

SECTION 6: LISS TO PETERSFIELD

How far? This section is just under 5 miles long; you can return along the same route, use other rights of way or use the train!

What will I see? The section starts at Liss Rail station and runs along quiet country lanes, across the rail line and then briefly on a tarmac walk/cycle path in the verge of the A3 dual carriageway before returning to quiet lanes and a beautiful path above an old bull droveway which then crosses a stream. After passing the Harrow Inn (look out for the sculpture of a stack of books), the route uses a bridge over the A3 which links two quiet lanes and then descends gently into Petersfield; pause to see the lovely views across the town with the ridge of the South Downs beyond—the next section of route passes over this to the left of the A3! As well as cafes and shops, Petersfield offers much to see, including the Flora Twort Gallery (textiles and art), the Petersfield Museum (social history) and the wool bale sculpture.

Who can use it? This section is open to walkers (and dogs) and cyclists; as it is mainly on tarmac it provides a good route for pushchairs and mobility vehicles, via the northern rail crossing shown (although please note there is no pavement for part of this route). Horse-riders can use the route as far as the level crossing, and can also use the route through Steep Marsh (there is unfortunately no easy way of linking these on horseback).

What is the path like? Apart from 300 metres of well-surfaced path at Steep Marsh, this section is all on tarmac; there are a few climbs but no large hills. Once away from the centres of Liss and Petersfield there are no pavements but most of the lanes are quiet (several being no through roads for vehicles). Take particular care on the path next to the A3 and when crossing the main road near Petersfield station, as marked overleaf.

What facilities are available? This section starts at the village of Liss, which offers cafes/pubs, shops and car parking. Around three miles from Liss is the Harrow Inn, an award-winning pub which offers refreshments and meals, and even has its own cook-book! Petersfield marks the end of this section, and has a wide range of facilities, from loos, pubs/cafes and shops to museums. Both Liss and Petersfield have rail stations and the journey between them is only 5 minutes (on a Sunday its still direct but takes a little longer), departing approximately hourly in

either direction.

What is the Shipwrights Way? It is a long-distance route linking villages and towns in east Hampshire through some beautiful countryside. Starting at Alice Holt Forest near Farnham, it runs down across the South Downs to the sea at Portsmouth. The route is open to walkers and cyclists and, where possible, horse-riders and people with disabilities.

Why 'Shipwrights'? The name reflects the journey of oak grown at Alice Holt to dockyards such as Portsmouth for medieval shipbuilding; the route finishes at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, home of the Mary Rose, HMS Victory and the International Boatbuilding Training College.

Who provided the route? It was provided through a partnership between East Hampshire District Council, Hampshire County Council, the Forestry Commission and the South Downs National Park Authority.







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