

Chestfield Walk

3.8 miles (6.1km) allow 2 hours

This circular walk round the edge of Chestfield village and through the village's conservation area. The walk includes field-side walking, has a section alongside Swale Brook, passes the Tudor Manor buildings, and skirts the golf course and the Cricket and Rugby Club grounds.

View across the Recreation Ground to the Golf Course in Chestfield.



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How to get there -

By Car: Take exit towards Whitstable /Canterbury A290 from A229. Continue on Thanet Way take south st to Chestfield.

Parking: A parking area is available alongside Coldharbour Lane.

Train: Nearest station: Chestfield & Swalecliffe (1 mile) National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

Bus: 916 (Whitstable – Chestfield).
31 journeys. Mon-Sat. Traveline: 0870 6082608

	Start/Finish	Car park on Radfall Recreation ground
	what3words	fork.loaf.panel
	Gates	0
	Stiles	1
	Steps	Field paths and tracks. Some steep slopes
	Terrain	Take Care, field and woodland path (can be muddy)
	Views	Some excellent views
		

How to get there -

1. Park in Radfall Recreation Ground and walk 400m along the edge of the open area next to the houses until reaching the path on the far side. Turn left along the path for 500m to join Chestfield road. This ancient right of way is marked by the blasted oak, a stone white 15-foot-high tree stump destroyed by lightning 20 years ago.
2. Cross the road with care and walk right for 150m until the path forks left away from the road and under the Thanet Way bridge. This short section of the path is the only part that goes alongside a busy road. Take care of children and keep any dogs on a lead.
3. On the far side of the bridge turn left up the track that curves back to run alongside the Thanet Way for 150m. Take the right turn along the field side path for about 100m until you reach a belt of trees before entering the golf course. Chestfield Golf Club is bisected by two rights of way that climb to the top of the hill in front of you.
4. Walk up the hill for 230m until at the summit you turn left and walk north down towards the village. This offers good views over the village to the sea. Make sure you do not disturb golfers even though you have a right of way.
5. Walk 540 metres straight down the Golf Club path, across the tee to the path through woodland, over the Thanet Way and down to Shrubhill Way. The landscaped road of the tunnel is an impressive piece of shallow earth planting.
6. Go straight on north for 600m across Molehill road and along The Drove to the little white fingerposted cross roads. Turn left, signposted to Swalecliffe. At the crossroads on your left is after the ancient Manor House, St Thomas More's daughter Margaret lived there. There is a story that after her father was beheaded by Henry VIII, she buried his head in the Manor Gardens.

As you leave the crossroads on the right are a number of ancient houses made out of the old Tythe barn embellished with church materials- note the magnificent stone rose window.

7. Walk west along the Drive for 100m to Meadow Drive, turn right and go straight on north for 750m until you get to Maydowns where you turn left. This long straight walk takes you through a variety of environments designed to enable landscaped walking in an urban environment. They include hedging, wide grass verges, and narrow paths with semi natural planting.
8. Go 175m west along Maydowns Road to Chestfield Road. Cross Chestfield Road and 20m to the left is a traffic free road. You will pass a large number of trees that have been planted in a special collaboration between the Parish Council and the local residents. The Council paid for trees if the residents provided the space in the gardens and planted the trees themselves with guidance from the City Council horticulturalists.
9. Go along the bollarded road that ends with a small paved path that leads to join Reeves Way. Turn left alongside Reeves way passing the Chestfield Health Centre and the Rugby Clubhouse. After 200m and just before the entrance to Sainsbury's car park is the public right of way to your left along the edge of the Rugby Club games court and pitches. Take care if a game is on.
- 10a. From the Play Park Recreation Ground follow the Ridgeway for 300m west towards Grasmere Pastures.
- 10b. From Sainsbury's entrance climb the steps or ramp and turn right along the sealed path south for 300m, passing a rugby pitch to your left and crossing Primrose Way to join the Ridgeway gravelled road. It is to note that there is a new housing estate to the right of Grasmere Pastures. The path to the estate may be redirected once the estate is complete.

Those that started at the play park should turn left here to follow the Ridgeway back to the playpark. Those continuing on should turn right for 100m and cross the footbridge over Swale Brook to Grasmere Pastures on the right. Cross a small pedestrian footbridge to enter the Pastures and follow the Waymark posts south for 450m across the Pastures to a second small footbridge.

11. After crossing the second footbridge, follow the grey gravelled path for 20m to Grasmere Road. Turn right, this part of Grasmere Road is typical of much of the early development of Chestfield as a village. The road is unadopted and has individually constructed houses of very varied sizes built and rebuilt since the 1920s.
12. Go 270m west along Grasmere Road to Blackberry Way on your left. Go to the end of Blackberry Way and join the field path to your left. In complete contrast to Grasmere Road, this is a modern development, landscaped with very different kinds of planting and leading down to open fields.
13. Follow the field path for 450m pass the cricket ground and along the Swale Brook and you will reach open grassland to your left, which is Radfall Recreation Ground. Car parking is at the far side of the recreation ground.

