

St Nicholas Trail (an hour and a half) - 3.5km

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This trail offers the best of the English countryside with a route which passes through farmland, woodland, flood-meadows and heathland. It can be uneven, there are steps over the old railway embankment, it's necessary to use narrow country lanes and to cross a B-road – but it's worth it!

Follow the lane along to the open fields. Please respect the farmland and wildlife here and take care when using the gates and boardwalks. A bench near to Pear Tree Meadow will enable you to enjoy the 'long views' for which Hampshire is famous.

The route takes you onward to the village centre where you cross the road to the Cricketers Inn and onto Kingsley Common. Pass Kingsley pond and the golf course and continue to the Oakhanger Road. There are several attractive listed buildings in Kingsley with Ockham Hall, Kingsley Mill and the barns at Bakers Corner all beside this route.

Be careful walking to the main road and back up to the parking area opposite St Nicholas

Church. Why not complete your walk by sitting on a bench in the churchyard and enjoy the views to the hangers beyond.

Kingsley Common Trail (one hour) – 2.5km

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Kingsley Common is a small, safe, and well-defined area and this route, which will take about an hour,

follows the footpaths and tracks around the edge of the Common. The sandy soil means that in all but the wettest weather the paths are easy to use. There is one downhill slope but otherwise the route taken is gently undulating. It follows the track between Kingsley Pond and The Cricketers Inn, passes alongside Oxney Stream to Coldharbour and then returns over the heathland to the car parking area.

There are several benches both around the pond and also on the Village Green, a large open space in the centre of the Common and known locally as The Cricket Pitch.

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Kingsley Common is a very important lowland heathland site, a Site of Special Scientific Interest, which is home to many rare animals, plants and birds such as the Dartford Warbler. The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is working in partnership with the Ministry of Defence to make this site even

better for wildlife. Please help to look after this valuable and sensitive area by keeping your dog under control and by using the main footpaths.

The Farm Trail (one hour) – 3.2km

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The Farm Trail begins at the back entrance of Country Market, a family-owned farm, farm shop and garden centre and is one of a number of trails sponsored by Hampshire County Council together with Hampshire Fare. It is a tranquil, rural setting with a variety of wild flowers, hedgerows and trees. Birds such as skylarks and lapwings as well as the more common species are frequently seen and heard here. There are also signs (and sightings of) foxes, badgers and deer in addition to smaller mammals and invertebrates.

A bench has been placed near the start, so that even the 'not-so-fit' can enjoy superb views over the farmland to the woods and hills beyond. There are two routes you can follow with both taking you initially behind the houses and across the fields.

A second bench provides a resting point beside a small pond. The shorter route (about 35 minutes) on the Farm Trail follows the line of the hedge before returning along the farm track. The main route

crosses a small footbridge and goes along the edge of the fields towards Straits Inclosure, part of Alice Holt Forest. Here a bridleway skirts the woodland to meet the farm track which will bring you back to the start of your walk.

This route is fairly easy with no stiles, however it may be rather muddy and the ground can be uneven.



(including certain bulls) on paths Should not keep dangerous animals Should not plough paths at field edges deter use of them Should not obstruct paths or Maintain most stiles and gates or planting crops Reinstate paths across fields after ploughing overhanging vegetation Keep back side growth and Landowners:

> up to date Keeps the definitive map

> > Authorises stiles and

baths

Signposts and waymarks

Maintains some bridges

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way are not obstructed Fnsures that rights of

Maintains the surface in a

Hampshire County Council:

Maintaining rights of way

Consider other people

Keep dogs under close control

Protect plants and animals

take your litter home Leave gates and property as you find them and

Plan ahead and follow any signs

take care when crossing roads Be safe – wear suitable clothing and shoes and

generations be sure to: To ensure that the countryside is protected for future

permission for the public to use them. marked are not rights of way, but the landowner has given on all types of right of way. Any permissive paths or areas footpaths). Wheelchairs, pushchairs and dogs are allowed are entitled to use (for example, cyclists cannot use spown on the map key; please check which paths you responsible when using them. There are four types, as to bear this in mind by keeping to the path and being Many rights of way cross private land, and we ask you

Using local paths

leaflet will encourage you to explore and enjoy your local

Photographs by Chris Rigden & Mike Deegan

dramatically through the seasons. We hope that this plants, trees and views along the same paths often change countryside within a few hundred yards of home and the guided walks or events. Many people will be able to reach conservation areas, and your Parish Council may know of such as commons, woodland, recreation grounds or this leaflet may also show access to other areas of land, over 3,000 miles of these in Hampshire. The map in ancient trackways through deep countryside; there are great outdoors. Rights of way are linear routes, often which provide a range of opportunities for enjoying the countryside and an extensive network of public paths Hampshire boasts an extremely rich and diverse

Enjoying the countryside

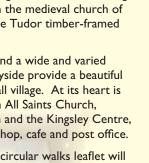
Welcome to Kingsley

he parish of Kingsley stretches from Frith End and Alice Holt Forest in the north-east to Shortheath Common and Binswood in the south-west.

Kingsley derives its name from the King's Lea, a meadow or pasture. At one time the village formed the clearing which lay between the Alice Holt and Woolmer Forests. Both these forests were favoured hunting ground of the kings and at the western end of the village is the site of the original settlement with the medieval church of St Nicholas and the Tudor timber-framed

Sandy heathlands and a wide and varied agricultural countryside provide a beautiful setting for this small village. At its heart is Kingsley Pond with All Saints Church, The Cricketers Inn and the Kingsley Centre, which has a small shop, cafe and post office.

We hope that this circular walks leaflet will encourage you to explore some of the 31 footpaths and bridleways around our village.





Useful Contacts

Kingsley Parish Council Email: clerk@kingsleypc.org.uk www.kingsley.hampshire.org.uk

Post Office, Shop and Cafe

The Kingsley Centre

01420 479000

Farm Shop and Restaurant

Country Market 01420 472486

www.countrymarket.co.uk

Accommodation

Groomes Hotel 01420 489858

www.groomes.co.uk The Cricketers Inn B&B

01420 476730 www.thecricketersinn.com

Spring Cottage B&B

01420 472703 01420 473396

Kingsley B&B www.kingsleybandb.co.uk

Public Transport

National Travel Line Stagecoach

0870 608 2608 0845 1210 180

Route 13 Alton to Bordon Route 18 Farnham to Bordon

Tourist Information Hampshire County Council

Information Centre

0800 028 0800

For further information on access to the countryside please contact Hampshire County Council on:

0800 028 088 (Freephone) or www.hants.gov.uk/countryside

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