

Welcome to the High Weald National Landscape, an unspoilt medieval landscape. This is a glorious walk across typical Kent High Weald rolling countryside. It starts at Rolvenden Church and climbs north across Hole Park to Beacon Hill and then south to Dingleden Farm and across fields and orchards back to Rolvenden. The walk has no severe inclines and is guaranteed to please. If the walk is taken in Spring wildflowers abound throughout the walk.

Distance and duration	A 5½ mile walk, taking about 3 hours to complete
Level of ability expected	Leisurely to moderate
Start point & post code	The Bull Inn, Rolvenden. TN17 4PB
OS grid reference What3Words location	TQ843315 https://what3words.com/restores.crash.cycle
Additional information	Parking is on the roadside, please do not obstruct residents. Click here to download a GPX file of the route

I-Spy Something to look out for on your walk



An ancient Walnut tree

Two

This walk was kindly provided by Battle Ramblers <https://www.battleramblers.org>

Leaving your locked car, go west along the road and follow the footpath on the right side of the road until you reach the gate for the footpath into Hole Park, also on the right, just before Mill House and the windmill.

Using Hole Park House on the horizon as your guide walk towards Windmill Wood.

On the way you pass through a gated avenue of young lime trees, this was planted to honour the late Queens Platinum Jubilee, by the owner of Hole Park. Hole Park has a grand selection of planted trees.



Passing the lake in the wood the path takes you up the hill to the gatehouse of Hole Park or top left corner of the field.

Hole Park has a very nice restaurant you can visit and of course you can visit the splendid gardens after the walk <https://www.holepark.com/>

The best time for a visit is in spring when bluebells abound.

Passing the entrance to the gatehouse on your right the

footpath can be found to the right of the outbuildings used for estate vehicles.

The path goes north between this and the house gardens. Follow the path until you reach a gate on the left.

Go through the gate and follow the path up the hill to the road.



Turn left on the road and after 50 yards turn right through the gate onto the footpath again.

The wooded depression to the North is Jacob's Well a holy well for Pre-Christian fertility rites (apparently).

Follow the footpath through another gate and then the path heads south up a short bank and through another gate.

The path then follows the edge of a Christmas tree plantation. You can see a beacon on the hill here.

After about 300yards you need to pass through a gap in the hedge and follow the edge of another plantation until you reach the corner of the field where there is a gate into another field. There are often Hebridean sheep here, so please keep dogs on a lead.

The path takes you to Benenden road again, turn left along the road, **take care as there are bends and the road is busy.**

Take note of Beacon Hill windmill on your left, this is now a self-catering holiday let.

The High Weald - An outstandingly beautiful medieval landscape

Three



Cross the road and proceed for 50 yards or so until you reach a footpath on your right, going south.

Follow the enclosed footpath down the hill through Ramsden Farm and proceed along the side of field until you reach Broom Hill, an excellent place for a drink stop with splendid views south.

The footpath takes you straight down the hill to the stile at the bottom which leads onto the road.

You should follow the road left going past Dingledden Farm.

At a point just before the road becomes a track the footpath is marked on the left and takes you up a short slope and you pass the farm lake to your left.

You are now on the [High Weald Landscape Trail](#).

There are way-marks that take you around Pookwell Wood, through a gate and a short section of wood and on into an orchard.

Turn left and follow the path up the hill and around the edge of the orchard, then along the hedge between two orchards and finally through a gate into a field.

You follow the path across the field to the bottom southern corner and pass through the gate onto a lane.



Turn right and walk down the lane for 300 yards past a white house then turn left onto a farm track going east.



Follow the track to the farmhouse and gate. Pass through the gate and into a field.

You need to walk diagonally across the field (avoiding the pond in the middle!) until you reach a kissing gate.

Pass through this and another and follow the edge of the wood and then through a wooded section via two gates.

Then go across a field to the bottom south-eastern corner.

The path joins a track which goes up a hill, past an Oast house on the right and past Merrington Place until you meet the A28.

Treat the road with care it's busy. You should cross the road and walk south down the hill for 100 yards and then go over a stile on the left and join a footpath which takes you diagonally across the field to the edge of the wood at the north-eastern corner.

The path then follows the edge of the wood (The Wilderness) passing through four gates and fields' finally going up a hill to the way-marked footpath going north.

Four



Along the way it passes Great Maytham Hall the garden of which inspired the novel 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson-Burnett. In spring the grounds of the house display a magnificent array of bluebells, which could be said to be some of the best in the south-east of England.

After exiting the woodland path you now climb steadily back up to St Mary's Church in Rolvenden.

Enter the church yard and walk around the east side of the church and go out through the lych-gate on the north side.

Cross the road and follow the pavement north through the main street and take the first turning on the left to return to The Bull.

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

