

Welcome to the High Weald National Landscape, an unspoilt medieval landscape. Amid the remnants of ancient routeways we will be passing places where ironworks were once a feature of this landscape. We also make use of a section of what was the Polegate to Tunbridge Wells railway line, the 'Cuckoo Line'.

Distance and duration	A leisurely 4½ mile walk, taking about 2½ hours.
Level	Moderate
Start point / Post code	The car park at Mayfield Memorial Hall
OS map reference What-3-Words	Explorer 136, TQ588271 https://what3words.com/eradicate.same.evening
Other information	Click here to download a GPX file of the route

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



Two

We are grateful to Lionel Pringle for his permission to use this walk.

From the car park take the surfaced path that goes south, downhill, past the children's play area.

At the bottom of the field continue straight ahead along the enclosed path.

When you reach the road turn left and continue along it.

Just beyond the brow of the hill, as the road starts to go downhill, look for a footpath along a drive on the left with a plethora of house name boards including Grange View, Linden and Glebeland.

Go over a cattle grid and a metal farm gate and continue straight ahead.

Go over a second cattle grid, and just past it, turn right to go downhill through the grass, making for a point where the fences converge.

At the bottom of the field go through a gap onto a muddy path.

Continue to follow this path until you emerge into a field.

Here turn to the right and follow the path along the edge of the wood.

After a short distance the path bears to the right and into the wood.

Follow this well-defined path through the wood, there will be muddy sections in the winter.

Go over a footbridge and continue in the same general direction until you reach a stile alongside a metal farm gate.

Go over the stile and turn to the left to follow the path up the hill.

Go through a gap in the hedge and out into a field beyond and carry straight ahead.

Go through another gap and once more continue ahead.

Continue for some way in the same direction keeping the woodland to your right.

After a while the path reaches a point where a secondary path goes through a gap on the right into the wood. Do not take this path but continue on in the same direction that you have been going.

Eventually you will come to a wooden kissing gate, go through this and bearing a little to the left go up the incline and in the field make for the right of the tree ahead of you.

The path leads you to a stile into the woods.

Three

Go straight on and up a short slope through a gap in the tree line.

With the woodland now on your right carry on up the slope until you come to a wooden gate leading out onto the road.

Turn to the left on the road and proceed downhill.

Just beyond the main entrance to 'Mayfield Grange' look for a drive on your right leading to 'Long Gill' and 'Windmill View'.

Walk along this drive and at the end go through a wooden gate to the left of the gates to the properties.

Immediately go through a second metal gate and bear round to the to follow an enclosed footpath downhill for some way.

Eventually go through another metal gate and the turn left to go through a large metal farm gate.

Turn right and, with the hedge on your right, carry on downhill.

In the bottom corner of the field go through the gate into the wood, carry on downhill and go across a bridge and then through a gate into a field.

Continue straight across the field and up some steps onto a rough farm road.

Turn left and go downhill. At the bottom the road turns right, continue to follow it uphill for some distance.

When you come to a house on your left, continue on in the same direction following the road uphill.

Eventually you will reach a bridge over what was the Polegate to Tunbridge Wells railway line.

A path leads off to the right of the bridge taking you down to the track-bed and underneath the bridge.

Continue along the line of the railway until you reach a road. At this point, look out for vehicles turning rapidly off the main road, and turn left along the minor road and look for a footpath and a gate on your right.

Bear to the left and head on through the fields making for Mayfield Church which can be seen on the skyline.

Go through a gap in the hedge into the next field.

Keep to the right-hand edge of the field and continue to the point where the path becomes

Four

restricted between a hedge to the right and a fence to the left.

Cross one of the estate roads and go through a gap in the fence into the grounds of 'Mayfield School' and make for a gap to the right of the line of conifers in front of you.

Continue straight on with the tennis courts to your left.

Follow the track round to the left past any parked vehicles and look for a wooden gate and a continuation of the footpath on the right.

Beyond the gate follow the enclosed path uphill and at the top go through a gate on the left into the church yard.

Follow the brick paved path to the right side of the church, eventually emerging onto Mayfield high street.

Turn left and follow the road round up and to the left at the top of the town and back to the car park.

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

