

The Strange Partners programme has been initiated by Pallant House Gallery and is a partnership between the Sussex Downs Conservation Board, the National Trust at Petworth House, Pallant House Gallery, West Sussex County Council, Chichester District Council, Leconfield Estate, West Dean Estate and Cowdray Estate. The projects have been financially supported by Southern and South East Arts Regional Lottery Programme.



THE EDWARD JAMES FOUNDATION



Guided Walks for the Chalk Stones Trail

For information or booking form please send sae to Chalk Stones, Footprints of Sussex, Pear Tree Cottage, Jarvis Lane, Steyning, West Sussex BN44 3GL. Email FOOTPRINTSWALKS@tinyworld.co.uk.



Chalk Stones

This trail can be reached by bus from Chichester or Midhurst. There is a good south coast train service to Chichester which can be linked to the regular no. 60 Stagecoach bus service (half hourly throughout the day Mondays to Saturdays, hourly in the evening and on Sundays and Bank Holidays – see timetable below). The relevant bus stops are Cocking Hill and West Dean Gardens for the start and finish of the Trail respectively. There is parking in West Dean Gardens car park. The timings given below are minutes past the hour:

<p>Chichester Bus station Mon-Sat 12 and 42 to 15.42 then 17 and 47 to 18.17 then hourly 19.29 to 22.29 Sun/Bank hols hourly 10.59 to 22.59</p>	<p>West Dean Selsey Arms* Mon-Sat 01 and 31 to 16.01 then 36 and 06 to 18.36 then hourly 19.43 to 22.43 Sun/Bank hols hourly 8.13 to 23.13</p>	<p>Cocking Post Office* Mon-Sat 10 and 40 to 16.10 then 45 and 15 to 18.45 then hourly 19.52 to 22.52 Sun/Bank hols hourly 8.22 to 23.22</p>
<p>Midhurst Mon-Sat 02 and 32 to 14.02 then 37 and 07 until 17.37 then 18.02, 18.32 then hourly 19.05 to 23.05 Sun/Bank hols hourly 8.35 to 23.35</p>	<p>Cocking Post Office* Mon-Sat 13 and 43 to 14.13 then 48 and 18 to 17.48 then 18.13, 18.43 then hourly 19.13 to 23.13 Sun/Bank hols hourly 8.43 to 23.43</p>	<p>West Dean Selsey Arms* Mon-Sat 22 and 52 to 14.22 then 57 and 27 to 17.57 then 18.22, 18.52 then hourly 19.22 to 23.22 Sun/Bank hols hourly 8.52 to 23.52</p>

* As per Stagecoach bus no. 60 timetable. If coming from Chichester, Cocking Hill is the stop before Cocking village, West Dean Gardens is the stop after the Selsey Arms. This timetable is valid at time of printing. Check timetable before leaving.



Travel information

Stagecoach – for bus times tel: 0845 121 0170
 Traveline - for bus and train enquiries tel: 0870 608 2608
 National Rail enquiries tel: 0845 7 48 49 50

The Chalk Stones Trail follows the Public Rights of Way network. The diagram below shows you what the different coloured waymarking arrows for Rights of Way mean. Please keep to the Rights of Way and remember to follow the Country Code. Enjoy your walk!

- Sturdy footwear is recommended
- Please keep dogs under control
- Be considerate of local farmers and their stock
- Do not damage wildlife, plants or trees
- Take your litter home
- Do not stray onto private property

Information

Footpath

Bridleway

Byway

SUSSEX DOWNS CONSERVATION BOARD



Chalk Stones

Andy Goldsworthy

A five mile (8 km), two to three hour walk through the heart of the South Downs, following a trail of 13 Chalk Stone sculptures by the artist, Andy Goldsworthy.

Photography - Peter Greenhalf © Countryside Agency 2002



Who is Andy Goldsworthy?



Andy Goldsworthy is an internationally famous British artist who creates sculptures made from natural materials. As an environmental artist, Andy works with the

materials to hand in the chosen locations for his sculptures.

In this case he has chosen to work with the chalk from the South Downs, a material which originates from the skeletal remains of marine creatures deposited between 70 and 100 million years ago in the warm sea which covered most of Southern England at that time.

"Chalk is a huge mass of material in the Downs and yet is largely hidden. Where it does make an appearanceit looks strange and unreal, as if it didn't belong."

Andy Goldsworthy

What are the Chalk Stones?

They are one of a number of art projects in West Sussex for 2002 which have been developed by Strange Partners (see back of leaflet). Following on from his Midsummer Snowballs project in London for the Millennium, Andy Goldsworthy has made a series of chalk stones (approximately 6-7ft in diameter) with chalk taken from a local downland quarry, and placed them in chosen locations along a self-guided trail on the South Downs.

The sculpted chalk stones set in the heart of the countryside present questions about the role of built artefacts in what may seem like a natural environment, but is in fact a highly managed product.

Walk the trail and find the Chalk Stones

The route



Walking the trail

1. From the bus stop at Cocking Hill follow the South Downs Way west beside the car park and past the new organic farm. Continue up the hill and take the second turn left down a bridleway (bw) track which shortly leads into Venus Wood. Carry straight on passing a bw to your left. *From the South Downs Way there are splendid views across the Weald with Blackdown Hill in the distance. Much of the land which you can see from here is owned by the Cowdray Estate, one of the largest Estates in West Sussex. The land alongside this part of the trail is sustainably managed with organic dairy farming and woodland certified under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme.*
2. At the next junction, follow the fenceline curving to your right. When the track splits again, take the left fork, leaving the fenceline behind. You are immediately faced with a further three tracks, take the middle one straight ahead. At the crossroads with a wide dirt/stone track cross the track and follow the bw down the hill. Continue along the track and then up a steep incline. At the next three junctions continue round to your right, following the blue bw signs. *At the top of the incline, on your right, hidden in the woodland behind the yew tree, is the remains of an old, isolated smallholding, which fell into disuse about fifty years ago. The surrounding woodland "Newfarm Plantation" is named after this farm.*
3. You will come to a wide junction of four tracks, take the bw immediately to your left and continue along a wide track with tall fir trees on either side. *Look out for the remains of an bronze age barrow to your right. Over the centuries human activity has shaped the landscape as we know it today. Some of the earliest settlements were on the chalk downland which has many important archaeological sites. From this point on, the Trail is runs through land owned by the West Dean Estate, part of the Edward James Foundation. Woodland either side of the trail at this point is managed in a sustainable way with larch and beech replanted after the 1987 storm. Thinnings from the Estate woodland provide the fuel to heat West Dean College.*
4. Continue straight on at the next bw junction and down a wide, grassy/stone track until you get to West Dean Woods Nature Reserve. The bw then leaves the woodland and passes through an avenue of trees with views across open farmland to your right. *West Dean Woods are managed by the Sussex Wildlife Trust, with the hazel coppice being cut every eight years.*
5. At the lane, go through the bw gate and turn left. Follow the lane for a short distance and take the next footpath to your right. Go up the hill, over the stile at the top, and down to meet the lane again on the other side. Turn right and continue along the lane. *The trees planted on either side of the long, straight avenue were planted at the request of Edward James in order to provide continuous woodland cover from his home, Monkton House, to West Dean.*
6. After passing the cottage, turn left at the footpath sign and follow the chalky track up and over the hill. Partway down the other side of the hill the path forks, take the left fork straight ahead along a grassy track. Cross over the stile and continue down to the railway arch and the A286. *This ornate brick and flint arch is part of the remains of the old Chichester to Midhurst railway. It is known locally as the King's Bridge, as King Edward VII, who was a frequent visitor to West Dean used to like walking this path out into the South Downs.*
7. Turn left and continue along the pavement to the bus stop. Buses stopping at this point will take you back to the starting point of the trail at Cocking Hill, or on to Midhurst. If returning by bus in the Chichester direction, cross the road to the other bus stop. *While you are waiting for the bus, you may wish to visit West Dean Gardens (entrance fee payable), where there is a further Chalk Stone sculpture in the park, or their shop/restaurant, both are open 1st March to 31st October (for further details tel. 01243 818210). If so, cross the road, go through the gate marked "West Dean Gardens", and follow the signs.*