

Upham Inns
IDYLLIC PUBS WITH ROOMS

THE
THOMAS
LORD



The Thomas Lord

Our cosy pub in the 'chocolate box' Hampshire village of West Meon has a longstanding reputation for great food and ales. Named after The Thomas Lord who was a resident when he retired to the village in 1830 following his legendary cricketing career.



Vinnells Lane

A farmland stroll above the village.

Allow 1½ hours. Mild ascents and descents; may be muddy in places after rain, especially across newly ploughed fields.



Vinnells Lane



West Meon



Woolbury Ring

West Meon, Near Petersfield
Hampshire, GU32 1LN

thethomaslord.co.uk

CONTACT US
01730 829244



1 From the front of the Thomas Lord, turn left. 2 Shortly, turn left into Doctors Lane, signposted, appropriately enough, to the Surgery. 3 Continue to the end of the road and go through the gate to the right of the driveway to The Cedars and Glebe Cottage, signposted "Footpath walkers only". 4 Walk past the houses onto the path beyond. 5 At a path junction, turn right and follow the enclosed path as it curves left around some allotments to a kissing gate. 6 Cross a field to a gate onto the old railway. 7 Climb the steps and bear left into a field. 8 Head half-left across the field, aiming for the left-hand end of a distant hedge-line. 9 In the far corner of the field, turn half-right and cross another field, descending as Garretts Farm comes into view. 10 Zig-zag down the bank and turn left up Vinnells Lane. 11 Beyond a covered reservoir (left) at the top of the hill, the lane begins to descend, then swings left to cross the old railway. 12 Follow the road left, ignoring a track on the right. 13 The lane bends right and climbs to the A32. 14 Cross with care into the signposted byway opposite.

15 When the byway emerges onto another lane, turn left then immediately right, past the sign for Highfield House. 16 At the end of the driveway of Highfield House, carry straight on along the track ahead. 17 The track bends left, with fields to the left, then continues as between hedges with fields on both sides. 18 The track winds right, left, then right again by a small copse; at the end of the trees leave the track via a gap in the hedge on the left. 19 Follow the path ahead across the field to the end of a hedge and follow it down the valley back towards West Meon. 20 By the houses at the bottom, pass a gate and continue out to the road. 21 Turn left past Long Priors (left), Floud Lane (right) and Knapps Hard (left) to the church and school. 22 Just before the monument set within a small green in the middle of the village, turn left past the cottage called The Cross. 23 Cross the A32 with care and walk down the High Street opposite, back to the Thomas Lord.

What to Bring for Your Walk?

We recommend wearing comfortable walking shoes or lightweight waterproof boots, especially if the ground is damp. Dress in weather-appropriate layers, opting for breathable clothing in warmer months and a light waterproof jacket if rain is expected.

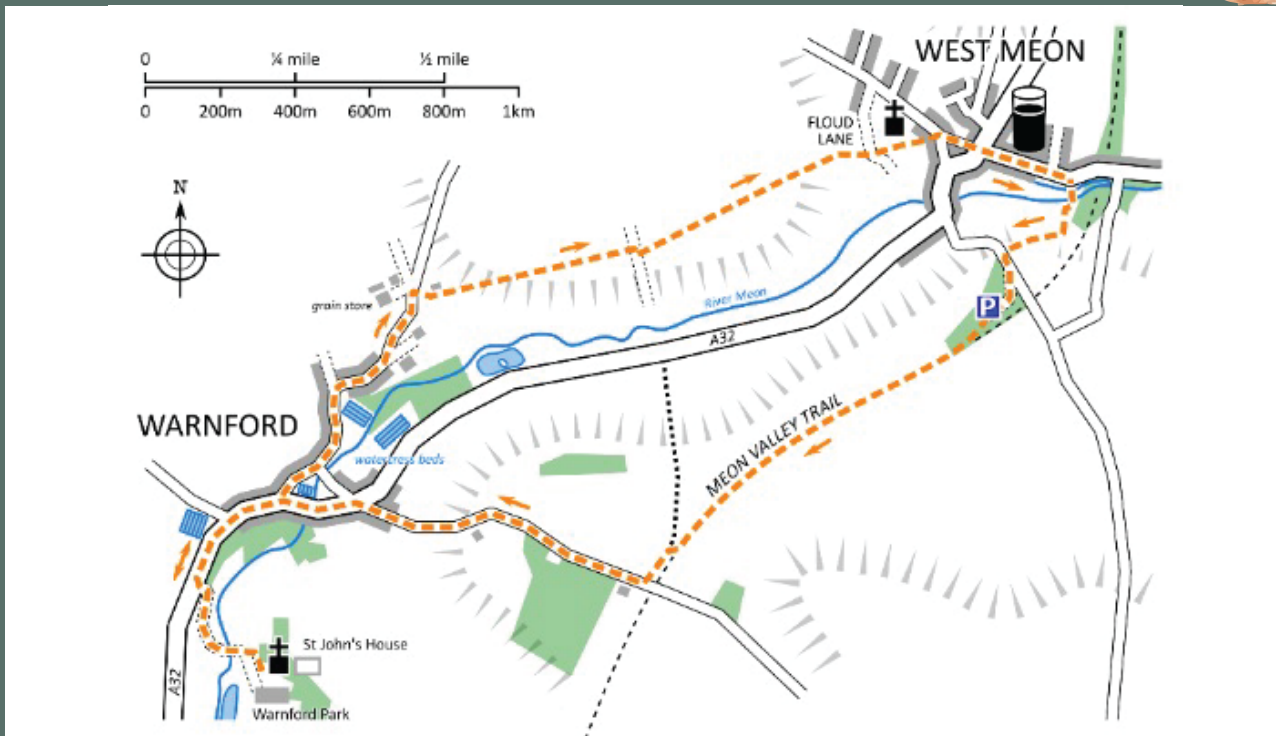
Enjoy a Packed Lunch from Our Pub!

To make the most of your walk, why not take a delicious packed lunch prepared by our pub? We offer a selection of fresh sandwiches, snacks, and drinks to keep you fuelled on your journey. Simply place your order in advance, and we'll have it ready for you before you set off!

Warnford & the Meon Valley Trail

Follow a rail trail to a pretty village with watercress beds, a historic church and a ruined medieval manor.

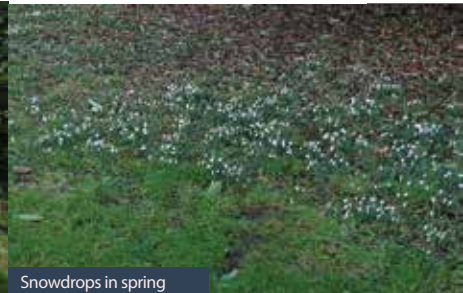
Allow 2½ hours. Some road walking, especially on the optional extension to Warnford church. Three stiles.



Sir Thomas Neale Memorial



Church ruins



Snowdrops in spring

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1 From the front of the Thomas Lord, turn left. 2 Pass the end of Doctors Lane (left) then, after 60m or so, turn right over a footbridge just before a bench. 3 Follow the path beyond over another footbridge over the main stream of the River Meon. 4 Follow the path through the trees, keeping right at a fork, and then along a section between sunken walls. 5 When you reach Station Road, turn left then immediately right. Follow the service road past the Meon Valley Trail sign and below the height barrier. 6 Walk past the first parking area to the second, and beyond it, join the Meon Valley Trail. 7 Follow the trail for just under a mile. 8 Just before you reach an overbridge, take a path on the right signposted to Warnford village. 9 Bear left, then left again when you meet another path, out to the road. 10 Turn right and follow the road downhill for half a mile to the A32 in Warnford. 11 Cross with care. 12 To continue the walk without the optional there-and-back detour to Warnford Church and the ruins of St John's House, follow the lane opposite, crossing the River Meon to a T-junction, where you turn right and jump to step 22. To visit the church and manor house, follow the pavement past the George and Falcon (closed at time of writing) and then past a watercress bed by the junction with Lippen Lane.

13 Continue along the main road to the end of Wheely Down Road and past another watercress bed on the right. 14 Continue with care along the A32, which on this stretch has no pavement. 15 After 200m, cross into the entrance to Warnford Park. 16 Go through the footpath gate to the right of the main gate and follow the entrance drive as it curves right and left, crossing the River Meon. 17 Take the left-hand fork, signposted to the church. 18 Having visited the church, and the ruins of St John's House behind it, return via the drive to the A32. 19 Turn right and retrace your steps past the first watercress bed and the end of Wheely Down Road. 20 Turn left into Lippen Lane, left of the second watercress bed. 21 Pass the village hall and carry straight on at the road junction above a bridge over the Meon. 22 Follow the road out of the village, passing a thatched brick house called Longhatch and a farmyard on the right. 23 Lippen Lane becomes a sunken lane as it climbs out of the valley. Just before a grain store and house on the left, climb steps on the right to a stile. 24 Follow the fieldside track beyond along a fence, with views over the Meon valley.

25 At the end of the first field, take a few steps to the right along a farm track, then turn left over another stile onto the continuation of the public footpath. 26 The path continues along the valley side, now following a hedge, and then descends to the outskirts of West Meon. 27 At the bottom of Floud Lane, take the footpath ahead, between a house on the left and Court Farm Barns on the right. 28 The narrow path winds between walls and fences to a stile into the churchyard. 29 Cross to a Y-shaped junction of paths in the middle of the churchyard and follow the path beyond to a pair of gateposts at the end of an alleyway. 30 Follow the alley out to the monument in the middle of the village. 31 Cross the road and pass in front of the cottage called The Cross. 32 Cross the A32 with care and walk down the High Street opposite, back to the Thomas Lord.

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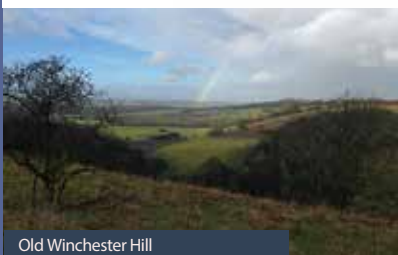
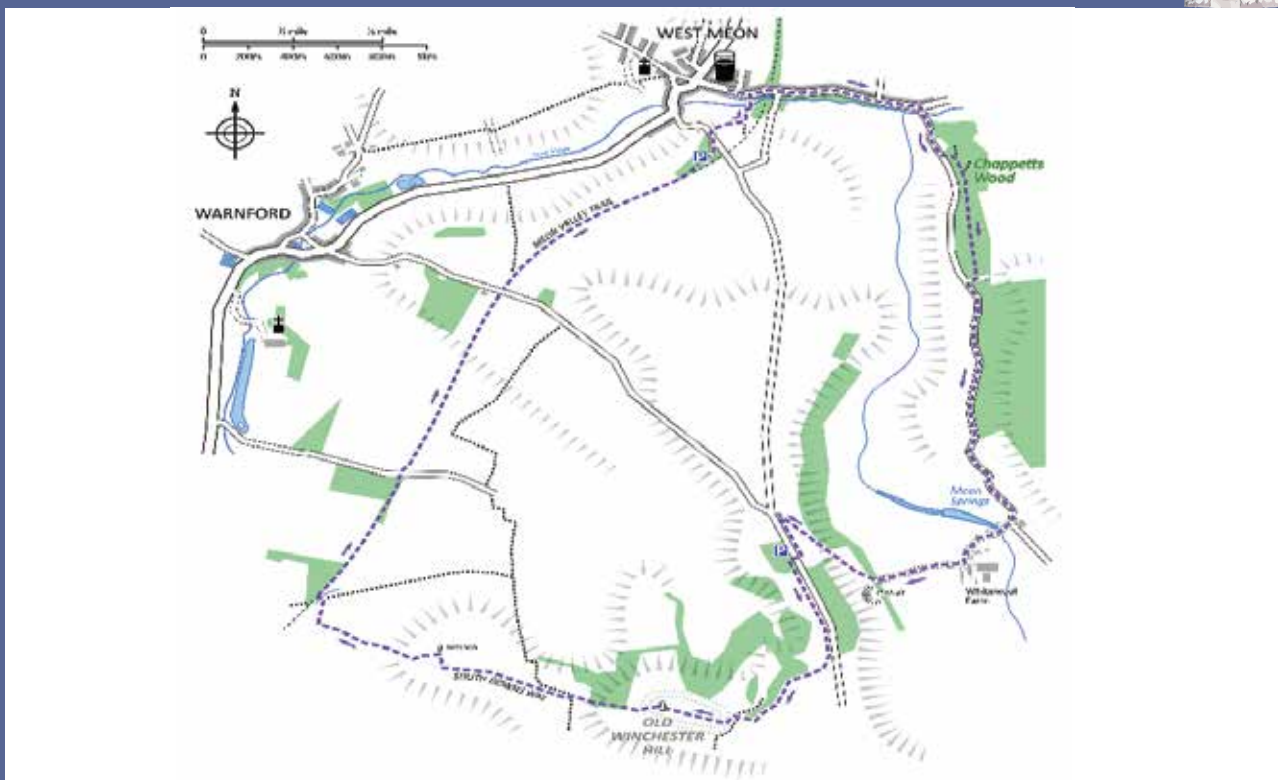
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Old Winchester Hill

A varied downland walk through a wooded nature reserve to a hillfort with magnificent views.

Allow 3–4 hours. Several significant climbs and descents and some road walking. May be muddy in places.



Old Winchester Hill



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1 From the front of the Thomas Lord, cross the road and turn left. 2 Walk past the end of Doctor's Lane (left) and Lynch Lane (right), and between them the line of the former railway that once crossed the Meon valley on a four-arched wrought-iron viaduct here. 3 Cross and continue along the opposite pavement past the end of Vinnells Lane (left). 4 Continue along the road, now minus its pavements, for another 200m, then at a triangular junction after the delimit signs turn right into Coombe Lane (signposted 'Meon Springs Fly Fishery'). 5 Cross the Meon and follow the lane uphill between houses. 6 Shortly after the last house on the left (Chappetts Cottage), turn left into Chappetts Cope nature reserve. 7 Shortly, at a path junction, turn right. 8 Continue parallel to the road for a little under half a mile within the reserve, ignoring any turnings to left or right. 9 When a gate leads to a perpendicular track, turn right, out to the road. 10 Turn left and follow Coombes Lane, ignoring turnings into the forestry on your left. 11 The road climbs alongside the woodland, then starts to descend beyond it. 12 After a little under a mile, turn right into the Meon Springs fishery, following the track signposted 'Long Barn'. You are now following the South Downs Way.

13 Cross the stream below the main fishing lake and pass Whitewool Lodge on the right. 14 Continue along the drive, passing right of a farmhouse. 15 Turn right at the end of the second barn, aiming towards a chalk pit on the other side of the valley. 16 Pass through a belt of trees near the chalk pit and bear right through a gate onto a track that heads diagonally up the valley side between gappy hedges. 17 Cross the last field to a gate by the road. 18 Turn left along a path that runs parallel to the road. 19 The path rejoins the road just beyond the car park for Old Winchester Hill. 20 Cross and pass through a gap in the hedge opposite onto the path leading from the car park. 21 Turn left and follow the path parallel to the road. 22 By the disabled car park, the track starts to bear right, away from the road. 23 Follow the track between scrubby woodland and then above a yew wood. 24 As you approach the hillfort, go through a gate and past a bench, bearing left below the rampart. 25 Turn right through a gap in the bank into the interior of the hillfort. 26 Follow the central path past some barrows to the trig point and topograph. 27 Continue to the far end of the fort and follow the descending path beyond, which leads along a fence to a kissing gate into woodland. 28 Walk down through the trees and then along a fenced path between fields. 29 At a path junction where the South Downs Way and Monarch Way diverge, stay on the South Downs Way, to the left of the hedge.

30 The Way runs down the side of the field and then along an enclosed path, before bearing right to an air-crash memorial. 31 Continue along the South Downs Way as it winds downhill between fields, then bears right. 32 When you meet another path near a stream, turn left over a footbridge, then zig-zag left and right up to the Meon Valley Trail, which you will follow for most of the return to West Meon. 33 Turn right along the former railway. 34 After half a mile, the path briefly leaves the former railway, descending left to avoid a missing bridge, but beyond the road it immediately rejoins the old trackway. 35 A mile further on, pass under an overbridge carrying Hayden Lane; shortly afterwards, ignore the footpath signposted to Warnford village on the left. 36 After a further half mile or so you reach the car park above West Meon. 37 Follow the service road through the car parks and left down to Station Road. 38 Take a couple of steps left, then turn right onto a sunken walled footpath. 39 Walk down through woodland, keeping left at a path junction below the railway embankment, and cross a couple of footbridges over arms of the River Meon. 40 Turn left along the road, passing the end of Doctors Lane on your right, to return to the Thomas Lord.

What to Bring?

Wear comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate layers. A light waterproof jacket is handy if rain is expected.

Grab a Packed Lunch!

Order a fresh packed lunch from our pub—sandwiches, snacks, and drinks—to enjoy on your walk.