

Explore the Kent countryside
Have fun, stay healthy!



A circular walk from Lullingstone Country Park

6.5 miles (10.4km) Allow 3 hours

About the walk...

This walk explores the countryside surrounding Lullingstone Country Park. From the park, this walk travels along the Darent Valley path to the charming village of Shoreham. Soon after there are a couple of challenging climbs to negotiate but you are rewarded with some fantastic views of the valley. The route returns to the Visitor Centre passing by the Roman Villa and Lullingstone Castle - regularly visited by Henry VIII and Queen Anne. If you prefer a shorter walk you can follow the route to Shoreham and then retrace your steps back to the Visitor Centre.

Walk Overview

Distance: 6.5 miles (10.4 km) Allow 3 hours



Start/Finish: Lullingstone Country Park



Stiles: 10



Gates: 8



Terrain: Field and woodland paths. Some steep slopes



Views: Some excellent views



Toilets: At visitor centre



Refreshments: Visitor Centre, Shoreham village shops and pubs

How to get there...

Road Map:

Streetmap website
www.streetmap.co.uk
Enter Postcode DA4 0JF.



By Car: From A225 between Eynsford and Shoreham, turn off at Castle Road to reach the Visitor Centre (look for signs to Lullingstone Country Park).

Parking: Parking is available at the Visitor Centre

Train: Nearest station: Eynsford (1.5 miles). National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

Bus: 421 (Swanley – Sevenoaks). 3 journeys. Mon-Sat. Traveline: 0870 6082608

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 incorrect 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.



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

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs.



FOOTPATH



BRIDLEWAY



BYWAY

- 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

Route Description

- 1 Leave the Visitor Centre car park by the main entrance and turn right to take the path over stile into a field. Follow alongside boundary.
- 2 As you go around a bend in the field look out for a gap on the left. **Beware of traffic.** Go down steps and cross the road to a gate on the other side. Continue ahead across the field following Darent Valley path signs. Cross stile in the treeline to follow the path to a surfaced track.
- 3 Cross track and climb over a stile to the left of the gate to enter into a field. Follow the path heading to the left corner ahead and over another stile to continue on, along field edge.
- 4 Go through a kissing gate to follow the path as it runs, fairly narrow in places, alongside the river.
- 5 Come out onto a surfaced road and turn left. Follow the surfaced path along the fenceline of Mill House and over a small bridge crossing the river. After crossing the bridge, turn right to continue to follow the surfaced path alongside the river.
- 6 Shoreham: **Beware of traffic.** On reaching the main road (Church Street), turn right along the pavement to go over bridge. Pass Kings Arms pub and village school. At the road junction turn right (towards village shops).
- 7 Look out for a footpath on the left just past Shoreham Aircraft Museum - signposted to Halstead and Timberden Bottom (The Landway). Go uphill on a track that travels alongside a recreation ground before heading through a kissing gate onto a narrow enclosed path.

At the end of this path, climb over stile and continue uphill on a steep section of path – on the right you should be able to make out the Shoreham Cross War Memorial.

Reaching a second stile on the uphill climb, take the opportunity to look back and admire fantastic views of the valley. Cross over the stile to continue uphill on a short steep section of path with some steps.
- 8 At the top (Meenfield Wood), turn right to follow the path, stopping at the gap on the right to admire

Shoreham Cross and more fine views. Further on, go around a vehicle gate to continue downhill through a wooded section. After passing another gate, bear left to head towards the road.

- 9 **Beware of traffic.** On reaching the road (Shacklands Road) turn right and continue downhill past junction, following signs to Well Hill and Eynsford.

A short distance on, turn left into Cockerhurst Road with its tall trees on either side. Follow the road until you approach a bungalow on the left.
- 10 Look for the footpath on the right opposite the driveway and follow the path uphill. Near the top, look back at some more good views of the valley.
- 11 Cross over stile to follow path along field edge towards overhead power lines.
- 12 Upon reaching the edge of the field, follow the fairly narrow enclosed path past house and bear right, taking the surfaced driveway to the road. (Please be considerate and try not to disturb residents as you pass close to their property). On reaching the road, turn left. **Beware of traffic.**
- 13 After a short distance, turn right to go up steps and cross over stile into a field. Keeping to the left edge, continue ahead to cross over another stile. Follow the enclosed path to a gate.
- 14 Go through the gate to enter into Lullingstone Park (Beechin Wood). Follow the path straight on. (Public Footpath 206 as indicated on the signpost).
- 15 Continue along a woodland path and **take care as you cross a golf fairway** (look both ways before crossing) to pick up the path running through a short wooded section on the other side.
- 16 Come out from the trees and follow signs to a surfaced path ahead. Turn left and head towards the car park (signposted as Path 216/Park Gate Car Park) past the Clubhouse on the right. Enter the car park and bear right to head for the exit.
- 17 After leaving the Golf Club, go through the kissing gate (Homestead Hall) immediately on the right to follow the path past houses and into the fields.

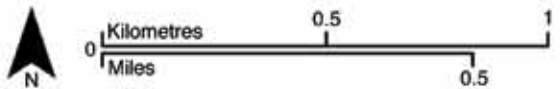
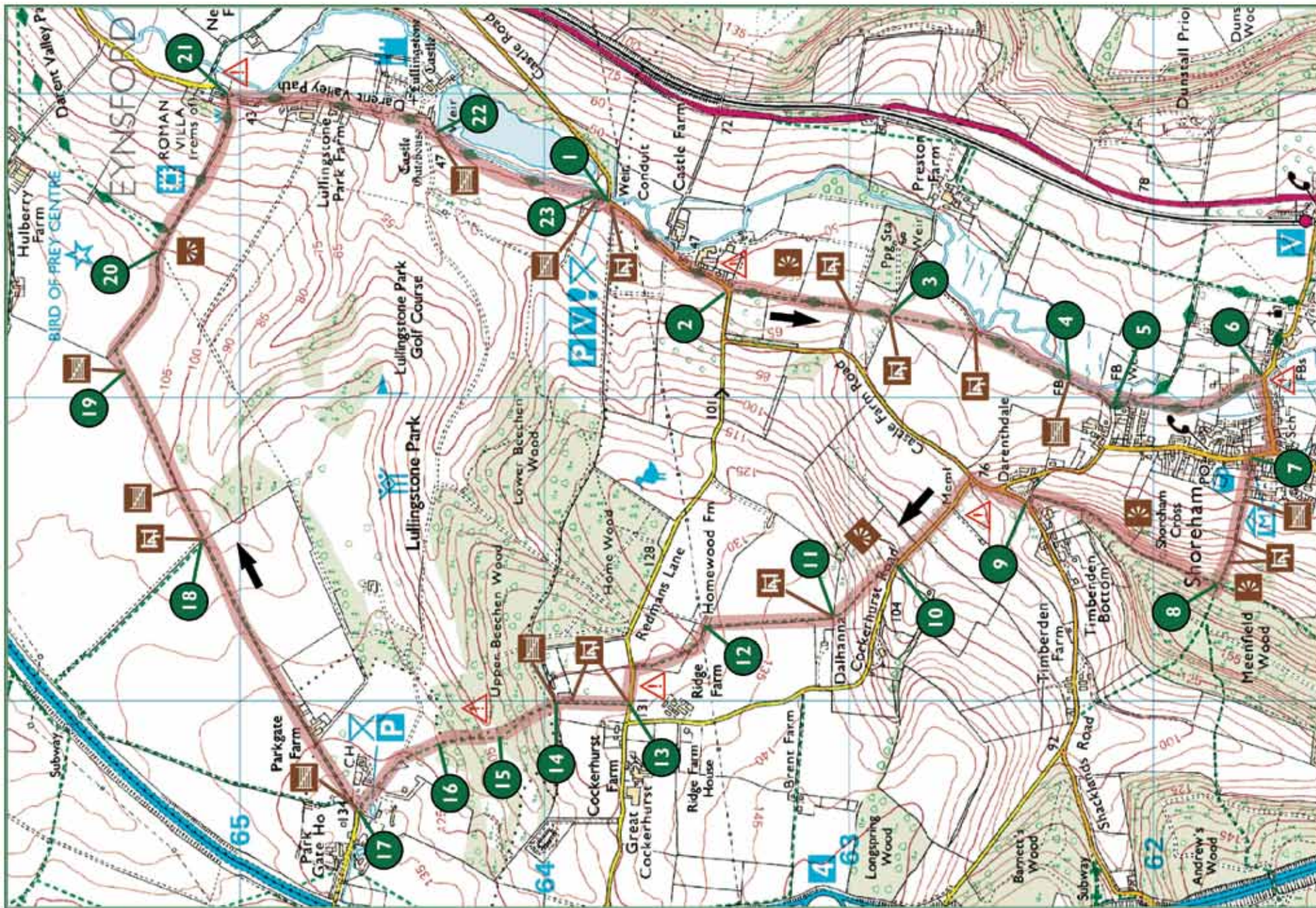
Walk your way to a healthier lifestyle

“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”

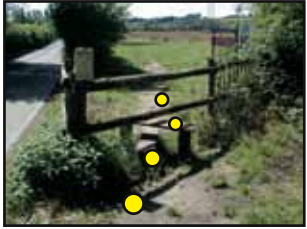
- 18 Cross over stile to continue ahead through a wooded section. Go through gate to continue ahead along field edge.
- 19 Turn right to go through gate into another field. Follow path downhill with tall trees on the left. Lullingstone Castle should just be visible in the distance.
- 20 On the way downhill, look out for a gap in the trees on the left. Follow signposts through gap onto another path. As the path continues downhill, there are some good views of Eynsford Viaduct on the left. Nearing the bottom, go down steps to a road. To the left is the Roman Villa.
- 21 **Beware of traffic.** On reaching the road turn right. Follow the surfaced road past Lullingstone Castle on your left and a short distance on, bear right into car park heading for a gate in the left hand corner.
- 22 Go through kissing gate to follow riverside path back to the Visitor Centre car park.
- 23 On reaching the Visitor Centre, turn right to go through a kissing gate to take you back to where you started.



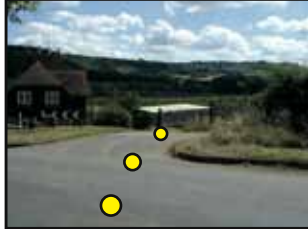
-  Take care
-  Stile
-  Gate
-  View

Also use Ordnance Survey Map: Explorer 147
Lullingstone – Lullingstone & Shoreham Walk www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

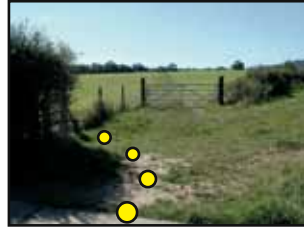
Photo Guide



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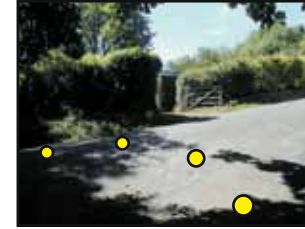
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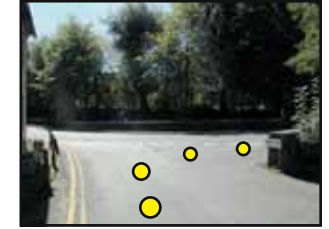
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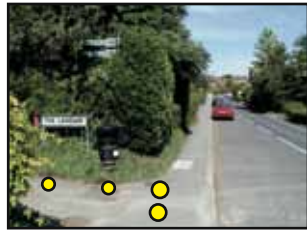
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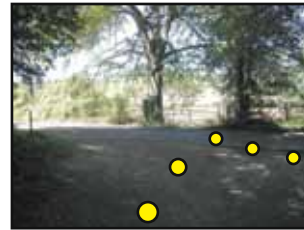
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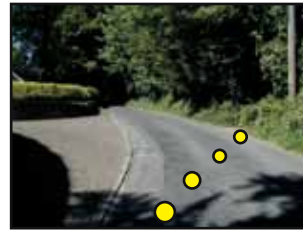
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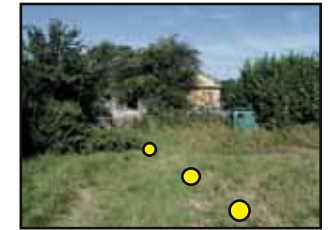
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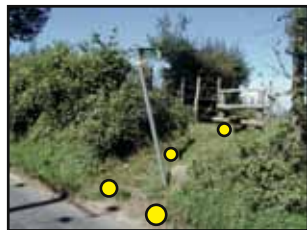
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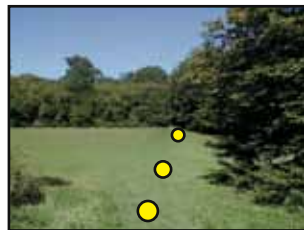
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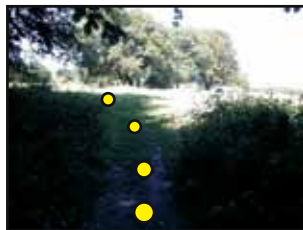
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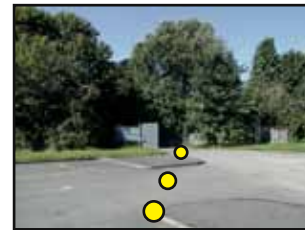
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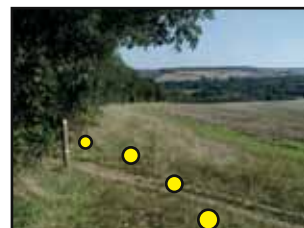
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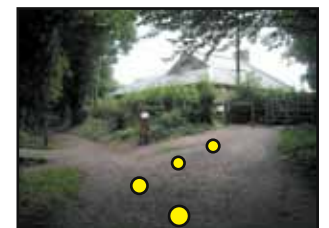
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For guidance only, actual conditions encountered may be different to what is shown depending on weather and time of year.