
CRANLEIGH HERITAGE TRAIL

Stroll through the centre of Cranleigh

and discover evidence of royal processions, Civil War politics, and revolutionary healthcare. Notice homes, shops, even a petrol station, that have stood for hundreds of years, witnessing change and transformation, and connecting our modern village to the stories of its past.

Small beginnings...

Rising from the fertile soil of a prehistoric lake, the farming settlement at Cranleigh was too small to be included in the Domesday Book (a survey of landholding in 1086). The Guildford-Horsham railway, which ran for 100 years from 1865, saw a rapid increase in residents. Cranleigh today embraces its self-proclaimed status of the largest village in England.

Growth and change...

Called Cranley after the cranes (wading birds) that flocked here, the railway led to an increase in mail and confusion with nearby Crawley. After an appeal by the Post Office, the village changed its name in 1867. Look out for the original spelling and examples of the long-necked crane.

Stay-a-while...

Complete your walk by enjoying Cranleigh today at one of its independent pubs or cafes. Then explore the playgrounds and meadows of Knowle Country Park or join the Downs Link Trail along the former railway line.



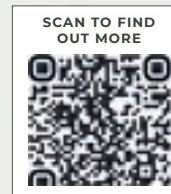
Follow this self-guided trail between 15 heritage points in the centre of Cranleigh.

Each heritage point is numbered and illustrated on the map.

Find the QR code at each location and point a mobile phone camera (or downloaded QR reader) at the code. Click on the link for more about the building or monument.

The walk begins at the Village Hospital Cottage (1), at the eastern end of the High Street, and ends in Stocklund Square (15), the site of the old railway station.

For all trail information go to:
www.destinationcranleigh.net



HOW TO FIND US

Cranleigh is close to the A281, between Guildford and Horsham.

Start Point: Village Hospital Cottage, High Street Cranleigh, GU6 8AE

Car Parks: Village Way and Stocklund Square

Bus: 53, 63, Guildford, 63 Horsham

ACCESS AND FACILITIES

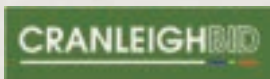
Walking Grade: Flat, easy access trail on pavements.

Distance: 1 mile.

Refreshments: There are many cafes and pubs along the route.

Toilets: There are public toilets in Village Way car park and Knowle Country Park.

Kindly sponsored by:



A family-friendly trail through the centre of Cranleigh.

Uncover hidden stories of the past on a walk along the High Street.



MAP NOT TO SCALE



12. Ivy Hall Farm (~1600)

Look above the shops and find the old farmhouse behind them.



11. The Richard Onslow

One of the village's oldest pubs. Look for evidence of WWII tank-traps outside it.



10. The Manns Building

In 1887 a small shop opened here. It grew into one of the longest-serving independent department stores, closing in 2021.



9. Oliver House (~1560)

Named after Oliver Cromwell. Did his troops stay here in 1657?



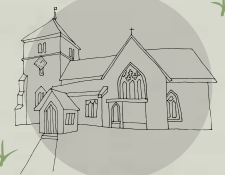
8. Kent House (~1600)

Built as one large building. Can you spot the central sunrise window?



6. St. Nicolas Church (1170)

Cranleigh's oldest building, but can you guess the age of the cedar tree in front of the tower?



4. The Obelisk (~1820)

A monument to a turnpike (toll) road. Note the distances to Windsor and Brighton.



5. The Arts Centre (1847)

The village school for 117 years. What do you think it's built from?



14. The War Memorial (1920)

Space to remember the villagers lost in the World Wars & Afghanistan.



← TO GUILDFORD

TO HORSHAM →

THE START



1. Village Hospital Cottage (1446)

Opened in 1859 as the first cottage hospital in England. Where do you think the many amputations took place?



2. The Three Horseshoes

The pub's name harks back to a time when the horse was the principal mode of transport.



3. Little Manor Service Station (~1450)

At nearly 600 years old, could this be the UK's oldest garage shop?



15. Stocklund Square

Once the site of Cranleigh train station (1865 to 1965), you can still walk along the old railway line (now the Downs Link).

13. The Fountain (1889)

Spot the long-necked crane and its willow basket.



7. The Village Hall (1933)

Built by the community. What is hidden beneath the metal sculpture outside the Hall?

SAINSBURY'S CAR PARK

DOWNS LINK < BRAMLEY <

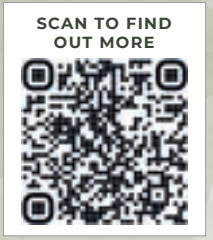
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KNOWLE PARK CAR PARK



TOILETS

SNOXHALL FIELDS CAR PARK TOILETS



Date of construction, where known, is included in brackets.