

**The  
South Downs  
Way  
National Trail  
(July & Aug  
2017)**



Photo 1: I arrived at Winchester Cathedral, the start/finish point of the South Downs Way (SDW) National Trail, at about 6pm on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.



Photo 2: The statue of King Alfred the Great in Winchester town centre.



Photo: 3: Following the SDW NT along the side of the river Itchen as I head out of Winchester.



Photo 4: A signpost just outside Winchester. 1 mile completed with another 99 miles to Eastbourne.  
The colour of the arrow indicated the type of path; blue = bridleway.





Photo 5: A path across farm field near Cheesefoot Head.



Photo 6: First Nights Wild Camp in woods.



Photo 7: The Start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Day: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019. Walking past a farm building on Holden Lane.



Photo 8: View from Beacon Hill Nature Reserve.





Photo 9: Beacon Hill National Nature Reserve Information Panel.



Photo 10: Another Signpost. 16 miles Completed; 84 miles to Eastbourne.



Photo 11: Path goes under a road bridge.



Photo 12: Toposcope in centre of Old Winchester Hill - Hill Fort.





Photo 13: Information Panel @ Old Winchester Hill - Hill Fort. Dating back 3800 years.



Photo 14: View towards Old Winchester Hill – Hill Fort and it's earthworks.





Photo 15: View of Landscape near Former HMS Mercury Site.



Photo 16: Sign marking entrance to Butser Hill Nature Reserve and Queen Elizabeth Country Park.



Photo 17: View of Queen Elizabeth Country Park (and the A3) from Butser Hill. At 270m Butser Hill is the highest point on the SDW.



Photo 18: View towards Butser Hill & Radio Mast.





Photo 19: Forest Track Through Queen Elizabeth Country Park.



Photo 20: Hiking 'South Downs Way' along a trackway near Buriton.



Photo 21: Five-way signpost. 31 miles completed; 69 miles to Eastbourne.



Photo 22: View from Beacon Hill towards South Faring & Harting Down.





Photo 23: Wooded Track through Monkton Estate. Start of 3<sup>rd</sup> Day: 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017.



Photo 24: Devil's Jump Burial Mounds.



Photo 25: View from Heyshott Down. East of the town of Cocking.



Photo 26: Dead Shrew on the path.





Photo 27: View from Glatting Beacon.



Photo 28: Memorial to Toby (1888-1955) on Bignor Hill.



Photo 29: View back towards Bignor Hill.



Photo 30: Steam Tractor @ Amberley Railway Station. Completed first weekends hike from Winchester to Amberley Station: 46.5miles.





Photo 31: View Towards Amberley Brooks. About 7pm on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017; start of second weekend.



Photo 32: Wild Camp in (a some-what grotty) WWII Bunker.



Photo 33: Start of day 5: 22 July 2017. Collecting water from Washington water tap.



Photo 34: Chanctonbury Ring. Site of an iron-age hill fort dating back to about 600BC.





Photo 35: Memorial to Walter Langmead; a Sussex Farmer.



Photo 36: Gatepost Near Botolphs.



Photo 37: View from Beeding Hill (Anchor Bottom) towards Lancing.



Photo 38: Looking towards Truleigh Hill Radio Station and YHA Truleigh Hill.





Photo 39: View over the Fulking Escarpment & towards site of Devil's Dyke Hill Fort.



Photo 40: The Devil's Dyke Valley. A spectacular valley created when the chalk strata folded due to interaction between the African & Eurasian tectonic plates.



Photo 41: Signpost. 60 miles completed; 40 miles to Eastbourne.



Photo 42: Side view of post-mill Jill. Jack & Jill Windmills near Pyecombe.





Photo 43: post-mill Jill. Jack & Jill Windmills near Pyecombe.



Photo 44: View along bridleway near Ditchling Beacon.



Photo 45: View from South Downs towards Lewes & Mount Caburn.



Photo 46: Meridian Line Marker near town of Rodmell.





Photo 47: Start of Day 6; 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017. On bridge over the River Ouse having just passed through the town of Southease.



Photo 48: Hiking towards telecom masts on Beddingham Hill.



Photo 49: View towards Alfriston and Cuckmere Haven.



Photo 50: Alfriston Town Centre near bus stop. Completed second weekends hike from Amberley Station to Alfriston: 42miles.





Photo 51: Eastbourne from the downs. On Day 7; 12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017, I hiked both alternative routes of the South Downs Way between Eastbourne and Jevington. Starting at Eastbourne the coastal route goes via Beachy Head & Cuckmere Haven to Alfriston. Then from Alfriston the inland route goes via Jevington back to the start point at Eastbourne.



Photo 52: The Start / Finish sign at the Eastbourne end of the trail. Next to the Kiosk Café.



Photo 53: View of Eastbourne seafront from the South Downs.



Photo 54: View across the downs towards Eastbourne seafront.





Photo 55: Beachy Head & Beachy Head Lighthouse near Eastbourne.



Photo 56: Beachy Head Lighthouse.



Photo 57: View along Beachy Head towards Belle Tout Lighthouse.



Photo 58: View in the direction of Beachy Head Lighthouse.





Photo 59: The Belle Tout Lighthouse.



Photo 60: View of Birling Gap & The Seven Sisters Chalk Cliffs.



Photo 61: View of Seven Sisters @ Seven Sisters Country Park. Belle Tout lighthouse in distance.



Photo 62: Cave at base of cliff.





Photo 63: Beach at Cuckmere Haven.



Photo 64: River Cuckmere Near Exceat.



Photo 65: White Horse carved into a hill near Litlington.



Photo 66: View from Wilmington Hill on my way towards the village of Jevington.



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The South Downs Way National Trail is a 100-mile (160km) Trail which starts at Winchester (Hampshire) and finishes in Eastbourne (East Sussex). Involving walking / hiking over often exposed windswept hills, through picturesque villages and occasional woodland. The South Downs are predominately Chalky Hills which, like the Ridgeway NT, have been used by people for millennia as a safe and convenient route for travelling. The South Downs has plenty of evidence of prehistoric use such as ancient trackways, Neolithic Hill Forts (Old Winchester) & Burial Mounds. In modern times much of the route is used by farmers for grazing livestock and growing crops.

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