Fancy Free Walks

point your feet on a new path

Guildford, River Wey, Puttenham, Pilgrims Way

Distance: 17 km=10½ miles — easy walking

Region: Surrey — Date written: 14-dec-2013

Author: Fusszweig — Last update: 16-oct-2026

Refreshments: Compton, Puttenham, St Catherine's Village

Map: Explorer 145 (Guildford) *but the map in this guide should be sufficient*

Problems, changes? We depend on your feedback: feedback@fancyfreewalks.org

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Villages, parkland, woodland, meadows, river, views, historic house, pubs

In Brief

This walk takes you on an adventurous excursion from near the centre of the city of Guildford far out into the country. Puttenham, at the far half-way point is a delightful village with a church, cottages and a good pub. (To book at the *Good Intent*, ring 01483-810387.) There are two other excellent hostelries along the walk. There are other surprises on the way, including the village of Compton, the *Watts Gallery*, the River Wey near Guildford and the historic *Loseley House* with an option to visit (at a modest charge).

This "zipped up" walk is a combination of **two** shorter walks which you should browse, print or download:

Guildford, River Wey, Watts Gallery

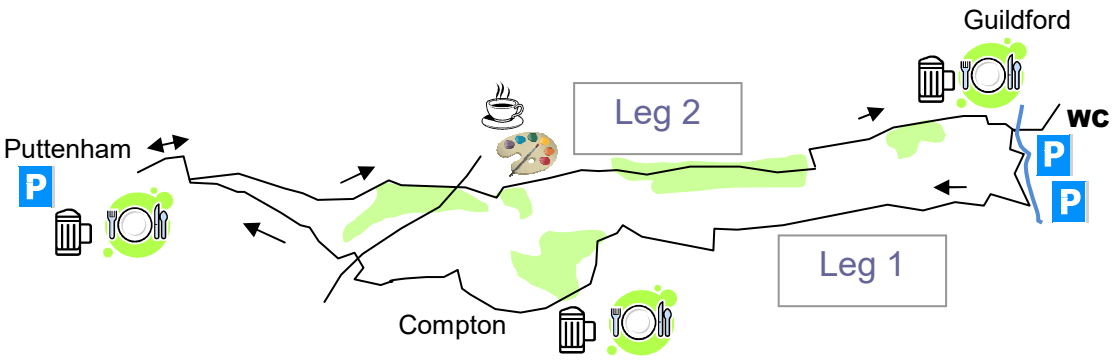
Puttenham, Pilgrims Way, Compton

There are some patches of nettles and brambles on this walk but the going is fairly dry, even in the winter months. So long trousers and any reasonable footwear should be fine. Your dog could come too, provided you have a short lead for the crossing of the A3 junction. There is one section across the golf course at Puttenham but it is short and easy.

The walk begins near **Guildford**, Surrey, or in **Puttenham**, or in one of a number of alternative places along the way. For a list of possible parking places and for more details, see at the end of this text (→ **Getting There**).

The Walk

Bird's Eye View



Trek 1 **Guildford to Puttenham** 9½ km=6 miles

This part is in three sections:

Part 1: is from the *Guildford-Compton* walk, from the start in Guildford to near the end of Section 3 where you will see a link symbol.

Part 2: is the **Polsted Lane Transfer**. Do as follows:

Having turned **left** on Polesden Lane, continue, soon passing *Polsted Manor*. In 600m, at a road junction, keep straight ahead. (But, by turning **left**, you would arrive in 250m at one of the iconic pubs of this area, the *Withies Inn* - see the pub walk in this series.) Stay on the lane, ignoring a footpath on your right, until you approach the village of Compton at a left bend. At the green, take a diagonal path across the grass, heading towards a telephone box and a fingerpost. At the other side, opposite the elegant gates to Field Place, keep ahead along the main road. You soon pass the *Lemon Grass* Thai restaurant (2026: sadly closed, the old *Harrow* pub). Avoid a footpath beside the restaurant, passing, on your left, the timbered *White Hart Cottage*. Continue a short distance further along the road, passing th church (see later) and, at a slight right bend, turn **left** on Eastbury Lane, signposted as a bridleway.

Part 3: is from the *Puttenham-Compton* walk, from Section 4 to the end of this walk in Puttenham village.

The **Haslemere-Guildford Monster** joins this walk here.

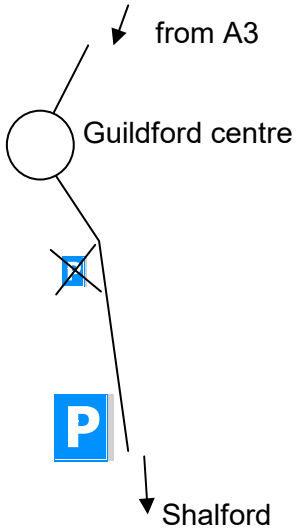
Trek 2 **Puttenham to Guildford** 7½ km=4½ miles

This part is in two sections:

Part 1: is from the *Puttenham-Compton* walk, from the start in Puttenham to the end of Section 2 where you will see a link symbol.

Part 2: is from the *Guildford-Compton* walk, Section 6 to the end in Guildford.

Getting there



By car: **(1)** On **weekdays**, the walk can begin at the **Shalford Park** car park, w3w:hoping.movie.flash, nearest **postcode GU4 8BL**, grid ref SU 997485, next to a low redbrick sports pavilion. This car park is about ¾ mile south of Guildford city centre on the Shalford Road (se map). The parking charge is £3.20 (as 2017). It also has a loo. This car park is **closed** to the public **at weekends** because of matches (although there are some free spaces before the gate).

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(2) by **Shalford Church**, **postcode GU4 8BP**, either on Church Close or by the water works (start the walk by going north on a tarmac path and keeping left round the playing fields);

(3) in **Sandy Lane** opposite the *Olde Ship* Inn, just after the *Zone Ends* sign, **postcode GU3 1HQ**;

(4) in **The Ridges** near the Surrey Police Headquarters, **postcode GU3 1LH**;

(5) Artington park-and-ride, usable if someone in your party prefers to go shopping, closed on Sunday and not open till 10 am;

(6) Puttenham village, **postcode GU3 1AU**. Parking here is always possible but you may not find a clear spot for some way up The Street. Note that the big car park opposite the *Jolly Farmer* is **locked** outside licensing hours;

(7) Chantry Wood car park, postcode GU4 8AD. ½ km off the route and rather small, but free. Walk down the road "Pilgrims Way";

(8) Watts Gallery (or overflow) car park, postcode GU3 1DQ.

By bus/train: from Guildford station, many buses run along the Shalford Road, e.g. no. 24. Check the timetables. On foot from Guildford Station, the distance is just under a mile.

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