

## **Cowden to East Grinstead – 8 miles** (Start point TQ463404)

Roadside parking in Cowden and in East Grinstead town centre.

From the church (TQ465404) go west 100 yards along street and then turn right up North Street, which becomes Spode Lane. Ignore small roads left and right

When road turns sharp right (TQ461407) go straight on through the gate following drive of 'Waystrode Manor'.

When drive goes left, go straight on through gate on path downhill through wood.

After 300 yards at 'Y' junction bear left.

Follow path across bridge and into field and aim for the gap ahead.

Cross second field diagonally and go through gate at far side on to track.

Turn left down the side of wood and follow track round to the right. Then bear left across field on farm track, through gate and uphill.

Pass through two further gates and then in the third field (TQ447408) head diagonally (NW) across the field to pass between two ponds.

NOTE. This instruction follows the official signposting on the ground. However, the Kent Definitive Map still shows the footpath heading down the left hand side of the field to the corner then turning right to meet the diagonal path of the way-marked path in the next corner.

At the edge of the field pass through a kissing gate and follow path into wood, then through two more kissing gates and into a field (TQ445412).

Go along right hand edge of field to stile, cross into next field and head diagonally NNE across field to opposite corner and through gate to join bridleway from left.

Follow fenced-in bridleway, with woodland on left and field on right, and then into the wood.

Emerge at a junction (TQ439418), turn left and follow track along field edge. There are lovely views to the north.

Enter woodland path through conifer plantation.

After 1/3 mile at the junction with a bridleway entering from left, bear right on woodland track with a left hand turn after a further 1/3 mile.

At bridleway junction, before houses, go straight on and past houses on right.

At 'Dry Hill House' T-junction turn right and follow drive round to left with views to the north again.

After ½ mile at 'Old Lodge Farm' turn left and cross stile to pass between buildings (TQ421416).

Follow path downhill between fence and hedge, through small wood and across bridge into field.

Go straight on with stream and belt of woodland on left.

At edge of field cross stile into drive and turn right.

After 70 yards go left over two stiles and follow path to cross field uphill bearing left and passing horse shelter on right before reaching fence.

Cross stile and turn left.

Follow path uphill passing to right of pit and pond and with a plantation on left at the top.

Go ahead over stile and in 50 yards pass to left of barn/stables.

Go ahead through field gate and follow farm track with house 'Bidbury' to the left before reaching road.

Turn left on road for ¼ mile. Beware road can be busy at times and has bends with no verges.

Pass entrance of drive to 'Old Surrey Hall' on right.

Continue on road downhill, and at TQ423405 turn right on bridleway on sunken track between fields.

At junction with drive, and houses on right, turn left downhill and then right to follow fence line downhill beside 'Old Surrey Hall' properties.

On reaching drive, with 'Old Surrey Hall' on your left, take time to admire the architecture. Then turn right along drive.

In 150 yards as drive goes right go straight on downhill.

At junction turn left and cross stream.

Continue straight on uphill ignoring left track.

At the top of the hill go over the stile to the right into field and continue in westerly direction towards left hand fence line, then through gap in woods ahead to reach gate.

Cross two stiles, with farm track between, and continue on same bearing across another field to far corner.

Cross stile and plank bridge and follow path into woods and uphill, up steps, then right and left and further steps to reach the A264, TQ409395.

Cross over A264 with care, to pavement.

Turn left and in 30 yards turn right towards 'Fairlight Farm' on tarmac drive.

Follow drive until just before 'Tandridge Cottage' and turn right on footpath with fence on left.

Follow path for 1/3 mile keeping fence or boundary lines on left. Pass housing to right. Ignore paths to right into woods.

At junction with housing estate on the left take right fork and in a few yards at second junction take right fork again over bridge.

Follow path uphill with garden fences on the left and woods on right.

Continue uphill ignoring left and right turns to pass 'Escots Farm House' on the left to reach access drive to East Grinstead Town Council offices.

Turn left, then almost immediately right, to reach College Lane (B2110).

Turn left to cross bridge over bypass (A22) in cutting then cross road at pedestrian crossing.

Continue along College Lane to mini-roundabout.

Turn right along High Street. Note McKindoe (guinea pigs' plastic surgeon in WWII) statue on corner.

At next mini-roundabout turn right down London Road.

At cross roads with traffic lights continue straight on.

Before next mini-roundabout (third one) cross road at pedestrian lights and then turn left down Station Road to reach East Grinstead railway station.





