

# WEST SUSSEX EXPLORER

## Impulse Adventure

A classic ride through the heart of West Sussex

### ADVENTURE SUMMARY

#### Adventure type

Cycle ride

#### Adventure location

West Sussex

#### Getting there

By train: London Waterloo to Haslemere

By car: Haslemere Station car park

#### Getting home

Haslemere Station to Waterloo

### ADVENTURE STATISTICS

<b>92 km</b>	<b>4.5 hrs</b>	<b>1469 m</b>	<b>243 m</b>
Cycling Distance	Cycling Time	Total Ascent	Highest Point

### ADVENTURE HIGHLIGHTS

A tour of the best of West Sussex's back-lanes  
Coffee and pub stops galore  
Lung-busting hills and exhilarating descents  
The Anglo Saxon Church of St Mary The Virgin



**THE CURATOR**  
Peter Bristowe

### CURATOR'S VIEW

*I have spent a lot of time on my bike in the West Sussex lanes. I see so many cyclists whizz by me straining to beat their PB. I prefer to cruise, head up, not down and locked onto Strava. This route tests the stamina but offers plenty of opportunities to stop and savour views, points of interest and to sample some of the best pubs and cafes that West Sussex has to offer. Let me be frank. At 92 kilometers, this ride is not for everyone. However, for cyclists not familiar with West Sussex and up for a decent ride, this is a day out to savor. The VA route takes you along the quietest of lanes, uphill and down dale (1,468m total ascent), through picturesque villages on a grand tour of one of England's most unspoilt counties (and less than an hour from London by train). We highlight the best places to stop for a coffee, a pint, a sandwich and a view. Divert for 5 minutes to a beautiful Anglo-Saxon church with a second world war story to tell. We think you will have a cracking day out and be the envy of your friends on Monday morning.*



### ROUGH COSTS

#### £45 Per person

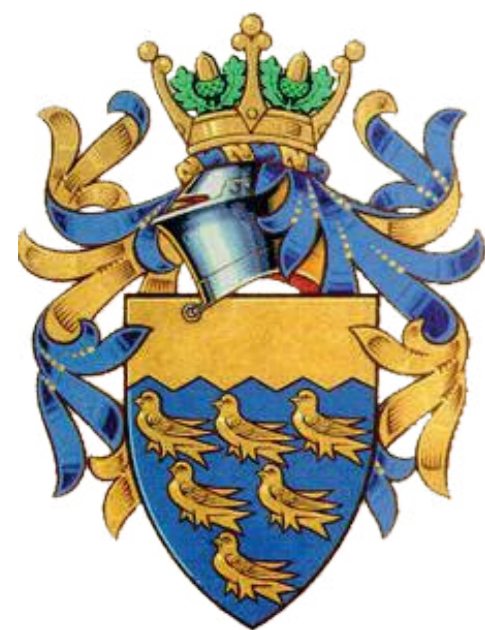
£30 Off-peak return ticket

£15 Coffee & lunch

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

### WHEN TO GO

This is an all year adventure but it pays to check the weather forecast first. This route is best enjoyed on a dry day without too much wind. The temperature should not make much difference but it all depends on having the right kit.



## West Sussex Explorer Points Of Interest

The VA route takes you along the quietest of lanes, uphill and down dale (1,468m total ascent), through picturesque villages on a grand tour of one of England's most unspoilt counties (and less than an hour from London by train).

### The Rising Sun & Milland Stores

You will be feeling the pull towards the finish but it would be remiss not to mention the Milland Village Stores. It's a community shop with a very welcoming little café attached. There's still one more short sharp climb so a quick refuel might be in order. If you are looking for fortification, the Rising Sun is the pub of choice for inhabitants of the Milland Valley.

### South Harting

Take a moment to enjoy this quintessential West Sussex village and the beauty of the downs which surround its broad and lush valley.

**West Sussex County**  
The Kingdom of Sussex is older than the country in which it sits, founded in AD 477 by the first Saxon king, Ælle. Today the county is famed for its open countryside and seaside towns. It is also a Mecca for cyclists thanks to the myriad of quiet country lanes which criss-cross the farmland. A particularly beautiful county, it is known for its rolling hills and fantastic pubs; worthy of exploration.

### Lurgashall

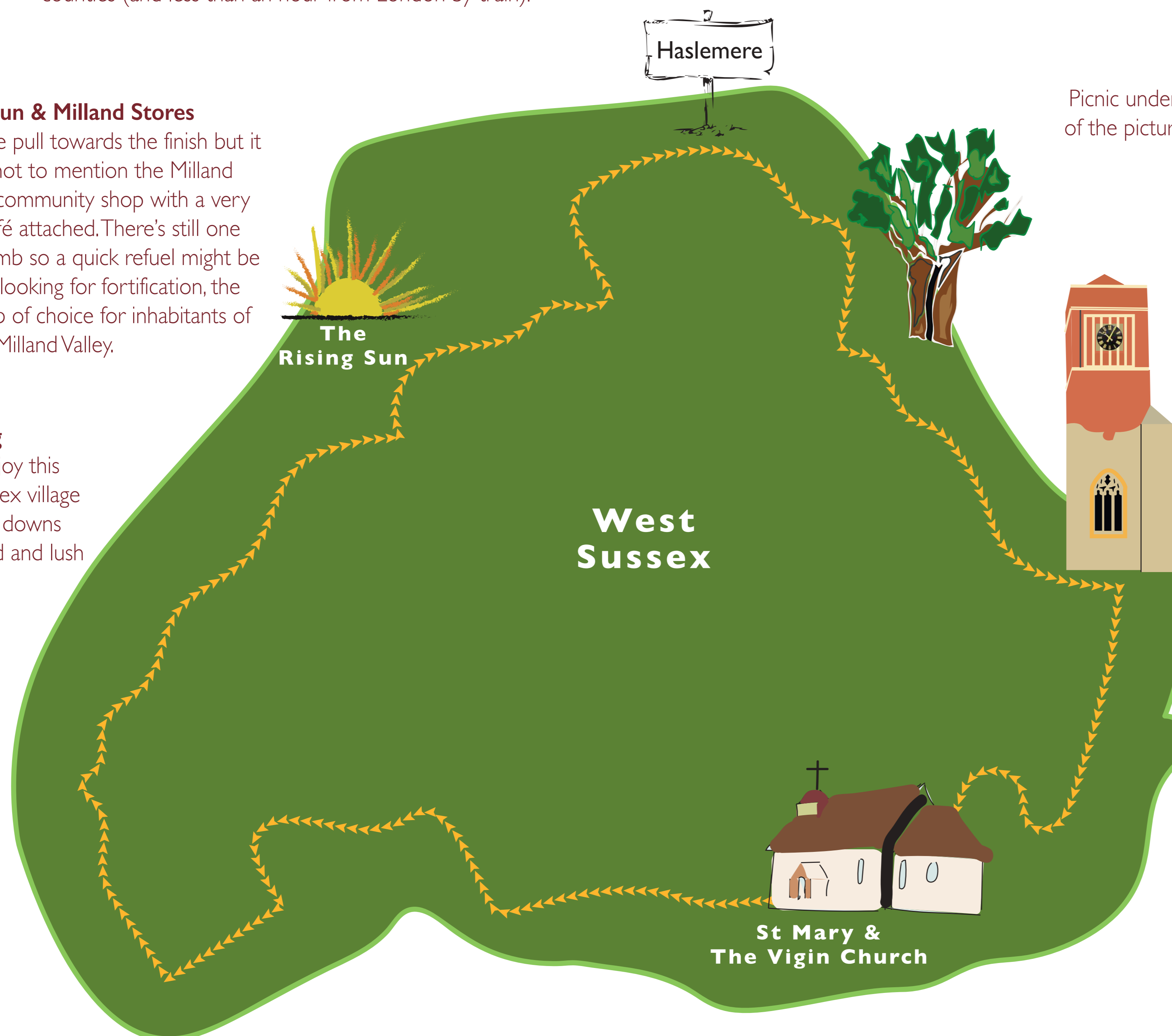
Picnic underneath large tree on the cricket ground, in the heart of the picturesque village of Lurgashall. The Noah's Ark is a good spot to fill up your water bottle.

### Petworth Town

The nearby Petworth House whose large walls you will have seen around Petworth takes its name from this historic market town. Today Petworth is a nationally recognised destination for antiques. It's always entertaining to enter a couple of the quaint shops. St Mary's Church in the town once proudly boasted a spire - originally a wood and lead structure that twisted hence the local rhyme 'Proud Petworth, Poor People, High Church, Crooked Steeple.'

### St Mary the Virgin Church

It's so easy to miss St Mary's. Most motorists do. It's worth the minor detour not just to visit this beautiful 900 year old Anglo-Saxon chapel but also to view the recently installed Memorial Plaque. It commemorates the lives of fifteen airmen from Australia, Britain and Canada who lost their lives in two aircraft crashes by Upwaltham. It is very moving and the view from the church, perched on high ground, is beautiful.



START

### HASLEMERE STATION TO LURGASHALL (0-10 km)

Starting at Haslemere train station this bike ride will show you some of the best of what West Sussex has to offer cyclists. From the station head north, following signs for Petworth (B2131). Before the bend in the road, turn right up Haste Hill and keep climbing the steep road to the crossroads where you'll take Tennyson's Lane. This will dog leg around Aldworth House, the home Alfred, Lord Tennyson built himself. Continue along this road, past Lower Roundhouse Farm till you reach Jobson's Lane, turn right. You'll pass through Dial Green where opposite the lake you'll follow Dial Green Lane, on your left, leaving the road. This will take you to Lurgashall Green where you'll find a nice tree to have a snack under outside The Noah's Ark Pub.

1

### PETWORTH & THE HUNGRY HORSE INN (10-18 km)

After your snack, head to the opposite end of the green from the pub and pick up Mill Lane, follow the lane to the T-junction with Upperton Road; at which you take a right. Follow the road for approx 5km to Tillington (you'll know you're close when you start seeing the large stone wall of Petworth Park). If you fancy it, The Horse Guards Pub is a wonderful establishment! Either after or without having enjoyed a pint at the pub, turn left along the A272, taking you into Petworth; at the roundabout turn left to take you towards the centre of the town, on Lombard Street you will find The Hungry Horse Inn where you'll be having lunch.

2

### PETWORTH TO SUTTON (18-26 km)

After a recharge and a refuelling at The Hungry Horse Head back to the road which you left to enter Lombard Street and turn left, left again will take you onto East Street, where our route continues... East street comes to a junction, you will want to turn left down Angel Street (A283) which you'll follow for a while. The 282 bends to the left and a road to Byworth (often preceded by a sign for The Black Horse Inn) comes into view, signifying the next step along this adventure. You'll follow this road past the Inn and eventually you'll reach a crossroads, the road isn't quite opposite you as you stand checking for traffic, but you want to take the road in front of you marked by twin '7.5T' signs. This lovely lane you will follow for quite some time, passing farms, crossing the River Rother, crossing over Burton Park Road, until eventually coming to the picturesque West Sussex village of Sutton.

3

### SUTTON TO WEST DEAN (26-43 km)

Keep riding and at The White Horse Inn (another corker), bare right following signs to Duncton. At the fork in the road, keep right onto Folly Lane, you will soon come into Upwaltham.

Opposite a cottage with a large flint wall, on your right look out for a blue sign next to a sharp-corner road sign and a post-box, at the corner of a large field for St Mary the Virgin church, this church is a must-visit for the view (just head up the small lane, follow the A285 & signs to Halnaker – but, you'll leave the A285, first right, towards East Dean, following that beautiful road with huge open fields flanking its incongruous black tarmac... In East Dean, another lovely pub, The Star & Garter, but onwards via Charlton Road, stay on the road through Charlton and Shingleton where Charlton Road turns into the A286.

4

### WEST DEAN TO SOUTH HARTING (43-68 km)

At West Dean you'll leave the busy A286 behind for some more scenic lanes; specifically that which bares right after 100 metres of the lane which you'll turn right onto, opposite the pub called 'The Dean'. This windy lane is a joy to ride along and after a while you'll come to a junction, turn left down the road and at the junction (after Chilgrove Business Center), keep right onto B2141 (through Chilgrove). After Chilgrove the road forks, you want to keep left towards East Marden. From East Marden, follow signs to Stoughton. You'll pass Kingley car-park to reach The Barley Mow, Walderton. Perhaps another pint, certainly a loo break). After the pub, turn right onto the B2146 towards West Marden. Keep riding, through West Marden and Compton to reach Harting. Time for a little break!

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### SOUTH HARTING TO MILLAND (68-80 km)

After a break, continue on North Lane heading, you guessed it, north. You'll pass through Nyewood and bare right onto Garbitts Lane to reach the A272 at Rogate – turn right, then immediately left onto Fyning Lane which is denoted by a large green conifer hedge next to a bus-stop. Follow the lane through Terwick Common and turn right at the T-junction to Borden. You'll come to a rather confused meeting of lanes, footpaths, turn left up the lane which immediately bends sharply round to the right and enters a rather lovely forested area; Borden Wood. You'll be cycling through the wood till you reach a crossroads, turn left up Cook's Pond Road and keep right as you ride past the pond itself. You're now in Milland and will pass a local favourite, The Rising Sun.

END

### THE STATION HOUSE

You've made it! Before taking the train or putting the bike in the car, enjoy a pint at the Station House, bang opposite the railway station. Well done. We hope you've had a great day out.

6

### MILLAND TO HASLEMERE (80-92 km)

At The Rising Sun crossroads, go straight ahead onto Fernhurst Road. Follow this road past Northend Farm to Linch where you'll see Vann Road leading off to the right, this is your route. Pass Lower Lodge Candle Factory and at the junction turn left following signs to Lynchmere. You'll reach Lynchmere and after the church on your righthand side you'll see a road turning right called Lynchmere Road, follow this road.

Nearly at the finish line now, you will soon be re-entering Haslemere having gone through the hamlet of Hammer; you will come to a roundabout with a duck pond next to it, take the first exit, bearing left passing 'The Mill' pub and climbing the hill. Follow this road and you'll quickly arrive at Haslemere Station.

