

Explore the rich and varied history of Petersfield and beyond



Petersfield Medieval Boundary

Museum Heritage Walks

10,000 years in the making



Registered charity number 1108817

For more information on Petersfield Museum's facilities and café or to book tickets, please visit our website www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk



Follow Us

Sun & Bank Holidays: 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wed – Sat: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Opening Times

Tel: 01730 262601

GU32 3HX

Hampshire

Petersfield

St Peter's Road

Petersfield Museum

Situated at the foot of the South Downs, Petersfield Museum tells the story of river valleys, ancient woodland, thriving villages and market towns and the iconic white cliffs of the Heritage Coast. Covering over 1600 square kilometres of England's most valued lowland landscapes in the busiest part of the UK, it includes inspirational landscapes, internationally important wildlife, cultural heritage and lively market towns and villages. When exploring the beautiful South Downs, please help protect this special place by following the Countryside Code. Visit www.southdowns.gov.uk and search 'Countryside Code' for more information.

Petersfield Museum

SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

For a safe and fun visit with your dog please remember to keep them on a lead around livestock and wildlife and ways clean up after your dog.

Take the Lead

The South Downs National Park has it all – rolling hills, glorious heathland, river valleys, ancient woodland, thriving villages and market towns and the iconic white cliffs of the Heritage Coast. Covering over 1600 square kilometres of England's most valued lowland landscapes in the busiest part of the UK, it includes inspirational landscapes, internationally important wildlife, cultural heritage and lively market towns and villages. When exploring the beautiful South Downs, please help protect this special place by following the Countryside Code. Visit www.southdowns.gov.uk and search 'Countryside Code' for more information.

Walking Directions

Starting point: St Peter's Road facing the main entrance to Petersfield Museum

- A** Take the path on the right of the museum. Cross Hylton Road and enter the car park. Follow the footpath to the crossing before the bridge and turn left. **1 2** Cross The Causeway at the Forebridge. **3** Turn right into Sussex Road. After 500 m, continue alongside the pond to the end of the railings. **4** Leave the pavement and follow the footpath around the pond for 800 m. **5 6**
- B** Cut right across the grass and go through the triple gate (pedestrian/vehicle) to leave the Heath.
- C** Cross Heath Road West and continue ahead along Heath Road for 100 m. **7** Turn sharp right into Herne Road. Follow Herne Road to Moggs Mead. Turn left and then turn right into Upper Heyshott.
- D** Follow the footpath past the flats and cross Love Lane. **8 9** Go straight on past Petersfield Community Centre. Cross Ramshill at the pedestrian crossing and bear left to join Station Road.
- E** Turn right onto the permissive right of way through Merritts Meadow* to the gate under the railway bridge (open between dawn and dusk). Go through,

follow the path under another railway bridge and continue straight through Woods Meadow to join Tilmore Gardens. **10**

- F** At the end of Tilmore Gardens **11** opposite the entrance to Steep House **12**, turn left into Tilmore Road. After 200 m, look for a telegraph pole on right side of road with a Hangers Way waymark. Cross the road to follow this footpath. **13**

- G** At the junction of four paths and a couple of driveways, go straight on then bear left, following the waymark for Hangers Way with the allotments left and garden fences right.

- H** Continue along the service road onto Station Road. Cross over and turn right.

- I** Turn left into Frenchmans Road. **14** Continue to and under the railway bridge. **15** Cross over and turn right into Borough Hill beside the playing field.

- J** Follow the road to the right then turn left into Borough Hill Park, head down the hill and turn left onto Borough Road.




Get more information online about this walk including a gpx file of the route.

- K** After 100 m, turn right onto Alderfield. Continue straight on over the foot bridge After 100 m, follow the path left, keeping the metal fence and school on your right.

- L** After 300 m, enter the car park and follow the pavement to the bridge.

- M** Turn left over the bridge and retrace the start of the route back to Petersfield Museum.

 *This part of the route can be waterlogged after rain. Instead, continue further along Station Road and turn right into North Road. Follow the footpath at the end of North Road. Bear right and go under the railway bridge to join Tilmore Gardens.



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FOLLOW THE MAP INSIDE TO LEARN ABOUT PETERSFIELD'S MEDIEVAL BOUNDARY

Petersfield Medieval Boundary

The Borough of Petersfield was founded in the 1100s by Earl Robert of Gloucester at an ancient crossroads between two streams, the Drum and the Criddle. This walk closely follows the boundary of the medieval town and explores some of the town's history.

1 The Criddle marks the southern boundary of the medieval town when tanneries lined the stream. In the 1700s, the area was turned into an ornamental water garden for Petersfield House, the former home of the Joliffe family, then Lords of the Manor.

2 The Grange was the coach house for Petersfield House and retains the arched doorways where coaches would enter.

3 The Forebridge over the Criddle was the southern entrance to Petersfield.

4 For centuries, Petersfield Heath was used for grazing, collecting wood, and cutting turf and peat for fires. This led to a dangerous boggy area where livestock drowned. In 1735, the problem was solved by digging the pond.

7 Herne House is one of the oldest houses in Petersfield, dating back to the 1600s. The use of the 'Herne' or 'Horne' dates back to 1484. Building work began on Herne Farm in 1973. Named after the land on which it was built, it is the largest housing development in Petersfield's history.

8 To the right of the Community Centre is the former Petersfield Union Workhouse, built in 1836 and now converted to housing. On 21 November 1940, it took the only direct hit in the town from enemy bombing, killing seven people.

9 The tree-covered mound opposite the Community Centre hides the remains of a railway embankment. The Midhurst railway line connected Petersfield to Midhurst from 1864 to 1955.

10 The first houses were built in Tilmore Gardens towards the end of World War One. Their large gardens encouraged self-sufficiency and during World War Two, they were used to keep chickens for eggs – much prized during rationing.



5 The boundary of the Borough cut through the pond which caused legal disputes between Petersfield and neighbouring Buriton. Two Buriton residents were once accused of fishing in the wrong half and stealing 8,000 fish.

6 Archaeologists working on Petersfield Heath have discovered evidence of Stone Age occupation from 10,000 years ago along with the densest concentration of Bronze Age burial mounds in south east England. Twenty-one of these barrows still survive.

11 Meeting of the boundaries of Petersfield Borough, Sheet Parish and Steep Parish.

12 During World War Two, Steep House was used as a rest home for sailors from the Free French Navy. It is thought that General de Gaulle visited while inspecting French establishments in Portsmouth.



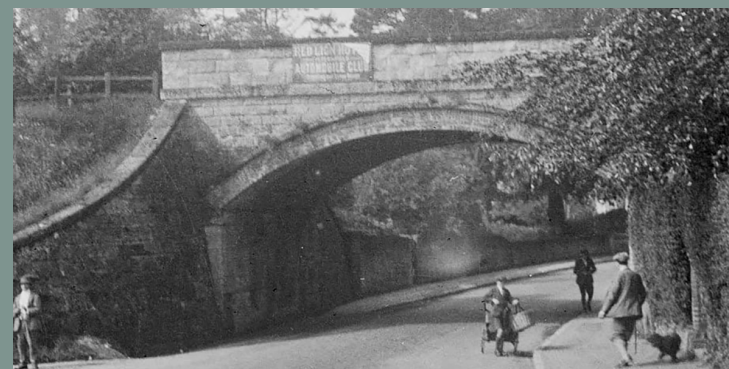
2 The Grange



3 The Forebridge around 1910



8 The former Petersfield Union Workhouse



9 The Midhurst railway bridge over Ramshill

13 The Hangers Way is a long-distance footpath. This short section forms part of an ancient Saxon highway.

14 During the Seven Years War (1756–1763), Petersfield was a parole town for French prisoners of war. Frenchmans Road marked the western boundary of the parole area.

15 The building which now houses Littlejohn Bathrooms belonged to the Borough Brewery, also known as Amey's Brewery. Established around 1878, the brewery operated until 1951 when it was bought by Whitbread. At its height (around 1930), Amey's Brewery supplied twenty public houses including the Hole in the Wall near London Waterloo.

- KEY**
- Medieval boundary
 - ⋯ Heritage walk
 - ⋯ Alternative route
 - Public footpath

1 Point of interest **A** Directions

Distance 6km (3.75 miles)
Average time to complete 1h 45m
Terrain Tarmac, paving, gravel, grass. Some mud in winter. Merritts Meadow can be very muddy after rain so follow the alternative route.

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