# North Downs Way - Section 9: Lenham to Wye

## 9.3 miles (14.9 km) allow 4 hours

Venture on this wonderful walk high above the Kent Weald, passing an impressive memorial cross, stunning vineyards and one of the finest fruit farms and farm shops the county has to offer.



Vineyards at Westwell

Co-financed by the European Union and the European Regional **Development Fund** 



## How to get there -

Parking: The Square and other on street in Lenham, on street in Wye

**Train:** Nearest stations: Lenham and Wye

Bus: For Lenham, the 10X between Maidtsone and Ashford; for Wye, the 1X between Ashford and Canterbury.

| S   | Start        | Near Lenham<br>Nearest postcode ME17 2EY                        |
|-----|--------------|---|
| /// | what3words   | instilled.mimic.remodel   |
| F   | Finish       | Wye station TN25 5HB  |
| /// | what3words   | simply.action.parsnip   |
| Ш   | Gates        | 11  |
| Ħ   | Stiles       | 0   |
|     | Steps        | 0   |
|     | Terrain      | Bare earth, gravel tracks, grass, surfaced tarmac roads, chalk. |
| X   | Views        | Great views from the Downs                                      |
|     | Refreshments | Cafes and pubs in Lenham and Wye. Perry Court Farm en route.    |

## **Route description**

1. With the Pilgrims Way signpost on your left walk straight on the concrete road. Pass over a horse friendly car barrier gate and continue on the gravel path. Look out for the Chalk Memorial Cross on your left. Continue straight through woods to second gate and road.



Lenham Village © Explore Kent

2. Turn Left onto road and continue straight. As road bears to left continue straight onto footpath. When you reach a road turn left then immediately right walking on a footpath with drive to 'Highbourne Park' on your left.

3. Keep walking straight for 1 mile passing a farm on your right. Footpath will lead to small country road. Turn right on road and after 50 metres turn left. Continue straight for 1 mile as footpath turns from gravel to road. Keep straight passing 'Clock House' gates on your left. Continue to road.

4. At the road turn left and walk to pedestrian crossing. Cross the road and turn right walking back down the hill. Turn left onto Pilgrims Way. Continue straight on road for 1 mile. Road will turn to left and then right. Continue Straight as road turns to gravel.

5. Continue on footpath for 1.3 miles, passing vineyards on your right. Turn left onto road and continue straight to a junction. Cross straight over into the field passing through a gate. Turn left along edge of field. After 50 metres follow sign right across field.

6. Continue straight passing a wooded area on your right. Turn right off gravel road and into woods then left to continue down edge of field. Cross the field, passing a Manor house on your left. Pass through gate and onto road.

7. Continue straight on road, as it turns to left walk straight passing through gate into field. Walk with fence on your right, after 400 metres turn left and cross field. Cross the driveway and take footpath behind Eastwell Manor Sign. Pass through gate and across the field to second gate leading to road.



The ruins of St Mary's church stand close to the trail, in Eastwell Park. In the churchyard, there is a Victorian tomb, which is reputed to be the grave of Richard Plantagenet, an illegitimate son of Richard III.

8. Cross the road here and turn left. Turn right onto Lees Road and continue straight with village green on your left. At the end of the road turn right and left onto Pilgrims Way. Keep straight ignoring NDW footpath on left to Canterbury. On bend of road go through gate on your right.



9. Pass through the gate and turn left, following the edge of the field. Continue straight then turn left to follow boundary line. After a short distance turn right crossing field towards busy road. Turn left along edge of field to crossing. Cross busy road and pass through gate.

10. Keep straight with polytunnels on your right. At end of footpath turn right for Perry Court Farm or continue straight passing fields with animals. Follow footpath round to right then left and continue straight.

11. Continue straight across field and pass through gate. When you reach the road turn left. At the junction turn right crossing railway line to finish your walk outside Wye train station

## **Points of interest**

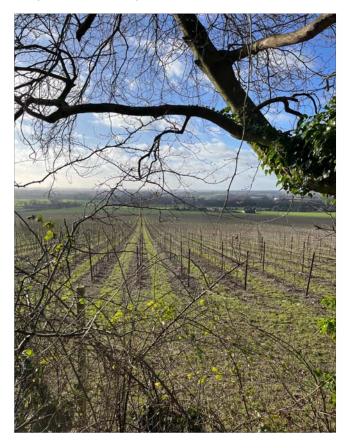
#### 1. Lenham Chalk Cross

This Grade 2 listed War Memorial was suggested by Cecil Groom a local headmaster who had taught many boys who had fought and lost their lives in the First World War. It was cut into the hillside in 1921 and unveiled in 1922.



#### 5. Westwell Vineyard

Located just off the North Downs Way and Pilgrims Way Westwell Vineyard uses traditional and sustainable methods to grow and produce wines from four varieties. Vineyards in the area date back to the 1300s when Edward II owned a vineyard maintained by local monks.



#### 10. Perry Court Farm

This traditional fruit growing farm was established in the 1940s and now grows over 150 varieties of apple with the fruit going to over 40 markets a week. Sample the apple juice or locally made cakes at the farmshop and tearoom which was created in 1965.



Perry Court Farm Shop

