

A circular walk from Lindfield



Welcome to the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty an unspoilt medieval landscape. Talk to any Lindfield resident and they will tell you theirs is the prettiest village in the county. Here is a chance to find out if is true. This is a reasonably leisurely walk which follows the Sussex Ouse Valley Way. Lindfield is well served by buses and Metrobus routes 270, and 272 and Compass service 30 all stop in the village.

Distance and duration	4.0 miles / 6.4 kilometres 1.5 - 2 hours
Level	Leisurely
Start point	Wilderness car park in Lindfield off Bushes Lane, Lindfield, RH16 2HR What3words: ///mediate.centuries.system
Map reference	TQ348257 OS Explorer map 135
Other information	A few stiles and gates. Generally, on good paths, tracks and roads, but with an uneven surface at one point near the start.

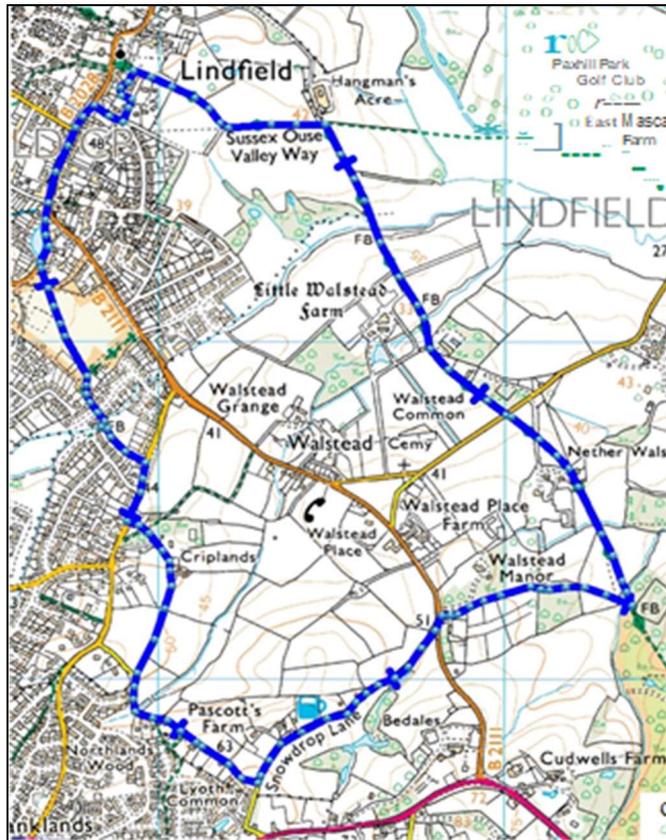
I-Spy - Things to look out for in the landscape



The walk

Start from The Wilderness car park (GR349258) in Lindfield, which is situated at the northern end of the attractive tree-lined high street (turn off at The Bent Arms public house into Bushes Lane, then left into

The Wilderness). There is normally adequate parking at the free car park here, but please be aware that parking is limited to four hours on Sundays and the spaces further into the car park are reserved for church parking.



Exit the car park at the top left-hand corner, pass some church buildings, and turn right past a row of houses to pick up a narrow, enclosed path to your left. The surface is initially very uneven, and you need to take care. The path bears right and then comes to a junction of paths, where you bear left, eventually joining a concrete road at Hangman's Acre. Turn right along this track, which drops downhill to cross a stream. About 200 yards further on, look out for a signed path to your left and follow this enclosed path to cross two footbridges (the first of these has a broken slat as of August 2022 and care is needed) before joining a tarmac drive which you follow out to a road at Walstead Common.

Cross to the footpath opposite and follow in the direction indicated, crossing the drive to Nether Walstead, then across another field curving right towards a cluster of buildings. On reaching the dwellings, go over a stile and keep to the right of a garage to continue ahead. Follow the wide grassy track ahead to another, rather unusual stile where you should bear half left across open pasture to woodland.

Cross a footbridge and bear right on a narrow path through woodland to a three-way junction of paths. Turn sharp right here to cross a stream bearing slightly uphill through pasture to the obvious stile and gate ahead leading into woodland.

Go over the stile and into the wood and shortly, where another path crosses, join this narrower path to the right. Follow the obvious, confined path out to the B2111 at Walstead Stud. This is a very busy road with fast traffic, so take great care crossing it to reach Snowdrop Lane opposite and follow this quiet lane uphill passing two new mansions, and one under construction, and then Snowdrop pub on top of the hill. Continue ahead and at the 30mph sign turn right and follow Lyoth Lane which drops steadily downhill to

The High Weald: An outstandingly beautiful medieval landscape...

cross a stream (red brick wall on the right) before rising uphill again. Ignore turnings to the left and right, but where the lane bears left, go right on a signed footpath. Keep right through an avenue of trees, cross a new estate road and eventually reach a broken kissing gate. Cross the open area ahead to a gate and stile beside dwellings. Go over the stile and proceed ahead, but slightly to the left, down a narrow, signed path to the left of a large laurel hedge through woodland. Continue ahead at a junction of paths, to come out onto Gravelye Lane.

Cross to the pavement on the opposite side and turn right crossing William Allen Lane. Opposite Blackberry Lane, turn left on a narrow path between gardens which crosses a stream, then bears right to cross an estate road, then slightly left to continue on another path leading out to Lindfield Common. Keep the tennis courts on your left and head across the common, with the car parks on your left, aiming to the left of the children's play area, where a brick wall ends. If there is a cricket match in progress, you will have to divert slightly. Join the B2028 in the vicinity of the pond. Cross the road and turn right to walk up the High Street, admiring the many fine buildings on either side. At the Bent Arms, turn right into Bushes Lane then left into The Wilderness and the car park.

Lindfield has public toilets, near the bottom end of the High Street, plenty of opportunities for refreshments and some interesting shops.

Updated August 2022

The original version of this walk was produced by Les Campbell and appeared in Sussex Living magazine, published from 2005 to 2010. It was then brought together by Tony Osmand of Mid Sussex Ramblers in a book "Sussex Walks by Les Campbell" (1 of 27 walks) with the kind permission of Sussex Living.

Please follow the Countryside Code:

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways is clear
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter home
- Don't have BBQs or fires
- Keep dogs under effective control
- Dog poo - bag it and bin it

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures

Wildlife, including nesting birds, may have moved into new areas and land managers may have provided extra protection for wildlife. Be vigilant and comply with these protective measures so that you do not disrupt the local wildlife