



*Much of the North Downs Way follows the legendary Pilgrims Way, an historic route used by pilgrims travelling to holy shrines. Originally they would have travelled from Canterbury to Winchester to pray for St Swithun who was buried at the cathedral, but this route was then used in reverse as pilgrims journeyed from Winchester to Canterbury Cathedral to pray at the shrine of Thomas Becket. From Canterbury, the North Downs Way traces a large part of the route taken by pilgrims travelling along the *via Francigena* to Rome.*





*An Oast House is a freestanding kiln for drying hops. Ale has been brewed in England since Roman times if not earlier, and for more than a millennium after every house would have brewed its own ale as a matter of course.*