

heart of the High Weald

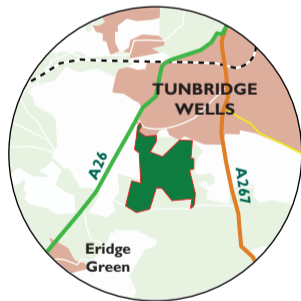
What to look out for

- The carriageway, recently restored with tree guards designed by local school children
- The pond, spot wildlife and relax in the shade of the yew trees.
- Mount Nod; enjoy the heather and fantastic views across the High Weald.
- The old beech trees, ancient giants living in the forest
- Hunt for the old tractor; an old forestry machine retired in the woodland it once looked after - it's well hidden so you'll have to really search for it!

Rowan berries



Explore Hargate Forest - heart of the High Weald



woodlandtrust.org.uk/hargate

Join us

Share our passion for trees? Help us protect native woodland and its wildlife at woodlandtrust.org.uk/join or call **0800 026 9650**

If you enjoyed your visit to Hargate Forest and would like to find other woods to visit nearby, go to VisitWoods.org.uk

The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL

The following organisations provided valued support:



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Explore Relax Enjoy Hargate Forest



A historic woodland in the High Weald area of outstanding natural beauty woodlandtrust.org.uk/hargate

Welcome

Come and experience beautiful woodland, rolling heathland and towering pine trees at the ever changing Hargate Forest. In springtime you will see a fantastic range of flowers and plenty of frogspawn, in summer the heath flowers purple and rowan berries line the paths, the changing leaf colour of the trees and foraging squirrels symbolise autumn's arrival followed by the beautiful silence of the winter woodland.

A medieval hunting forest

Hargate Forest was originally part of "Waterdown" Forest. This was a medieval hunting forest: one of four spread between Horsham and Tunbridge Well in an area known as the Weald Forest of Ridge. This is the highest ridge of the High Weald, itself recognised as one of England's finest landscapes and designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). See www.highweald.org for more information.



Foxglove



Brimstone butterfly

Since acquiring Hargate Forest in 1996 the Woodland Trust has been giving Mother Nature a helping hand. By clearing the invasive *Rhododendron ponticum*, managing ride edges and gradually removing planted conifers we're helping restore Hargate to its natural native glory! This will benefit both wildlife and visitors.



See the fabulous purple heather in autumn



Listen out for the screeching call of jays



Hargate Forest: a winter wonderland



Broadleaf restoration works

Public Toilets

The nearest public toilets (including RADAR toilets) are situated in the Pantles shopping area in Tunbridge Wells.



The main entrance is on Broadwater Down about 50m east of the junction with the A26. There is no car park so please park on road near the main entrance and be considerate of local residents. There are no designated disabled bays away and there is a bus stop on the junction of the A26 and Broadwater Down for the 28,29, 228 & 229 services. Visit transportdirect.info for more information.

Getting here and parking

Hargate Forest

Don't worry about getting lost – we have installed clear arrows on two trails from the entrance.

The green walk is one mile long and will take around thirty minutes to complete. There is a gentle hill with a slight to moderate gradient and the path is surfaced. The path is wide and two people can walk abreast.

The red walk is two miles long and will take around one hour to complete. There are some hills with moderate gradients. The paths are unsurfaced in places and there are some tree roots, ruts, holes and bumps. Some sections of the paths get muddy in winter or after rain.

There are lots of trails in Hargate Forest, so why not use the map and make up your own.

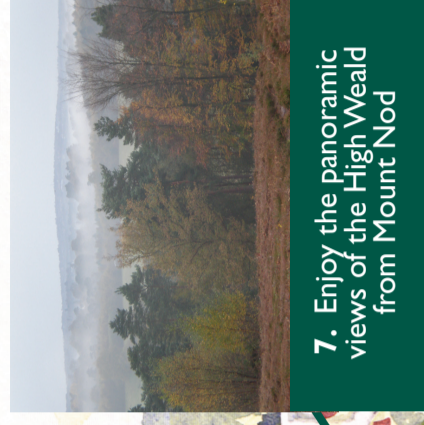


Scots pine

Fallow deer



Speckled wood



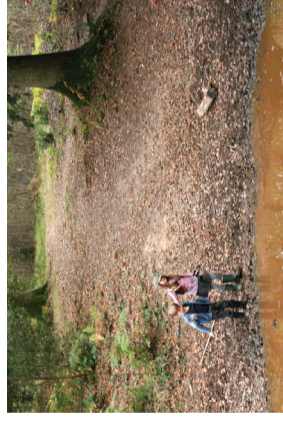
7. Enjoy the panoramic views of the High Weald from Mount Nod



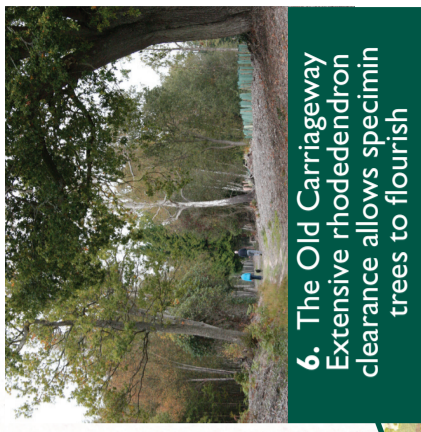
1. Broadwater Down Easy access with RADAR key



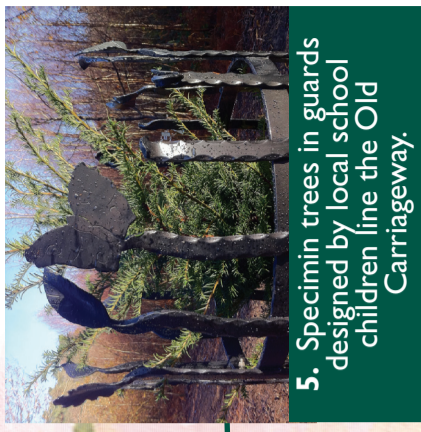
2. The green route is wide and surfaced to make access easier for everyone



3. Get closer to nature and relax at our new wildlife pond on the green route



6. The Old Carriageway Extensive rhododendron clearance allows specimen trees to flourish



5. Specimen trees in guards designed by local school children line the Old Carriageway.



4. Red route. Enjoy the tranquility of the open rides through mixed woodland route



| Key | |
|-----|-------------------------|
| | pond |
| | conifer woodland |
| | broadleaved woodland |
| | heathland |
| | Woodland Trust boundary |
| | green route |
| | red route |

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