# INSPIRING

#### Denbies. North Downs Way and Dorking

1.5 miles scenic walk around a popular area on the North Downs Way

Short flat wheel chair and push chair accessible walk around Denbies.

This is an easy flat walk around the vineyard is suitable for families.

## **Exploring Denbies**, **North Downs Way** and Dorking

#### **30 MINUTE WALK FROM DENBIES ESTATE**

#### NORTH DOWNS WAY

NATIONAL TRAIL

Co-financed by the European Union European and Regional **Development Fund.** 



EUROPEAN UNION

#### Route

From the car park, facing the Denbies building, go left towards the Farm shop.

Turn right up the cement road and almost immediately left up the bank following the Leith Hill Greenway sign. The path then turns right to run parallel to the cement road with lovely views over the vineyard.

At the next wide junction turn left, still following the Leith Hill Greenway. (This is a mostly traffic free, fully accessible multi user route from Dorking to Leith Hill. Greenways are a network of largely off -road routes connecting people to facilities and open spaces in and around towns, cities and countryside across the UK.) Follow this wide open track to the brow of the hill, through the vineyard. (if you would like to see the sculptured bench up on the hillside, then continue on up the wide Leith Hill Greenway and you will spot 'Radius' on your right up on the hillside, just below the tree line. Double back to continue instructions from No.4.)

At the next Greenway marker post, where the track turns right at a junction, turn almost back on yourself and take a smaller footpath running almost parallel to your original path at a slight angle. Across to your left you can enjoy stunning views over to Box Hill, one of the most visited viewpoints in the country. There is an attractive wooden platform under an oak tree on your right, which is wheelchair accessible, where you can stop to enjoy the view (unless it is being used for a wedding).

Continue on this footpath until you reach the junction with a cement road. Turn right and head back down the hill towards the Denbies building and car park where you started your walk.

**Local Facts** 

Denbies Wine Estate near Dorking, is one of the largest vineyards in England, with over 265 acres under vines. Its visitor centre now attracts over 300,000 visitors annually.

Records show the farm, prior to 1734, was owned by John Denby - hence the name 'Denbies'. The estate then passed through several owners. During WW2 it became a commercial farm, with the mansion being demolished in 1953.

One famous owner was Thomas Cubitt, who bought Denbies In 1849. He was a master builder who worked on Queen Victoria's Osborne House on the Isle of Wight, and Buckingham Palace. He made his fortune building many of the Victorian mansions in London. His great-great-great granddaughter is Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall.

The now much smaller 635 acre farm was bought in 1984 by Sir Adrian White CBE DL – founder of British engineering company Biwater. He spotted its potential as a vineyard. It is now one of the biggest employers in the area and is an important tourist attraction for Surrey.

Denbies Hillside enjoys views over to Box Hill - named after the ancient box woodland that thrives on the chalky west facing slopes. It is also gives a good vista over the pretty market town of Dorking, with its attractive St Martin's church spire.

This walk follows public footpaths and bridleways which cross private and public land. Please respect people's privacy, keep dogs under control and remember the Countryside Code.

To find out more, download a GPX map or accessible format leaflet click here or scan this QR code.

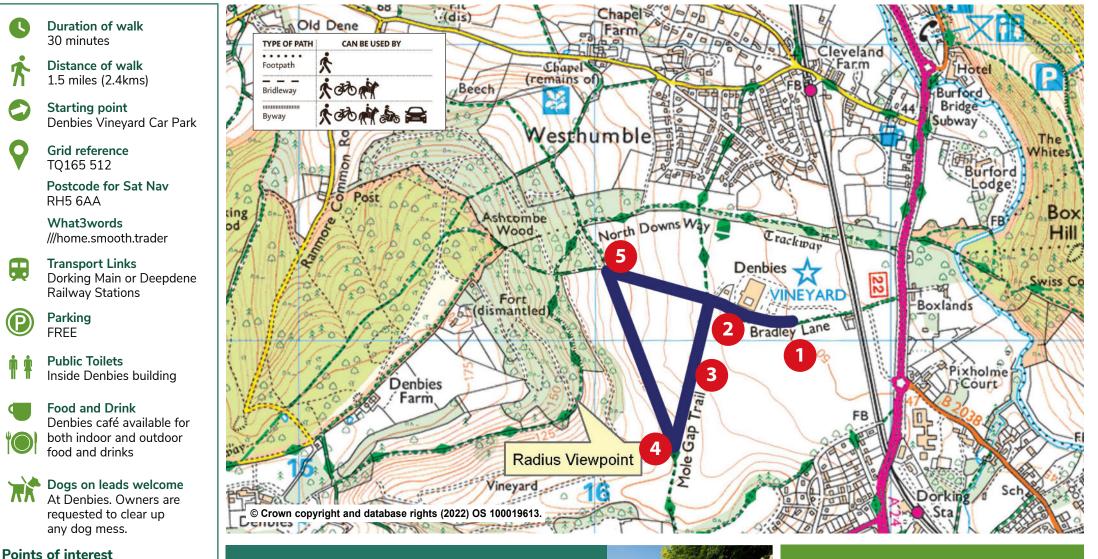


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#### **VISIT RADIUS, a new Inspiring View**

At Denbies pop upstairs (via lift) to

see the latest art exhibition, take a wine tour or enjoy shopping in the

Visit the Farm shop or Surrey Hills Brewery also based at Denbies.

Gift shop.

At Denbies Vineyard Estate. Made from locally sourced Oak by artist James Tunnard this sculptural seat reflects the shapes of the surrounding hills and valleys.



Accessible format leaflet in large print available for download <u>click here</u>