

## ADVENTURE SUMMARY

### Adventure type

Walk

### Adventure location

Amberley, West Sussex

### Getting there

London Victoria to Amberley Station

### Getting home

Amberley Station to London Victoria

## ADVENTURE STATISTICS

<b>15 km</b>	<b>5 hrs</b>	<b>388 m</b>	<b>17,000</b>
Walking Distance	Walking Time	Total Ascent	Total Steps

## ADVENTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Great views from Amberley Mount  
Remains of Churchill MKII tank



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## CURATOR'S VIEW

We would aim to start the walk from Amberley Station at 11 am. There is a café under the bridge and on the right overlooking the river that serves coffee and snacks that is a good place to ponder the day ahead. Upload the VA route onto Google Maps and follow the road out of Amberley heading north. Take the first right signposted High Titten. You then follow the signs for the South Downs Way for four km until you reach the car park and turn sharp right (highlighted on your Vespucci Adventures Google Map). Head towards the George at Burpham for a well-earned drink. Our suggestion is that you bring a picnic and either have it here sitting outside or head out of Burpham and wait until you come across a couple of very comfortable benches (highlighted on your map!). It's about an hour back to the Station. Enjoy a well-earned drink at the Bridge Inn (right next to the Station) or head over the road for a cup of tea in the café overlooking the River Arun.



We came by this walk as a whole, by piecing together bits of little outings we had accumulated over time. The location of the walk in Burpham, and the station at Amberley, combine to create a very practical and cosy circuit, with

## WHEN TO GO

This is a day out for any time of the year. It will be muddy in the winter and the ridge-line path is very exposed so wrap up warm; in the winter months the views are at their most impressive; on a frosty morning the rolling fields look especially beautiful. In May/June, in the fields, the barley performs that amazing, shimmering dance when the breezes pick up, the swallows dart about above, the starlings chatter enthusiastically; and the sea can be clearly seen to the south.

## ROUGH COSTS

**£25 Per person**  
**£10.25 Return train ticket**  
**£15 Lunch**

\*We always recommend bringing a picnic, it keeps the costs down and heightens the sense of adventure.





## The Amberley Amble Points Of Interest

The chalky hills surrounding Arundel and its castle make for some excellent walking. The hills here hold many secrets including the wreck of a WW2 tank. The ancient River Arun flows through the farmland creating a unique landscape. The castle standing proud from the land is an impressive sight. People born in Arundel are known affectionately, and perhaps amusingly, as Mulletts.

### The River Arun & Houghton Bridge

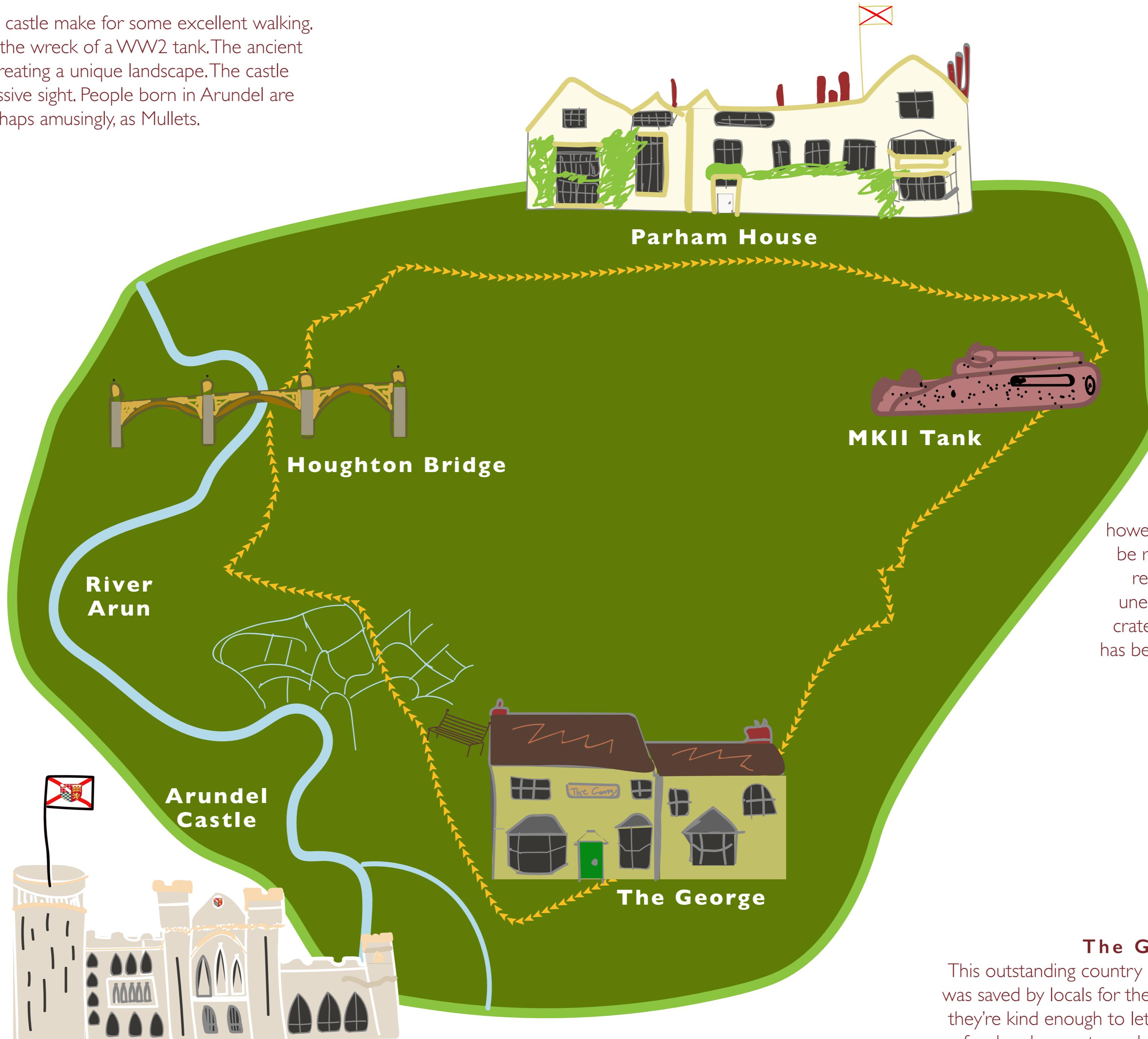
The river, from which the nearby town of Arundel derives its name, has been an important waterway since Medieval times; when it was used in trading. Wool and food from the valley would be transported to the coast and sold at markets. In the 18th and 19th centuries the river was a popular destination for tours. Over these centuries the river-channel was massively engineered, draining the marshy land around it for farming. Houghton Bridge in Amberley looks ancient, and it is. For nearly a thousand years, this bridge has spanned the river. The upkeep was shared between the local gentry and the church, whose Bishops had to cross the river in Amberley in order to reach their palace in the valley.

### Arundel Castle

One of the Great Castles of England, Arundel is one few remaining in private ownership. Much of the castle was built by Henry II (1133-89) to act as a fortress. Regrettably much of the original stone work was badly damaged during The Wars of the Roses; though parts of the structure have stood for a thousand years. Interestingly, the castle has changed hands over the centuries between some of the most influential families in English history. It has been the ceremonial seat to The Dukes of Norfolk for the last 850 years.

### Parham House

This grand privately owned home is a local landmark. Built in 1577, the impressive Elizabethan pile catches your eye walking along the down. Boasting an extensive collection of fine furniture, beautiful gardens, as well as an important early needlework collection; Parham House is a brilliant example of an Elizabethan tastes in interiors and architecture. Fortunately, it is open to the public and makes for an interesting visit.



### Churchill MKII Tank

This Churchill MKII Tank was due to be used on the ill-fated Dieppe raid (19th August 1942) but developed mechanical problems so was left behind in Sussex. Here on these expansive open fields the 2nd Canadian Army Division carried out war-games and this tank was used as target practice; hence the impressive bullet holes. After hostilities were ended, efforts were made to remove military infrastructure from the countryside, however, due to poor accessibility, this tank wasn't able to be removed and was buried in a bomb crater where it remained for 50 years. Eventually in 1993 the army unearthed the remains and dragged the tank from the crater, to the side of a field. Where it sits today. The tank has been cannibalised for parts for the restoration of other Churchill tanks by The Tank Museum.

### The George at Burpham

This outstanding country pub was earmarked for closure in 2013, but was saved by locals for the community. Run by locals, for the locals, and they're kind enough to let us enjoy their achievement too! Wonderful food and cosy atmosphere. Picnic benches are behind the church.

START

### AMBERLEY AMBLE

Our route begins at Amberley Station, exit the station and head right up the road away from the river. You'll leave the road turning right onto High Titten Road, follow this road up to the house.

1

0 km

### HOUSE ON THE HILL

Leave the road on the path marked 'The South Downs Way', this path leads straight onto the spine of the down, offering panoramic views of the landscape around you; to the south, the sea is in clear view. Look out for Parham House in the middle distance on your left. You'll follow this magnificent path to Kithurst car-park.

2

1.2 km

### KITHURST CAR-PARK

At Kithurst car-park you'll have three options: continuing along the down, turning right downhill or third, crossing the crop field ahead of you, climbing it diagonally - this is your path. At the small cluster of hedging, head right, going through the hedging and emerge on a beautiful open pathway crossing the fields. Look out for the Churchill MKII tank just after the hedging.

3

4.9 km

### CHURCHILL MKII TANK

Follow the path across the open farmland until you reach the small copse (tree plantation). Follow the path round the outside of the copse (keeping it on your left) until you reach a crossroads; here take the path leading downhill, bearing slightly left; (do not take the path heading directly down the hill). You should find yourself in a small bowl, with a group of trees on your right, continue straight and once you reach the farm buildings, continue straight to the end of Coombe Lane to reach the road. Follow the signs into Burpham village turning right then left (following the leftward curve of the road) to reach your pub lunch at The George.

4

14 km

### VIEWS OF ARUNDEL CASTLE

After enjoying a delicious lunch, you might have time to pop-in to visit the Church. Otherwise, head north out of Burpham. On your way out there is a lovely picnic spot just next to the Churchyard. Where there is situated a couple of benches. Walk up the road (look back across the valley for views of Arundel castle) and cross the junction, heading straight ahead onto the footpath, past Peppering Farm's large barn. Once at the end of the large field turn right along its fringe, you then have two options. If it doesn't look too muddy head left crossing the field (heading north), OR carry on around the field and make your way to North Stoke.

5

5.4 km

### NORTH STOKE

You'll cross the railway and reach Stoke Road, turn right along Stoke Road which will quickly return you to Amberley train station. Enjoy a cup of tea at the delightful Riverside Tearooms, overlooking the river, before boarding your train returning via London Victoria.

END

10.8 km

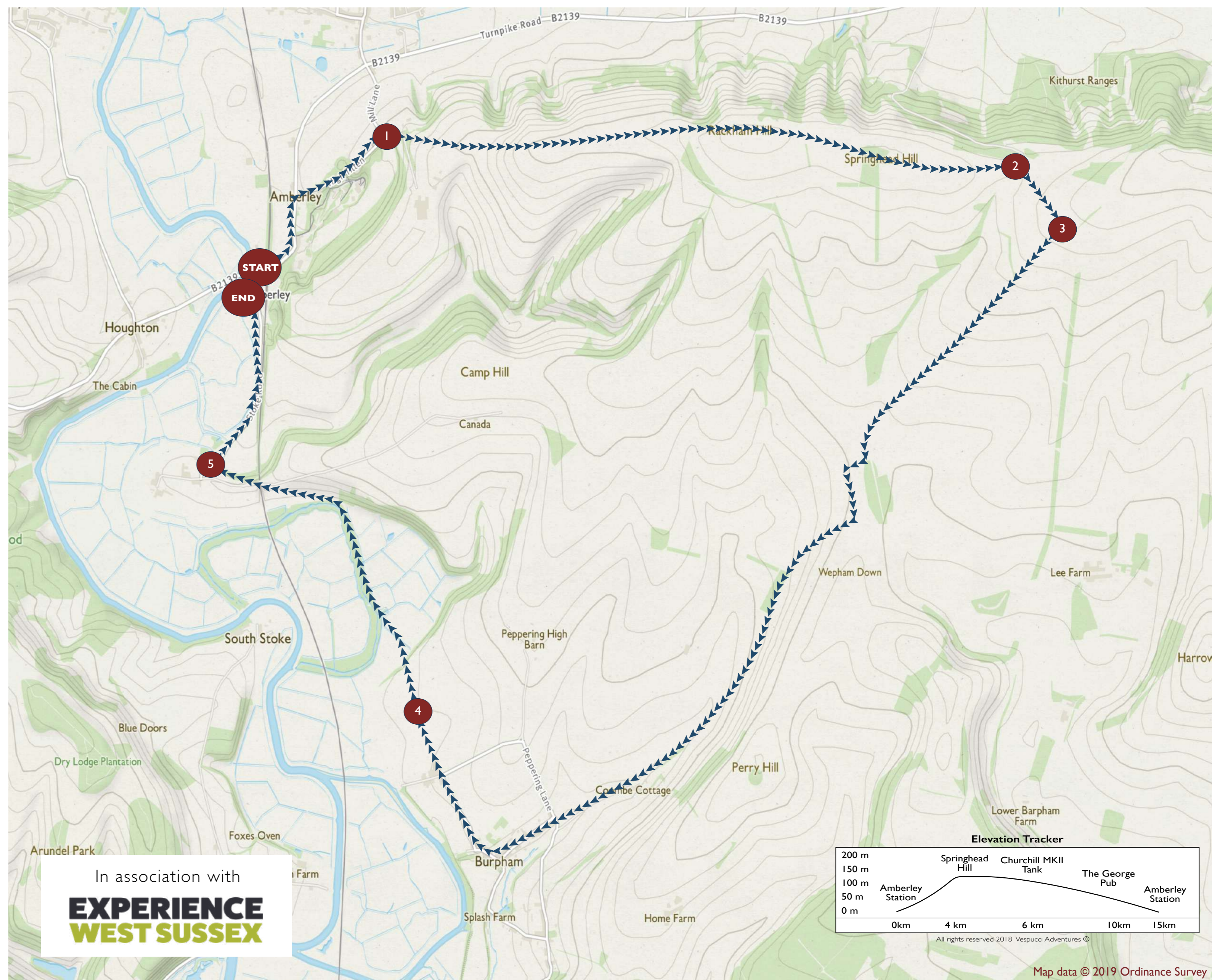
Be sure to click through to our Google My Maps link. It will place the adventure route onto your Google maps app. Click the link on the relevant adventure page on our mobile website.



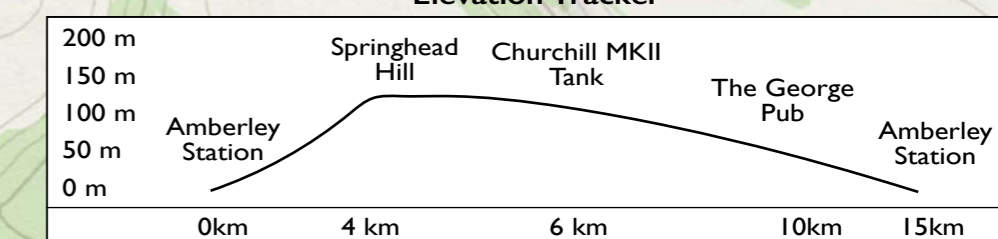
# Amberley Amble

## Directions

...the sea can be clearly seen to the



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