

The Pilgrims' Way

To Canterbury from Winchester and London

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Author: **Leigh Hatts**

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Guidebook to the Pilgrims' Way, an ancient pilgrimage route across England from Winchester in Hampshire to Canterbury in Kent. The 138-mile walk, which is divided into stages of about 10 miles, takes in monuments, sites and churches of interest, including those significant to the martyred St Thomas Becket and other historical figures.

The pilgrimage which began as early as 1172, stemmed from the fatal stabbing of the Archbishop Becket in the Canterbury Cathedral in 1170. Pilgrims have walked the path ever since, with interest extending into the realm of literature and theatre.

A full description of the route is accompanied by 1:50,000 OS mapping, together with information on historical figures and points of interest along the way. A variation to the route – starting in Southwark, London – is also described, as is a diversion to Rochester Cathedral. Practical information is also included such as when to walk, where to stay, waymarking to look out for and refreshments en route.

Key marketing points

with alternative route from Southwark Cathedral, and an optional variation to Rochester Cathedral pilgrim route enjoying renewed popularity
suggested accommodation options 1:50,000 OS mapping

About the author

Leigh Hatts has lived in both Hampshire and Southwark where the two historic Canterbury routes begin. He first became familiar with sections of the ancient Pilgrims' Way in the Home Counties, and the Darent Valley on the London route, whilst responsible for the London Transport Country Walks book series. His Thames Walk Feasibility Study led to the 180-mile Thames Path national trail. He is author of London's 100 Best Churches and Cicerone's Thames Path and Lea Valley Walk guides. He worked as a reporter with the walkers magazine TGO and as arts correspondent of the Catholic Herald.

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