

Trails by Rail: Wadhurst

Welcome to the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; an atmospheric medieval landscape. Enjoy a walk down through wooded valleys, along historic pathways and over farmland with spectacular views across the rolling hills and medieval fields. Ponds, ancient woodland and sunken routeways are features to look out for.

Distance and duration	5.5 miles /9 kilometres – approximately 3 hours
Level	Moderate - hilly with a couple of stiles
Start point	Wadhurst Station, Station Road, Wadhurst TN5 6RZ
Map reference	TQ 621330 OS Explorer 136 - Royal Tunbridge Wells. Cranbrook, Hawkhurst & Bewl
Other information	Parking: pay and display parking at Wadhurst Station. Refreshments: None nearby, lots of choice at Wadhurst village (1 mile)

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



This walk has many **sunken routeways**. Centuries of use by feet, trotters, hooves, and later, cartwheels, have worn away the soft ground leaving these deeply sunken historic paths.



An **oast house**: once used for drying hops.

Walk directions

1. Start from Wadhurst Railway Station and turn left to walk up Station Road (be very careful - there is no pavement and it is a busy road with fast cars; walk on the side of the road where you are most visible), then turn left up Faircrouch Lane. Pass a small business park on your right, then turn right onto the footpath at the edge of a small carpark. Go through a gate and cross the field straight ahead. Continue along the left-hand edge of the next field and follow the path through the gap in the hedge on the left and continue downhill. Pass through the woodland shaw at the bottom to climb the hill beyond. At the top bear left to climb a stile and reach Buckhurst Lane.
2. Turn right at the lane and follow it for a while downhill to a footpath on the left. Go through a gate and walk along the edge of the next two fields. Bear left after the second field and follow the well waymarked path across four fields to pass an old tennis court on the right and cross a footbridge.
3. Bear right to continue through the wood. At a track turn left to reach Partridges Lane. Turn right along the lane then left onto a footpath opposite a pond. Follow the path along a sunken track, and then continue on the main, well-defined path all the way through Furnace Wood to a footbridge. Continue to reach a gate and enter a field.
4. Walk uphill along the right-hand edge and continue around the edge of the field to the next field. Pass behind a small barn to follow the path down the right-hand field edge. Continue to walk up a sunken path. At a surfaced driveway turn right and follow the drive through a gate. Continue and when the drive turns right, turn left to take the footpath down the side of the main entrance gates to Lightlands.
5. Enter a field via a gate. Head downhill towards the gap in the hedge ahead. Continue straight downhill. Cross the stream and follow the path through the woodland to a field. Walk straight up the hill to Earlye Farm heading for the red brick barn. Follow the way markers through the farmyard. Bear right around the Oast House and then left into the field beyond. Keep to the left-hand edge and continue through the gate and a small woodland to reach Partridges Lane.
6. Turn right along the lane for a short distance uphill before turning left onto a footpath. Continue to cross the footbridge and carry on straight up the hill to enter a field. Walk along the right-hand field edge crossing into the adjacent field on the right and continue in the same direction with the hedge now on your left. Follow the path through the next two fields to reach Buckhurst Lane.
7. Turn left along the lane for a short distance before turning right onto a footpath opposite Buckhurst Manor. Follow the field edge downhill to enter woodland via a gate and continue to a footbridge. Turn left along the field edge, and continue along

the waymarked path, crossing the stream, to reach Ravensdale Farm. Turn left along the driveway and follow to Faircrouch Lane.

8. Cross the road to continue along Tapsells Lane. As the lane bears to the right after Tapsells House, turn left along a footpath at the edge of a driveway. Follow the waymarked path to the left of the barn. Follow the path through the woodland, and across the field to climb a stile and reach the railway. Cross the railway with care and follow the fenced footpath beyond, to reach Station Road. Turn left and follow the road for a short distance to return to Wadhurst Station.

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





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