turn left with the churchyard on your right.

2. Wilson way to Wheatsheaf Recreation Ground: Continue down the footpath between the hedges, ignoring a footpath which forks to the right (after 50m) . Carry on across the road (Horsell Park) onto a wide footpath which soon becomes a narrow footpath again. At the first lamppost turn left and follow the path keeping to the path in the middle where there are three paths meeting. Continue straight to Chobham Road and cross onto Wheatsheaf Recreation Ground and go straight across the open playing field and then enter the woods via the path that starts behind the goal posts.

3. Wheatsheaf Common to Chertsey Road: You are now entering an area that was cleared and laid out with new all-weather paths and re-planted with diverse woodland species, work completed in 2023. Go straight on following the central path, passing lakes on your right until you reach Woodham Rise. Cross over Woodham Rise and continue on a narrow footpath through the trees. You will come out at Pinewood Close. Cross the road and turn right then almost immediately left so you are walking down the busy Chertsey Road A320 until you very soon reach Carlton Road. Cross the entrance to Carlton Road then turn right immediately and cross Chertsey Road to the footpath opposite - being very careful to look out for the busy traffic. Continue for 30m to a well-made crossing path and turn right. You are now on the Bedser trail.

4. Bedser Trail to Muslim Burial Ground: Follow the trail through the trees until you see a board walk on the left. Follow as it goes round an area of heather and then goes left and parallel to the canal on right which you can see through the trees. On your left there is open land with heather. Look out for the bronze age tumulus on your left which appears as a slight mound with a ditch round it. As the path then starts to curve back to the left you will see a narrow path on your right: follow until you reach Monument Hill Rd. Cross on the Bridge where there is a traffic island and turn left, continue over the bridge and turn right on a diagonal path. There is a notice board here with information about the bronze age tumuli on this site. Follow the path and soon you will see the Muslim Burial Ground to the right. It is worth visiting.

After the visit, retrace your steps back to the bridge and walk across the bridge (avoid crossing the road) and down to the canal towpath and turn left under the bridge in the direction of Woking.

5. Monument Hill Road to the Lightbox gallery WWF: Keep walking in the direction of Woking town centre. You will pass the Boundary Road recreation ground on your left. Look out for a kingfisher, heron, cormorant or moorhens. Carry on until the towpath comes out at the Wheatsheaf Bridge on Chobham Road. Turn left and cross the road at 2 sets of pedestrian traffic lights towards the Lightbox gallery. Turn right and cross the canal then go down onto the towpath on your left via the steps. After 50m turn right into the car park entrance of the WWF

6. Brewery Road to Horsell High Street: Go towards the lights controlled pedestrian crossing on Brewery Road and cross onto the footpath opposite keeping the Pegasus Horse sculpture to your left. Continue straight and cross a road (Horsell Park) and continue on footpath opposite and follow until you come out in Wilson Way with the churchyard on your left. Turn left down Wilson Way.

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Walk to the end of the road then turn right into Horsell High Street and walk back to the Beijing Restaurant.