

## Day Walks on the South Downs By Deirdre Huston - Vertebrate Publishing

*Book review by Harvey Tordoff*

This is a new edition, the first having sold out – two printings - and the opportunity was taken to update the walks and mapping and add more photos. There is a lot of competition for walking books, so that's a recommendation in itself!

It looks good, and it feels good. Quality paper, lots of sharp photos, maps and text. Small enough to fit in your pocket but big enough to fit a lot of information on a page without it feeling cramped. However, the proof of the pudding . . .

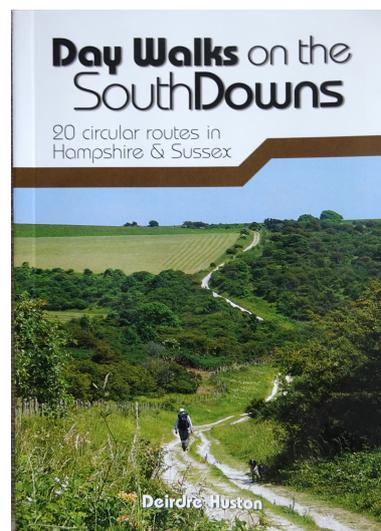
I have used several guide books over the years and I remember on some occasions having difficulty finding the car park, or even deciding which pedestrian exit to use from the car park; and then spotting landmarks that might have been obvious to some but not to me. But the more you walk with this book as a guide and the more confident you become that you can trust Deirdre Huston.

The South Downs is our newest National Park, but the Downs of course are ancient. They are naturally beautiful in their own right and there are many instances of human occupation, ancient and modern, that warrant closer inspection. Deirdre knows where they are.



*Ebernoe Common: Walk 7*

The walks are all fairly long, many of them with hill climbs, so not for a casual Sunday afternoon amble, but if you are reasonably fit and don't just want to tick off another achievement, this book is perfect.



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Could I have asked for more? At the risk of being picky, the coloured panels on which the summary details are printed render the text harder to read. The general descriptions could have been longer, because so many features are left out, but then it would be a different book and wouldn't fit in your pocket. And the pages of instructions are not especially entertaining but they do tell you what you need to know.

Bottom line: this is an excellent book and I have no hesitation in recommending it.

Harvey Tordoff  
Midhurst  
February 2020



*Harting Downs: Walk 3*



*Cheriton: Walk 1*