

This circular walk is one of a number of walks produced by Kent County Council. If you liked this walk you can find more on the Explore Kent website at www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

We welcome any feedback about this walk or the content of the guide. If you know of a good walk and would like to share it, please let us know and we may feature it on our website.

If the route description or pictures are out-of-date please e-mail explorekent@kent.gov.uk

Please tell us about any problems concerning the paths using the Kent Report Line **0845 345 0210**. This guide is available in other formats on request.

FAMILY FUN!

Walking is not only a healthy activity but it can be fun and informative too. Free activity worksheets for children of all ages to take on the walk can be ordered by emailing explorekent@kent.gov.uk or calling **08458 247600**.



When you're out walking in the countryside, please respect the Countryside Code.

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any arrows or signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people



FOOTPATH



BRIDLEWAY



BYWAY



RESTRICTED BYWAY

Walk Overview

Distance: 5 miles (8km) allow 3 hours



Start/Finish: Harrietsham station



Stiles: 21



Gates: 2



Terrain: Field paths and tracks. Some moderate slopes



Views: Some excellent views



Toilets: In Harrietsham



Refreshments: Pub and shop in Harrietsham

How to get there...

Road Map:

Multimap website www.multimap.com. Search for "Harrietsham".



By Car: From Maidstone on the A20, turn left at Harrietsham village into West Street. Turn right, following signs to the Railway Station.

Parking: There is limited parking at Harrietsham station and some on-road parking around the village.

Train: Nearest station: Harrietsham. National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

Bus: 510 (Maidstone – Ashford). 2 hourly. Mon-Sat. 5 journeys Sun. Traveline: 0870 6082608



03/2007

Explore the Kent countryside
Have fun, stay healthy!

Walks in West Kent Harrietsham

5 miles (8km) approx. 10,000 steps
Allow 3 hours

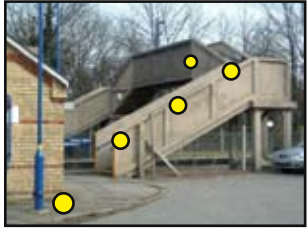
About the walk...

Although Harrietsham lies along the A20, it's not long before you are out of the village and away from the traffic on this route up on the North Downs. Using part of the North Downs Way, the route offers some excellent views of the surrounding countryside from the Downs. There is a chance to rest at the Ringlestone Inn which was built in 1533 and retains many original features.

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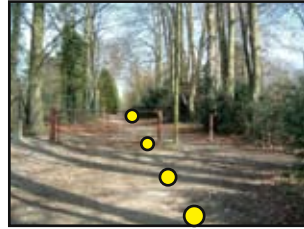
Photo Guide



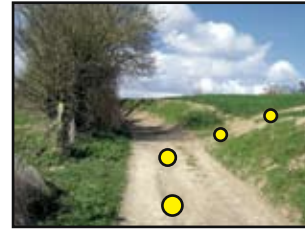
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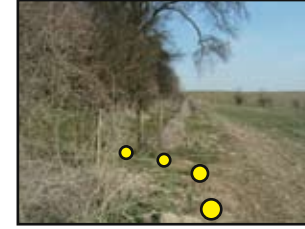
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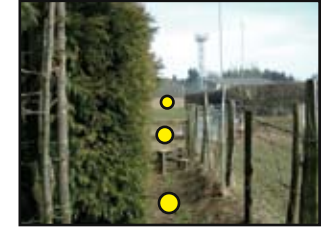
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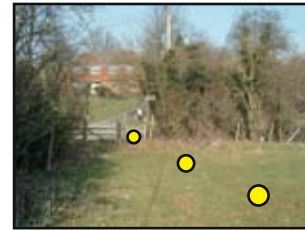
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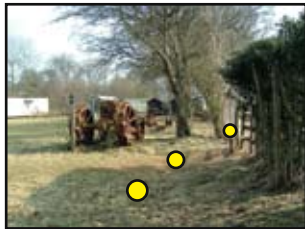
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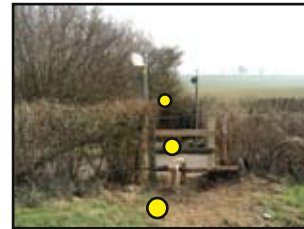
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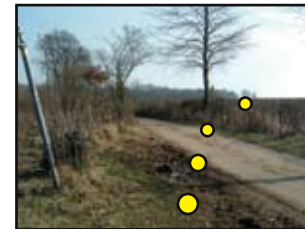
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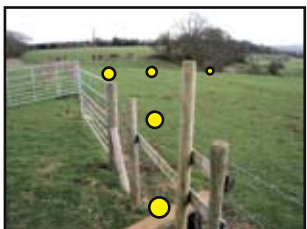
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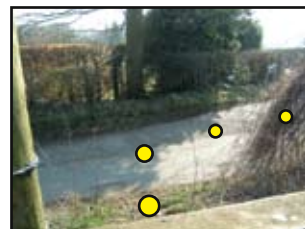
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For guidance only, actual conditions encountered may be different to what is shown depending on weather and time of year.

Route Description

- 1 From the station car park, cross the footbridge and turn right to follow the path alongside the railway line.
- 2 Pass through gap in fence line and continue on the path uphill. A short distance on, cross over a road and continue uphill.
- 3 Continue past a gate until you reach a junction with the North Downs Way/Pilgrims Way and turn left.
- 4 Look out for a gap in the fence on the left at junction with footpath. Turn right here to follow the path up a steep hill across a field. A short distance on, follow the hedgeline on your left hand side. (There are fantastic views from the Downs at this point.)
- 5 When you reach a stile in the hedgerow on your left, cross the stile and turn immediately right, continuing along the hedgeline.
- 6 At the end of the hedgerow, cross the stile and head towards a gate to the right of the farm buildings. Pass through this gate and continue ahead over another stile. Follow path through the farmyard.
- 7 On reaching a stile on your left, cross over and follow the path across the field towards 2 tall trees ahead.

When you reach the trees turn left to follow the waymarker along the field edge and bear right at the corner.
- 8 At a junction with another footpath, continue on to the right of the line of trees ahead.

- 9 On reaching a road, go over stile and cross the road. On the other side cross another stile and continue ahead with the woodland on your right hand side.
- 10 When you reach a gate on your right hand side, bear left across the field to a waymarker sign on the other side, at this waymarker turn right. Cross a stile and continue ahead until you reach the Ringlestone Pub on your left hand side.
- 11 Here you can either stop for a well earned break or continue on your walk by turning right and crossing back across the field towards the telegraph pole and a stile.
- 12 Cross over stile and continue across the field towards another stile in the fenceline.
- 13 Go over stile and follow the path to the right and through some woods. Keep following the waymarkers until you reach a stile in the fenceline.
- 14 Cross stile and follow the path bearing left across the field.
- 15 Go over stile, cross the road and then over another stile to continue ahead on the path. A short distance on, cross another stile and follow the field edge with a hedge on your right hand side.
- 16 Pass through a gate, cross a stile and follow the path across the field towards a large tree. Follow the path to a stile in the corner of the field at road.
- 17 Cross the road, over another stile and bear left. Head across field towards 2 trees and the corner of a wood.

Walk your way to a healthier lifestyle

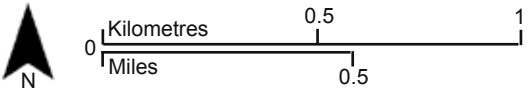
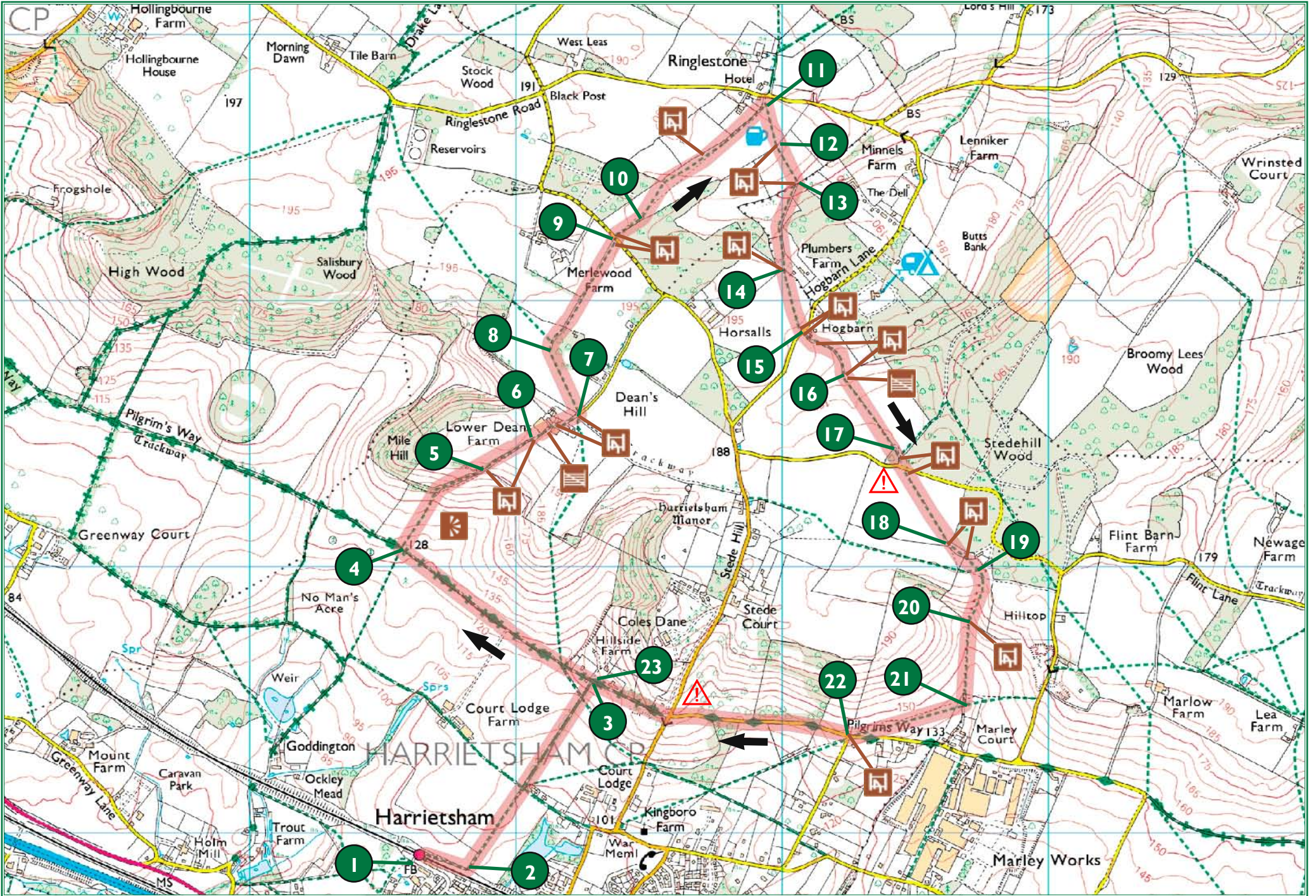


"Walking for one mile burns virtually the same number of calories as jogging for one mile, it just takes a little longer!"

"Walking is FREE and requires no special equipment or clothing – as long as you are comfortable"

"Regular walking helps reduce the risk of heart disease, strokes, diabetes and high blood pressure"

- 18 Cross a stile in the corner and follow the path to cross another 2 stiles.
- 19 Turn left and follow the fence. Near the telegraph pole, turn right and head downhill towards the buildings in the distance.
- 20 Cross a stile in the fenceline and head across the field, to left of telegraph pole.
- 21 On reaching a fenced area, follow path along fence on the left until you reach a stile on your left. At this point bear right to follow path uphill to a stile near the road.
- 22 Cross the stile, go down steps and turn right to follow the Pilgrims Way. On reaching a crossroads continue straight ahead along the North Downs Way/Pilgrims Way.
- 23 Turn left and re-trace your steps back to Harrietsham station where you started.



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 Take care
- 
 Stile
- 
 Gate
- 
 View

Also use Ordnance Survey Map: Explorer 148
 Harrietsham Circular Walk www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent