

Hannington, To The Woods



HAMPSHIRE
COUNTRYSIDE
SERVICE

Distance: 3.25 miles

Start: Village Green

The Village

Hannington is recorded as a settlement in 899AD, and is listed in the Domesday Survey. It is a vibrant village community of 140 households. The Church, Village Hall, Michael's playing field, The Vine pub, Hannington Country Fair, the Hannington Silver Band (founded in 1924) and wonderful countryside contribute to this unique place.

All Saints Church

People have worshipped here for over 1000 years. The sundial on the south wall used to help parishioners arrive on time to enter through the 12th Century doors. Inside are two fine window engravings by Laurence Whistler. The millennium tapestry shows how Hannington residents lived in 2000AD. The Squint allows the priest to see those in the south aisle.

Countryside

Situated high in the North Wessex Downs AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), Hannington is surrounded by a network of public rights of way affording walkers and riders superb opportunities to explore and enjoy this beautiful landscape. Spectacular views extend south and west from For Down, and north and south from Michael's Field with its children's play area and parking. Skylarks, yellowhammers and many other wild birds can be seen and heard during most seasons. Fieldfares and redwings are regular visitors in winter. Wild flowers abound in the hedgerows and field margins. The bluebell woods are a delight in spring. There is evidence of a bronze-age barrow, a large Romano-British farmstead and a royal house used by Henry II at Tidgrove Warren Farm, west of the village.

Directions

From the Green, walk down Ibworth Lane and turn left up track by Michael's Field. Turn right and enjoy the panoramic views.

At the end of the tarmac bridleway turn right and follow the route leaving Gaston's Copse and Halves Wood on your right. Turn right to Ibworth Lane, left on Ibworth Lane for 130 yds and right over the stile to the top of Week Copse.

Turn half right following the footpath across the field to the white post visible from the crest of the hill. Follow the track to English Wood and up the gravel track. At the top of the hill turn right through the gap in the hedge. With English Wood and Buckland's Pightle Copse on your right follow the field edge. At the end of the Copse turn right through the gap in the hedge leaving the Vine and Craven kennels on your left.

At Summerdown Lane turn right past The Vine public house.

