

Welcome to the High Weald National Landscape, an unspoilt medieval landscape. This walk is a countryside section of High Weald landscape, walking through woods and fields often with wonderful views. There are many fine weatherboarded and tile-hung houses around Matfield Green as well as the magnificent Georgian 'Matfield House'. The sports pavilion was finished in 2014 after its predecessor was destroyed by fire. The name Matfield derives from "Matta feld" – the large clearing farmed by Matta.

Distance and duration	A 7 mile walk, taking about 3½ hours.
Level	Moderate
Start point / Post code	Matfield Green, TN12 7JU
OS map reference What-3-Words	Explorer 136, TQ656418 https://what3words.com/daunted.butterfly.spades
Other information	Matfield has the largest village green in Kent. Pembury Old Church which is adjacent to Kent College and is quite some way from Pembury which also has a newer church. Click here to download a GPX file of the route

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



Two

Our thanks go to [Kent Ramblers](#) for permission to use this walk.

Head for the south west corner of the green and take track to right of sports pavilion.

At end of fence on the right, take path through gate between fences.

After a couple of hundred metres go over stile on left and bear right across field to copse. Through copse, (*Care here stile is wobbly*), cross another field diagonally and go through a stretch of woodland.

Cross a short meadow to a lane.

Turn right but after a few metres take path on left climbing through woodland (fine wood anemones and bluebells in spring) then bearing left through an orchard. At track, turn right to lane.

Turn left along lane to start of woodland on right and take path on right along left hand edge of orchard.

Take first track on left through woodland following powerlines, descend to stream and climb to T-junction meeting the High Weald Walk which is the original name for what is now called the Tunbridge Wells Circular Walk. Turn left.

On reaching a junction of four paths, turn right downhill.

Cross a footbridge, bear right uphill until you meet a level path and turn left. After a hundred metres or so turn sharp right uphill.

Keep going until the path starts to descend again and there is a derelict building close to the path on the right.

Turn right immediately past the building and follow path along broad grassy ride between orchards.

At junction of paths turn sharp left and descend gently to Pippins farm.

Bear left across farmyard and take driveway through orchards up to road.

Go straight across and along drive towards Downingbury Farm shop (coffee, fruit and ice cream available).

Bear right in front of shop then double back behind shop along path leading to bridge over the A228.

Immediately over the bridge take path on left parallel to road. Soon bear right downhill to reservoir then left to track and join road.

Turn right up Old Church Road, passing the water treatment plant on the right, until Kent College comes into view.

At the first entrance to the College there is a gate on the right of the gateway. Go through this and across decking into a field.

Cross the field roughly half way between the College drive on the left and the woodland on the right.

Three

You should cross a plank bridge over a ditch half way across and then bear right over a stile by a gate.

Bear slightly left to follow a path under a line of oak trees to another stile then continue in the same direction across the next field to a stile into a wood.

Inside the wood, turn left and follow a path until, just before a gate, it turns right.

Soon bear right down some steps to a stream and up some more steps on the other side.

Ignoring a gate on the left, continue just inside the wood until you reach a stile out into a field.

Follow the right hand edge of the field until, about two-thirds of the way to the corner, you come to a stile on the right.

Climb the stile and follow the left hand edge of the next field past a pond on your left to a gate.

Through the gate, follow the left hand edge of an orchard, crossing a stile half way along.

When the left hand fence ceases, keep going straight forward until you reach the far end of the orchard.

There should be a gate in corner into the next field – if it is not obvious, bear right until you find it.

Cross the top of the field and skirt the right hand edge of a pond.

Bear right past a footpath sign into an orchard then bear left towards a house.

Go between the house (on your left) and a hedge (on your right) down to a lane.

Take the path opposite.

Once inside the field go straight down the hill and look for a track through the bracken bearing slightly right near the bottom. This should lead you to a gate and then to a bridge across a stream.

On the other side bear left across duckboards to another bridge over which a track goes through a wood.

On emerging from the wood, go over a stile on the left and turn sharp right to follow the right hand edge of the next field uphill.

When the path bears right into the next field, do not follow the broad track between hedges but cross the field diagonally aiming just to the right of a house visible on the horizon.

In the corner of the field a stile leads to the road. (*Care here. Wooden debris surrounds a broken stile and there is a narrow grass verge. Getting over stile into busy road maybe hazardous. Alternative metal gate at corner of field is overgrown and impassable.*)

Cross the road very carefully – it can be busy and you may have to be patient. You are aiming for a path on the opposite side of the road just a few metres to the right – it is easily visible.

Four

Follow this path past a tennis court, through a gate and then down a lane towards woodland.

Go into the woodland, across a stream and up the other side of the valley to a junction of paths.

Turn left and follow a path through woodland crossing a footbridge at the bottom and up the other side with no significant changes of direction.

At top turn left along path inside the wood until you reach the corner of the wood.. *(Care here There are fallen trees across the path in front of stile at the corner of the wood).*

Go over stile and take the path on the right that soon goes between fences downhill towards another wood.

After a short section of woodland enter newly-created conservation area at Cinderhill Wood.

Head straight up the hill.

Keep straight on for a while then follow track as it bears left, after which keep right at all junctions and along lane.

On meeting road, take the second lane on the right back to Matfield.

At all times please follow the Countryside Code



Respect everyone

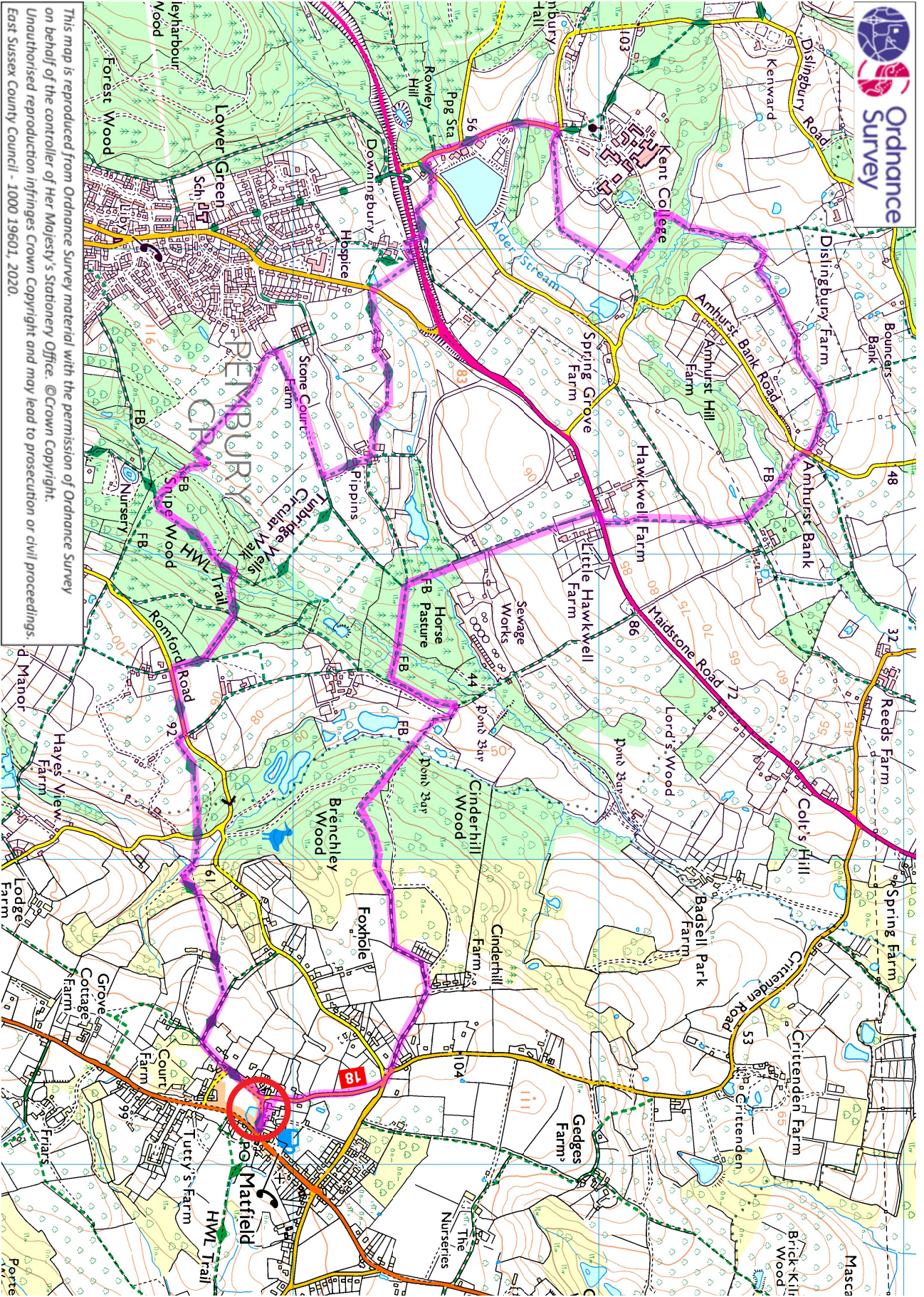
- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Protect the environment

- take your litter home – leave no trace of your visit
- do not light fires and only have barbeques where signs say you can
- always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo – bag it and bin it – any public waste bin will do
- care for nature – do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- check your route and local conditions
- plan your adventure – know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory



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