



Self-Guided Walks

Rushlake Green to Warbleton circular walk

Welcome to the High Weald National Landscape, an unspoilt medieval landscape. This walk provides some exceptional views across the High Weald, some typical Wealden properties and a glimpse into the industrial aspect of this part of the world in centuries gone by.

Distance and duration	A 4½ mile walk, taking about 2½ hours to complete
Level of ability expected	Moderate
Start point & post code	Rushlake Green village green, TN21 9QX
OS grid refrence What3Words location	TQ627184 https://what3words.com/soonest.nerd.pies
Additional information	Roadside parking, please do not obstruct residents access Click here to download a GPX file of the route

I-Spy Something to look out for on your walk



Two

There is only roadside parking available in Rushlake Green.

As you face the Horse and Groom pub the footpath is to be found between the two houses to the right of the pub.

Walk down the left-hand side of the garden of the second house and go through the gate at the bottom.

Take note of the notice on your left as you exit the gate, it is unlikely at this early stage in the walk that you need to take advantage of this offer.

Carry on downhill maintaining your direction of travel, take note of the rather splendid house off to your right, this is Marklye.

Pass through an open area and continue to the woodland.

Follow the path into the wood and cross over a bridge.

You will reach a short ascent out into the field. Heavy rains over the winter period have played havoc with the path here and washed away a lot of the soil. Kind locals have provided a rope hand rail which does make the climb a little easier than it would otherwise be.

Once in the field beyond carry on straight ahead uphill to the ridge,

Go through a gap and continue in the same direction with the tree line to your left.

You will eventually reach a country lane, go straight across here and continue on the footpath downhill.

Carry on along this well-defined path until you come to a very substantial bridge, go over this and maintain your direction.

The path eventually crosses through the tree line and continue uphill with the trees now to your right.

At the end of the trees the path goes diagonally to the left across the open space.

At the far end bear slightly to the right and come out onto a lane.

Turn left along the lane and after a very short while, just beyond the bend, look for a finger post and a flight of steps going up the bank. At the time of writing these steps were not in the best of order so do take care.

At the top of the bank go over a stile and turn left to walk along this enclosed path to another stile at the end. This, and the subsequent path, is not the line of the path as it is shown on the OS map.

Go over the stile and follow the well-defined mown path diagonally to the right. You will have some fine views across the High Weald towards Heathfield at this point.



The High Weald - An outstandingly beautiful medieval landscape

Three

Eventually you will reach another stile, go over this, being careful to avoid tripping over the tree roots on the far side, and turn right downhill keeping to the edge of this large arable field.

At the bottom turn left along the hedgerow and look for a gate through to the next field.

There are more excellent views to enjoy at this point. Carry on in the same general direction as previously, heading for the house that is visible above the next hedgerow.

Go through the gate into the property beyond and walk diagonally to the right across the open space.

Another gate leads through to a wooded area; this has been difficult to access in the past but currently it all appears to be in good order. It can however be quite muddy during the winter months.

At the end of this stretch go over a wooden bridge into the field beyond and turn to your left. Note the colour of the water in the stream, this is caused by the presence of iron ore in the area.

Go through the gate and bear right up the field with the hedge on your right.

You will shortly come to a gate on your right, go through this and go diagonally across this field to the far right-hand corner.

Go through the gate and turn left to follow the concrete track uphill.

At the top go through the wooden gate on the left and turn round and go back the way you have come. There are two ponds ahead of you, head for the lower side of the one on your right and then on to the woodland beyond.

Go through a gate into the wood and turn immediately to your left.

After a very short time exit the wood through a gap into the field beyond.

With the hedgerow on the left walk to the very bottom most corner of the next series of fields and look for a footbridge in the corner.

In the next field climb up the hill heading for the top left-hand corner where there is another gate.

Go through the gate and carry on, keeping the tree line to your right,

Another gate takes you into the woodland, bear left here and follow the path through the woods. At the far end you will come across a tree that was at one time blown over, but with enough of its root structure still in the ground has continued to enjoy a second life.

Pass through a gap into the field beyond, (ignore an alternative path to the right at this point), and turn right and carry on downhill.

Four

At the end of the tree line, you will see the tower of Warbleton church on the horizon, go straight ahead up the hill to the church.

At the top turn left and follow the hedge round the corner to an entrance into the churchyard.

Follow the path towards the church and look out for the memorial stone in the wall between the graveyards. This remembers the life on Richard Woodman, a local farmer and Iron-master, who was burnt at the stake for his religious beliefs in 1557.

Go round the church and through the lych-gate into Warbleton's main street.

Continue downhill, passing on the left the property that was, until not too long ago, the village pub, the 'War Bill in Tun'.

At the junction take the left-hand fork and carry on downhill eventually climbing uphill to Kingsley Hill, the house on your right.

At one point in the late 1960's this house was the country residence of Brian Epstein the manager of the Beatles at the start of their careers. An internet search will bring up some interesting stories.

At the top of the hill there is a three way junction, continue along the same road, signed to Rushlake Green and go downhill for a couple of hundred yards.

The next footpath will be found on the left and takes you into more woodland. There can be muddy stretches through here, even during the summer months.

Go over a bridge and a stile into an open field.

Go straight across the field and over a stile and a bridge back into the woods, once again there may be mud through here.

The path goes downhill for a short stretch and then bears to the right and continues uphill to a final gate. Be sure to check out the memorial plaque on the far side of the top rail on this gate.

Go through the gate and turn left back into Rushlake Green where the village shop and the pub can provide some refreshment.

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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