



Self-Guided Walks

Balcombe and Balcombe Lake circular walk

Welcome to the High Weald National Landscape, an unspoilt medieval landscape. The name Balcombe may mean "Mining Place Camp". Bal is a Cornish word meaning a mining place, and the same word may have existed in Ancient British Celtic. Although Combe can mean a valley, it can also come from the Roman for camp. So possibly from its name Balcombe could have once been a Romano-British mining settlement.

Distance and duration	A 4½ mile walk, taking about 2½ hours to complete
Level of ability expected	Moderate
Start point & post code	Balcombe railway station, RH17 6JF. Parking is also available at St Mary's Church
OS grid refrence What3Words location	TQ306302 https://what3words.com/limes.microfilm.fountain
Additional information	Roadside parking Click here to download a GPX file of the route

I-Spy Something to look out for on your walk



Two

We are grateful to Anne Woodroffe of Mid Sussex Ramblers for permission to use this walk.

This walk is accessible by public transport and as such starts from Balcombe railway station. Parking is also available near St Mary's church, ½ mile from the station, there is a lay-by before and after the church on the main road. You can, if you wish, start the walk from here.

For interest, on the road outside the station there is wooden carving for walks available as part of 'About the place'. You may scan the QR code on the carving to access the information. Across the road the red telephone box is an information box for walkers. The walk described here is not one from this selection.

Either from the Church lay-by or the railway station walk towards the centre of Balcombe and the Half Moon pub.

Walk past the pub and the village shop next door.

Follow the lane around the corner towards the fields and take the path through the hedge leading down across the field to the left.

Follow the path passing the fallen tree and into the copse. This path brings you alongside Balcombe Lake.

Follow the path as it again follows the edge of the field and down to the road and the other edge of Balcombe Lake.

Enjoy the views across the lake and then retrace your steps and take the gate into the field on the other side of the road.

Follow the path across the field and over the planks across a small stream. Leave the field over a stile.

Turn left onto the road and follow the road initially to look at the view of the end of Ardingly Reservoir by the Mill House & cottages.

Did you see the dinosaur?

Turn back and take the path leading up the steps to a millstone and seat.

Follow this path to the top up across the field with a new 2022 Jubilee Plantation on the right.

On reaching the main Balcombe Road cross over and follow the roadside path to the left.

Take the first turning on the right and walk through the houses along Oldland Avenue.

Turn right into the road called Jobes and take the footpath down the side of the bungalows which leads to the recreation ground and out the other side.

Walk past the village Hall and turn left passing Jo & Co café.

Cross the main road again and take the lane opposite, Rocks Lane.

Follow the lane under bridge and down hill on the right you will come to a small paddock and stable, take the path through here and up to the top of the hill passing through two fields.

When you meet the lane there is a hut with a couple of boats.



The High Weald - An outstandingly beautiful medieval landscape

Three

Turn right and follow the lane to the right as it leads back down providing views across to the Balcombe viaduct.

Cross the bridge over the railway line and shortly take a path to the left up through a copse.

At the top there is a scout hut to the left.

On the main road either, cross the road to return to the church lay-by or turn right along the road towards Balcombe to return to the station.

Balcombe offers a community run pub, The Half Moon or the Jo & Co café for refreshments. There is also the village shop for an ice cream etc.



At all times please follow the Countryside Code

Respect everyone

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

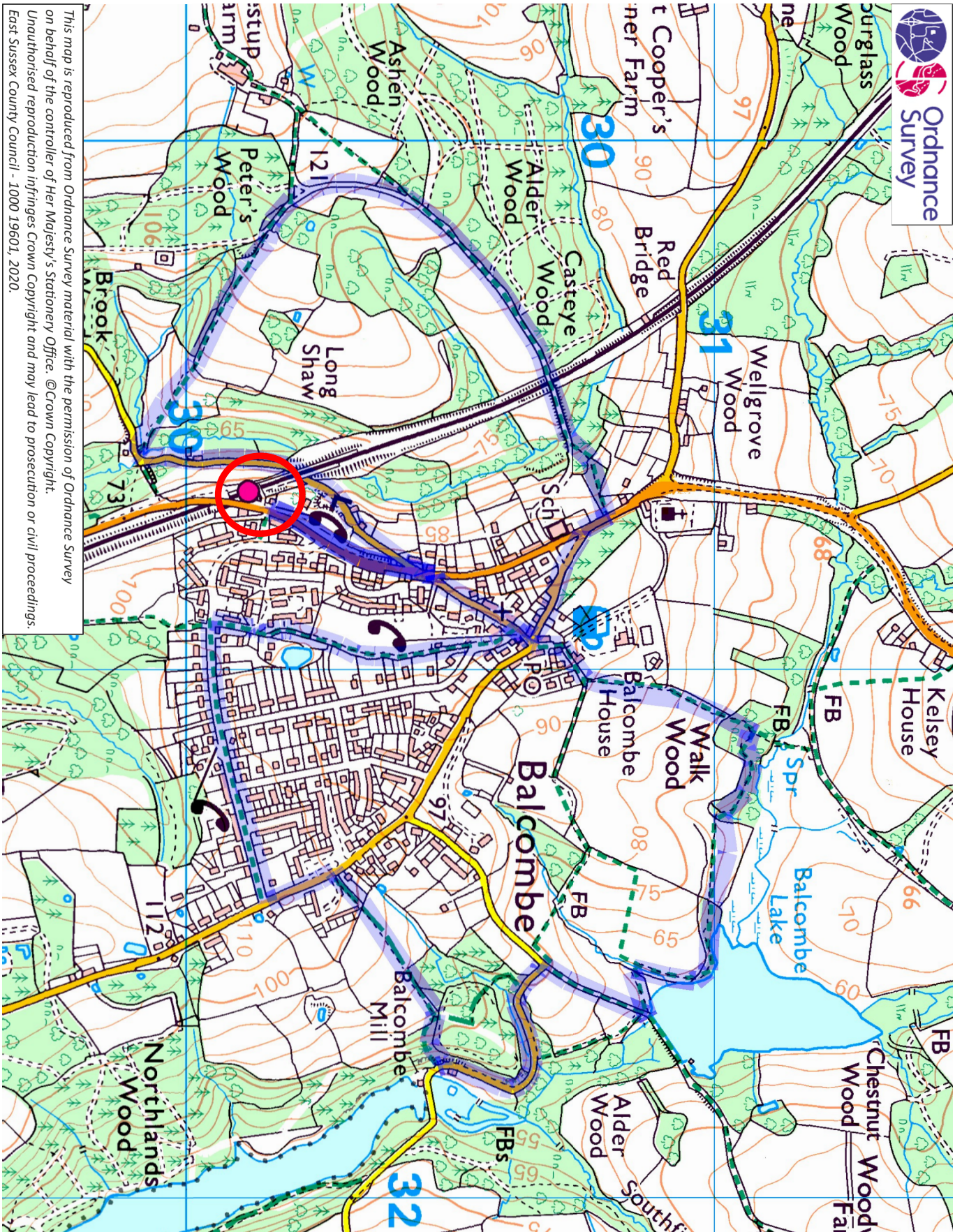
Protect the environment

- take your litter home – leave no trace of your visit
- do not light fires and only have barbeques where signs say you can
- always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo – bag it and bin it – any public waste bin will do
- care for nature – do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- check your route and local conditions
- plan your adventure – know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory





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