

Luddesdown Trek

A circular walk from Shorne Woods Country Park
8.4 miles (13.5km) allow 4 hours

This walk begins in Shorne Woods Country Park and takes you through the historic villages of Cobham and Luddesdown.



There is a range of landscape including woodland and beautiful views over open countryside.



How to get there -

By Car: Signposted from the A2 at the Shorne/Cobham junction, south of Gravesend.







Parking: Parking is available at Shorne Woods Country Park.

Train: Nearest station: Gravesend, Higham, Meopham, Sole Street.

National Rail Enquiries: 03457 484950

Bus: Red route 416/417 Meopham, Sole Street, Gravesend, Higham. Mon-Sat. 4 times.

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

S/F	Start/Finish	Shorne Woods Country Park
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	Gates	20
	Stiles	0
	Steps	2
	Terrain	Some steep slopes and steps
	Views	Some good views
	Refreshments	At Shorne Woods Country Park

Route Description

1. Leave the Visitor Centre towards the main entrance. Turn right just before the main gate and follow the path through the woodland and through a kissing gate on your left next to Brewers Road. Cross the road, turn right and follow the footpath across the A2 bridge to the roundabout. Beware of traffic and cross Halfpence Lane.

2. Enter Ashenbank Wood through a kissing gate ahead of you. Follow the way marked route through Ashenbank Wood ignoring the wide crossing track and pass through the remains of a WW2 camp.

3. Fork left after the camp and kissing gate and head downhill then along a field boundary underneath some towering Chestnut trees.

4. Turn right at the fence at the bottom of the hill, next to an interpretation panel. Go through the kissing gate and turn left. Follow the field boundary and footpath heading towards Cobham Church keeping an orchard on your left. Go straight ahead through a kissing gate with a sports field to your left. When you reach the tarmac main road through Cobham, turn left and follow the footpath up to the Leather Bottle pub. (For an alternative shorter route follow the main road through Cobham up to the roundabout and then follow Lodge Lane up to the Mausoleum and continue from point 18). Cross over the road, up steps and go into the churchyard. Follow the path keeping the church on your left, downhill and through another graveyard.

5. Walk through a metal gate into a field with an orchard on your right hand side. Follow the field boundary down to the road, then turn left across a railway bridge.

6. Just before a house, turn right through a metal gate onto a footpath following a field boundary.

7. Walk through a metal gate to your left, then through a kissing gate. Keep dogs on a lead as this field is used by horses. Leave the horse field through a second kissing gate and continue downhill towards the houses until you reach the road at Henley Street. At the road turn right and follow the road for approximately 80m.

8. Turn left onto a bridle path before you reach the woods on your left and follow it uphill until you reach a signed path junction at the very top.

9. Turn left and follow the Wealdway along the ridge and then near left at vineyard and down through a kissing gate, steps, turning left and then turn right at a bench to the road at Luddesdown.

10. At the road turn left up to a triangle road junction. Turn right here and follow the road up onto a cobbled path. Continue straight ahead past the church towards the farm buildings.

11. Pass through a metal gate on your left, then climb the hill and turn left through a metal gate. Head straight between vines, then go through the hedge and turn left following the footpath along the vineyard edge until turning right through a gap in the hedge to reach a road. Turn left at the road and head downhill past new winery, turn left at road until you reach the car park of the Golden Lion pub.

12. From the pub, turn right onto the road named Henley Street.

13. As the road bends left, enter the field to the right at the way mark sign. Head straight across the vineyard towards the wood.

14. Turn left through a metal gate into Cobhambury Wood. Turn right immediately after through a metal gate and follow the path to the next junction. Turn right and head downhill into dense woodland.

15. When you reach the road, turn to the left and head up the hill.

16. Take the first right up a track and then go underneath the railway. Continue uphill until you pass two field gates on your right.

17. 10m further on, go through a small kissing gate on your right hand side and uphill through the woodland. Go through a kissing gate at the edge of the wood and then head straight across the field.

18. At the vehicle track, turn right onto Lodge Lane (the shorter walk rejoins here). Follow the track, ignoring all junctions until you reach the Darnley Mausoleum. Continue past the Mausoleum and head straight along the track that follows the ridge for about 400m.

19. Go through the kissing gate and turn left heading downhill into woodland.

20. At the bottom of this path, next to Knights Place Farm, go straight ahead through two kissing gates into some more woodland. Follow this path to the bottom and then through a kissing gate next to the railway line. Turn left and follow this path down to the road. Dogs should be kept on a lead for the rest of the walk.

21. Go through the gate, turn right underneath the railway and cross over the A2 road bridge. At the T junction, turn right.

22. After 200m, turn right down a ramp into Brewers Wood. Follow the wide track through the wood and at a pedestrian and horse crossing, turn left and head back to the start.

