



## Self-Guided Walks

### Lamberhurst and the Scotney Estate circular walk

Welcome to the High Weald National Landscape, an unspoilt medieval landscape. This walk passes through areas where the growing of hops was a principle agricultural undertaking. To a much lesser extent these days hops are still being grown on the Scotney Castle Estate. Also keep an eye out for traditional red Sussex cattle which are a feature of the estate.

|                                         |                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Distance and duration                   | A leisurely 5 mile walk, taking about 2½ hours to complete                                                              |
| Level of ability expected               | Moderate                                                                                                                |
| Start point & post code                 | At the foot of Spray Hill (B2162), approaching the village from the A21. TN3 8ES                                        |
| OS grid refrence<br>What3Words location | TQ673356<br><a href="https://what3words.com/swims.indoor.domain">https://what3words.com/swims.indoor.domain</a>         |
| Additional information                  | Roadside parking, take care not to obstruct residents<br><a href="#">Click here to download a GPX file of the route</a> |

### I-Spy    Something to look out for on your walk



## Two

The car park at the rear of the village hall has been acquired by the pub and is not available for general long-stay use, consequently roadside parking is the only option.

Towards the bottom of the hill, on the right, take the path that leads through to the recreation ground.

Turn right and go across the recreation ground, making for the white painted concrete block on the far side. I have no idea what its purpose is.

In the corner of the field go through a gate and onto the golf course.

Beware of golfers striking golf balls and go straight ahead, across the fairway, to a gap in the hedge.

Continue straight ahead.

At a track on the far side turn left and continue over the bridge across the A21.

Ignore the footpath on the left, (this is not marked as a RoW on the OS maps), and go to the top of the incline.

Turn left and go diagonally down the field towards the road and walk around the edge of the field.

You'll see a lone tree on your right. Take the path to the right by the tree. The path has a fence and a hedge to the right. If you reach a bridge you have gone too far. Take this path and continue over a stile into the next field.

Continue straight ahead to a gate into the field beyond.

Continue straight ahead to the far corner of the field, with a fence to the right for the last section.

Turn right into a hop field.

Continue around the edge of the field with the hops on your left.

At a five bar gate the right of way continues through the gate, but it is suggested that you turn left and follow the Scotney Hop Trail from this point.

Go through a gap at the bottom of the field and turn right to follow round the edge of the hop field.

On reaching the road to the north of Little Scotney Farm and south of Finchcocks, go over the bridge and then through a gate into the field to the right.

There is an enclosed permissive path at this point, signed as 'The Hop Trail', do not take this path.

Go straight up through the field and over a stile into the wooded area beyond.

At the edge of the wood go over the stile and bear left around the side of the field.

Look for a five-bar gate on your left.

Go through the gate and continue straight on heading for the point on your left where the wood juts out into the field.

### Three

At this point bear a little to the right making for the far right-hand corner of the field, look for a post with yellow tape on it.

Go over the stile and down a flight of concrete steps.

Turn right and follow the path past a building on the left and out onto the road.

Go to the right and continue straight on up the hill to the village of Kilndown.

At the crossroads look for a cream-coloured wooden building behind the bus shelter, the Quarry Centre.

Go to the left of this building, past the telephone box, and come to a pond with a table and benches where refreshments can be taken.

Just beyond the table and an additional bench, bear right, go up a slight incline and some steps to regain the footpath.

Turn left and continue along the path, going in the same direction for around  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles.

You will initially pass some cottages on your right.

Go past Mouseden Farm and then past a line of ancient Beech trees.

Eventually you will come to a second T-junction on a corner, at this point turn right and continue on this path for just under  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles, going through a couple of gates as you progress.

You will go over two bridges, the first crosses the River Bewl and the second goes over Sweet Bourne.

Just beyond the second bridge bear to the left of the tree ahead of you and continue to the top of the hill. Do not take the very well defined track on the right.

At the top of the hill the right of way is actually through a gate at this point and then continues left along the approach road to Scotney Castle.

To eliminate the need to be dodging two-way traffic at this point the National Trust has installed a permissive path which is accessed by a gate on the left, in the corner.

This path takes you across the top of the valley affording some good views to the south.

Eventually you come to a five-bar gate which gives access to the approach road, at this point it becomes one way.

At the fork take the right-hand road, go across the well disguised bridge over the A21 and exit the estate at the white gates and the lodge.

**At all times please follow the Countryside Code**





