

Walk to the pub

5 miles approximately 2.5 hours

Ordnance Survey Explorer Maps 136, 124

Refreshments: at the Wheel Inn, Burwash Weald.

The walk starts by heading downhill across fields to the National Trust property of Batemans, a Jacobean House, and the former home of Rudyard Kipling. From Batemans the walk continues to Park Farm and then climbs uphill through High Wood to Perch Hill. There is a good view back to Burwash from the field above Park farm just before entering High Wood. At Perch Hill the walk joins a quiet lane and goes steeply downhill to Willingford Bridge. There are good views across the Dudwell valley on this section. From Willingford Bridge the walk continues to follow the lane going uphill to Burwash Weald. The return route to Burwash is across farm land with views over the Dudwell valley and across the mixed farm land of the High Weald.

Directions: Start Burwash car park.

1. Leave the car park by a path between the toilets and the Bear Motel into a field and continue downhill with the hedge on the right to locate a footbridge in the hedge. Cross the bridge and then continue straight across the field keeping a fence on your right to a small gate.
2. Pass through the gate and then continue in the same direction, keeping the hedge on your right to locate a footpath gate in the hedge.
3. Go through the gate and then head down the hill to the bottom right hand corner of the field. Go through the gateway in the corner of the field and then continue downhill, keeping the hedge on the left to a stile onto the road.
4. Cross the stile onto the road and then turn right and follow the road to Batemans House. In front of the house turn left onto a farm access road.
5. Continue along the access road passing some cottages and then through two gates into the farm yard. Continue forward with the farm buildings on you right and then take the path straight ahead into the woodland.
6. Follow the path through the woodland to a gate. Go through the gate and then follow the edge of the field to another gate into the forest on the right.
7. Go through the gate and continue along the path through the forest to a staggered crossing of paths and a forest ride. Turn left along the forest ride and then immediately right onto a path.
8. Continuing up the path ignoring a track going off to the right. Continue forward passing to the left of a house and then following the access road to Willingford Lane.

9. Turn right along Willingford Lane which will soon go steeply downhill to Willingford Bridge. After crossing the bridge continue to follow the lane uphill to its end at Burwash Weald.
10. Cross over the main road and then turn right along the pavement. Continue until the pavement ends and then cross the road to go down Burnt House Farm Driveway. Follow the driveway as it bends left and then right. Continuing to follow the driveway downhill and then where the driveway forks keep right.
11. The driveway then turns sharp right. Here continue forward through a gate into a field. Continue downhill to a kissing gate in the fence on your left. Pass through the kissing gate and then bear right to another kissing gate below a brick water tank.
12. Go through the kissing gate and then continue across the field with a fence on your left to a gate and a stile. Cross the stile and then continue in the same direction to the next gateway. Pass through the gateway and head downhill keeping the hedge on the right to a stile.
13. Cross over the stile and then follow the path through the wood into a field. Continue across the field on a path which is normally well defined, but if it is not, bear slightly right and cross the field along the top of the hill, to a gateway.
14. Go through the gateway and then continue forward keeping the house and garden on the right. Continue to follow the old driveway downhill to Rye Green Farm. Pass between the derelict buildings and then continue to a stile.
15. Cross the stile and then head uphill, heading for the top right hand corner of the field. Pass through a gateway and then continue forward in the next field to a stile in the top right hand corner.
16. Cross the stile and then follow a path through the small woodland to a gate into a field. Go through the gate and then follow the left hand edge of the field to a stile. Cross the stile and then follow the path to a stile into a field.
17. Cross the stile and then turn left uphill keeping the hedge on your left.
18. At the top left hand corner of the field cross over a stile and go down the steps to the road, turn right and follow the road back to the Bear Car Park.