

Wadhurst to Burwash

Approximately 13.46 miles 6.5 hours

Ordnance Survey Explorer Maps 136

Refreshments: The Bear Motel and The Rose and Crown in Burwash

This walk starts by going down Washwell Lane and then across some meadows to the open access area of Snape Wood. This woodland is a mixture of Pine, Chestnut, Birch and Oak trees crisscrossed by a network of paths. Shortly after crossing the Hastings to London railway line Wadhurst Deer Park is entered. After leaving the park a quiet lane is followed to Dens Farm and then field paths to Witherrenden. After Witherrenden bridge one of the few remain Hop gardens in the area is passed through.

Franchise Manor Farm and then Mottynsden Manor House are passed before the village of Burwash is entered. You leave Burwash along Ham Lane with good views over the Rother valley. The walk continues along footpaths to Stonegate station. From here more field and woodland paths are followed to the quiet Churchsettle lane. After a short walk along Churchsettle lane more field paths are followed until Brinkers Lane is joined and followed back to Wadhurst.

Start Public car park behind The Greyhound Inn on the High Street Wadhurst.

OS Grid Ref. TQ 640 316. Nearby post code TN5 6AP

It can be difficult to park here when the school is open. If so, there is a car park and roadside parking in Washwell lane beside the White Hart Pub.

- 1) Leave car park and then turn left along the high street. Continue to the the White Hart pub and then turn left into Washwell Lane. When the road bears right into Courthope Avenue continue downhill on Washwell lane. Near the bottom of the hill cross a stile on the right and then turn left and follow a path as it curves right up the slope.
- 2) Continue to follow the path across the field to a stile in the far corner. Cross the stile and then cross the access road and the stile opposite into a field.
- 3) Follow a path along the left edge of the field to another stile. Cross this stile and then continue forward crossing two more stiles and then follow the right edge of the field to a stile into the woodland.
- 4) Cross over the stile and follow a path to a ride. Cross over the ride and continue on the path to a railway crossing point. Cross the railway and then follow a path to a road. Cross over the road and go through the kissing gate into the field.
- 5) Bear right to a gateway in the far left corner of the field. Go through the gateway and then follow the path through the woodland to a road.
- 6) Cross over the road and then continue up the driveway opposite to Wenbans Oast. At the Oasthouse entrance turn right through a footpath gate and then follow the main track to a kissing gate in the deer fence.
- 7) Go through the gate and then continue forward with the deer fence on your right. Continue downhill and then cross a stream before continuing to the top of the hill. At the top of the hill continue forward on a faint track to then join a track through woodland.
- 8) Follow the track through the woodland and then uphill to another gate in the deer fence. Do not go through the gate but turn left and then follow the fence round a corner and then continue to another gate in the deer fence.

- 9) Do not go through this gate but turn left onto a track. Follow the track downhill to a kissing gate. Go through the kissing gate and then follow the path to a road. Turn right along the road and then at a sharp left bend continue forward on an access road.
- 10) Follow the access road, continuing straight on at junction. When you get to a farm turn right over a stile into the farmyard. Continue forward with a barn on your left to exit the farmyard along a track.
- 11) Turn left through the first gateway on the left and then continue forward with the fence hedge on your right through two fields to a footpath gate. Go through the gate and then continue straight across the field to a bridge.
- 12) Cross the bridge and then bear left to a footpath gate at the far end of the field. Go through the gate and then continue forward straight across the field to a footbridge.
- 13) After crossing the footbridge continue forward to a stile at the far end of the field. Cross this stile and then keep forward to cross the next stile. After crossing this stile bear left, crossing the field to the corner of a garden and then continue with the hedge on your left to a stile on to a driveway.
- 14) Turn right along the driveway to the road. Turn right along the road crossing the bridge and then turning left through a gate. Follow the track across two fields to a gate into the hop gardens. Go through the gate and then follow another track through the Hop Garden, keeping the hedge on your right.
- 15) At the far end of the hop gardens continue forward through the hedge and then straight across the field and over a footbridge. After crossing the footbridge bear right to the top corner of the field.
- 16) In the top corner of the field cross a stile and then continue forward to the far left corner of the field to cross a stile into a small wood. Follow a path through the woodland and then cross two stiles into a field. Continue forward with the fence on your left to a gateway onto the access road.
- 17) Cross the access road into the orchard opposite and then continue forward with the fence on your left to a stile. Cross the stile and follow a path to a driveway. Turn right along the driveway and then just before the Oast House go through the gate on the left into a field.
- 18) Continue forward in the field with the hedge on your left to a footbridge. Cross the footbridge and then continue forward over a stile. Once over the stile continue uphill with the hedge on your right to a footbridge and gate on to an enclosed path.
- 19) Continue along the enclosed path to a stile onto a driveway. Turn right along the driveway to the main road and then turn left into Burwash.
- 20) Continue along the High Street and then at the lane leading to the Rose and Crown Inn turn left and follow pass the Rose and Crown Inn. After passing the Rose and Crown take the right hand track passing the entrance to the playing fields and then continue along the main track to a point where a footpath crosses it.
- 21) Turn left here through a kissing gate and then continue forward, heading diagonally across the field to the far right-hand corner passing to the left of the row of trees in the middle of the field.
- 22) Go through a small gate in the corner of the field into a wood and then follow the path through the wood to a footbridge. Cross over the footbridge into a field and then bear right to another footbridge in the corner of the field.
- 23) Cross this footbridge and continue forward with the hedge on the left to a gateway. Go through the gateway and then turn right and continuing with the hedge on your right to a bridge over the river.
- 24) Having crossed the bridge, continue forward across the field to a clump of trees in the middle of the field. At the clump of trees turn left across the field heading towards the left side of a thicket. Look for a bridge across a ditch.
- 25) Having crossed the bridge, turn right and follow the ditch around to the left. Where the ditch turns sharp right, continue forward across the field to a hedge corner by a house. Turn right keeping the hedge and house on your left. Continue forward to a crossing over the railway.

- 26) After crossing the railway turn left and follow a path beside a garden fence. Keep the fence on your right to a gate. Do not go through the gate but turn left and follow a path to a gate into a field. Go through the gate and then follow the left edge of the field to a gate.
- 27) Go through the gate and then turn right and continue with the hedge on your right to a gate onto a track. Stay on the main track and then, keeping left when track forks. At the farm keep right to pass to the right of the farm and then continue to Stonegate Station.
- 28) Continue through the Station car park to the road and then turn left over the bridge. Once over the bridge turn right over a stile and then continue forward with the railway on your right. Do not cross the first bridge over the railway but continue through three more fields to the next railway crossing point.
- 29) Cross the railway and then follow the left side of a field to a stile in the field corner. Cross the stile and then continue forward across the field to the woodland corner and then continue with the woodland on the left to the field corner.
- 30) In the field corner continue forward onto track through the woodland. Continue to follow this track through the woodland and into a field. In the field continue uphill towards the farm with the fence on the right.
- 31) In the field corner just before the farm turn left and follow the field boundary to locate a path in the far top field corner leading to a stile in the small woodland (take care path can be difficult to see). Cross the stile and then follow the path through the woodland to a stile into a field.
- 32) Cross the stile and then continue forward across the field to a gateway. Go through the gateway and continue forward on a track heading towards a large oak tree. Pass between the farm and the oak tree and then bear left diagonally across the field to the far bottom corner.
- 33) In the field corner go through the footpath gate and then turn left along a track pass a house. Once pass the house turn right onto a path with the hedge on your right to a gateway in the field corner. Go through the gateway and continue following the path uphill to the far top corner.
- 34) In the field corner go through the footpath gate onto a road and then turn left along the road. Continue along the road to a stile on your right opposite Churchsettle House. Cross the stile and then continue forward on a path through trees to start with and then across a field to a stile.
- 35) Cross the stile and then turn right to a gate. Go through the gate and then bear left diagonally across the field to a gate in the bottom left corner (not the one crossing the stream). Go through the gate and then continue forward to a footbridge. Cross over the footbridge and continue uphill with the hedge on your right to a gate in the top corner of the field.
- 36) Turn right through the gate and then continue forward across the field to a stile. Cross the stile and then continue with the hedge on you left to a gateway in the field corner. Continue forward through the gateway and straight across a field to a gate.
- 37) Go through the gate and then follow an enclosed path through another gate into a field. Continue forward in the field with the fence on your left to a footpath gate. Turn left through the gate and then continue forward to a road.
- 38) Cross over the road and follow Brinkers Lane to the main road. Turn left along the main road back into Wadhurst and the car park.