

## Trails by Rail: Buxted

Welcome to the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; a beautiful and historic protected landscape. Enjoy a gentle walk across farmland, alongside Tickerage Stream and through historic Buxted Park with a circuit around the ancient woodland of Views Wood. An historic churchyard, ornamental ponds and an ancient yew thought to be 2,000 years old are features to look out for.

<b>Distance and duration</b>	4 miles / 6.5 kilometres - approximately 2.5 hours
<b>Level</b>	Leisurely with one stile
<b>Start point</b>	Buxted Station, High St, Buxted, Uckfield TN22 4LA
<b>Map reference</b>	TQ 497233 OS Explorer Ashdown Forest 135
<b>Other information</b>	Parking: pay and display at Buxted Station or occasional spaces along nearby roads. Refreshments: The White Hart near the station, Buxted Inn, Buxted Park Hotel (drinks on the veranda recommended) and village store.

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



The many mounds in the grassland are **Ant hills**, created by colonies of 8,000-14,000 yellow meadow ants. They are indicators of ancient wildflower grassland. Look out for Green Woodpeckers who like to feed on the ants.



**Iron-stained water** is found where there are iron-rich rocks nearby. As the water passes through the rocks it picks up some of the iron minerals, turning the water a rusty red.

## Walk directions

1. Starting from Buxted Station, turn left onto the main road, cross over, and then turn immediately right into Framfield Road. At the next road junction, after a short stretch of road without a pavement, turn right (signposted to Framfield). Walk up the hill and turn right onto a footpath at Mascalls Farm Barn. Follow the left-hand field edge to pass through a gap in the field corner and continue with a fence on your right to pass a pond on your left.
2. Climb a stile on the right (do not carry along the path ahead) and cross the field diagonally. Cross the next field in the same direction to reach a field gate on the right. Follow the footpath under a railway bridge and turn left to keep on the well-defined path as it passes through scrubland and then woodland to the banks Tickerage Stream. Follow the waterside path to cross a footbridge and continue along the stream bank to leave the woodland through a tall kissing gate and enter Buxted Park with views of the Hotel and church ahead.
3. Head across the Park towards the Hotel and continue straight ahead to cross the River Uck, walk between the ornamental lakes and cross another bridge. At the footpath junction ahead turn left. Pass through a tall kissing gate to a junction of paths. Follow the right-hand path to enter open grassland. Bear right and keep on the well-defined path with the fence on your right.
4. At the end of the fence line, where there is a junction of paths, continue straight ahead to enter woodland and head downhill and through a gate to cross a boardwalk.
5. To make a circuit of Views Wood: after the boardwalk head straight uphill on the main, wide path and look out for a narrow waymarked footpath on the right. Take this path and when it forks almost immediately take the left-hand path. Stay on this well-defined route as it widens and passes through an old sweet chestnut coppice to emerge at a junction of five paths. Cross the junction to take the main path in front of you straight down the hill and as you climb uphill turn left.
6. Follow this path to the end and a crossroads of paths. Turn left to meet a stony path and on this path turn left again away from the houses. Follow this path straight ahead and over a footbridge where the path forks. Take the left fork to stay on the gravelled path. At the next fork take the right path and then turn right onto the main track. Continue along the path keeping left when it forks and turning left again on reaching the closed board fence. Follow the path downhill to reach the boardwalk. Cross the boardwalk and turn immediately left to climb the short hill and leave the wood via a gate.
7. Follow the waymarked path until you reach a gate on your left. Turn right (do not follow the path straight ahead) to walk behind the rear of the Hotel, joining a drive. Follow the drive past the Hotel entrance to reach the Church. Turn right into the

churchyard. After passing an ancient yew on your left turn right to leave the churchyard via a gate.

8. Follow the path downhill straight ahead of you with views of Buxted village ahead. At the bottom of the hill keep on the path to pass the pill box on your right then turn left to leave Buxted Park through a tall kissing gate and join the A272.
9. Cross the main road and turn right to walk along the pavement back towards Buxted village and the 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

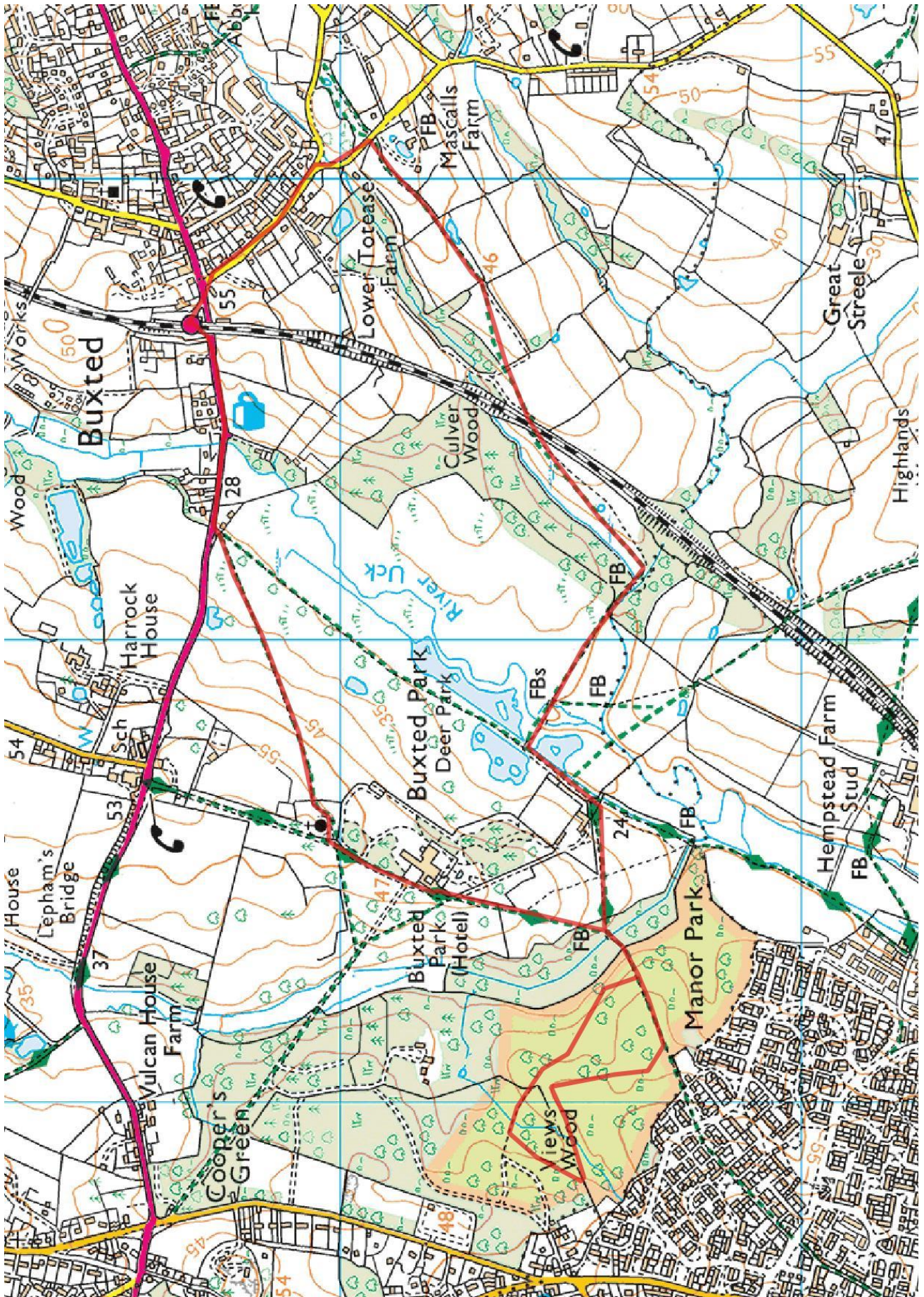
### **Protect the natural environment**

- 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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