

Walk 6

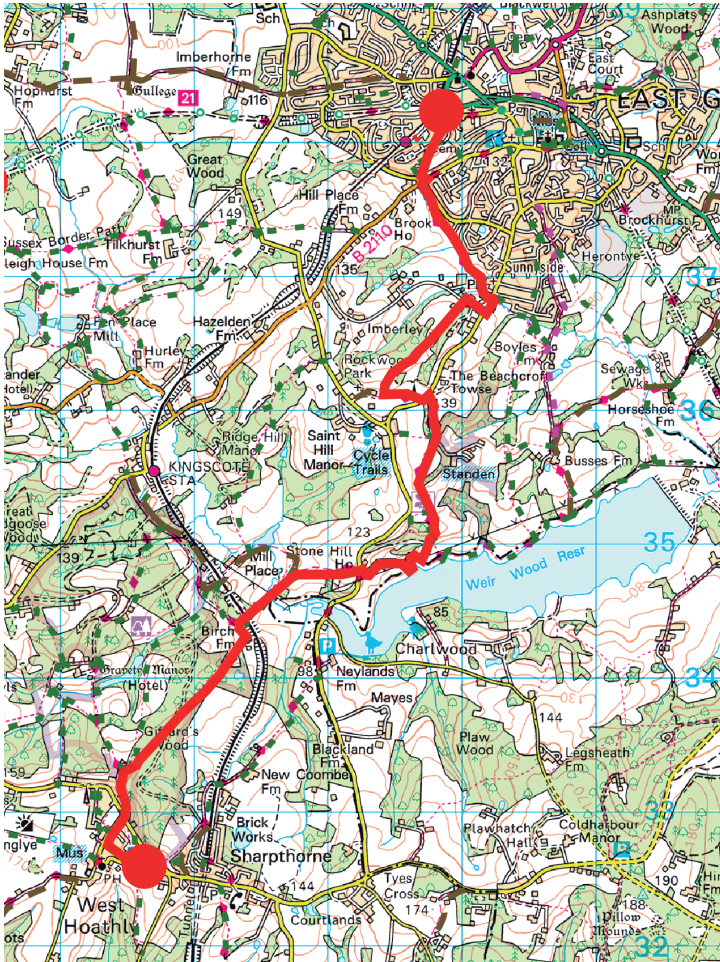
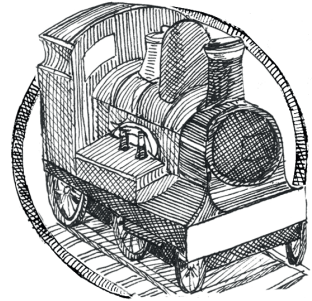
East Grinstead to West Hoathly

(6 miles / 10km)

Grading = Moderate

OS Explorer map 135

(Ashdown Forest)



Start point:

East Grinstead Railway Station Car Park,
Grosvenor Road RH19 1HS

End point:

Finche Field Recreation Ground (car park),
Church Hill, West Hoathly RH19 4PN

1. Walk away from the station entrance (WAYMARKER 7) toward the roundabout, keeping Sainsbury's on your right, and turn right down Brooklands Way. Pass Pannell Close on the left and continue straight on, past the park on your left to the junction at the bottom of the hill.
2. Cross over at the roundabout and turn right into Turners Hill Road, and cross to the other side of the road. A few metres on the left-hand side there is a public footpath which runs behind the houses.
3. Continue along this path through a number of gates, over a wooden plank bridge through a boggy patch and stream, past the housing to your left until you reach Streatfield Place, by the Dunning Mills pub.
4. At the road, turn right and walk on the pavement for a short way, then turn right at Coombe Hill Road (marked Private Road), go past some houses and then turn left down Medway Drive into a large field with mature trees all around.
5. Walk along the right edge of the field, through a wooden den and continue uphill on a sunken pathway with trees on either side. When you reach the rugby club, turn left and go past a mobile phone mast on your right to reach the road.
6. Turn left at the road and then go right at the entrance to Standen House and Garden (National Trust), follow the track for a short way and then turn right onto a footpath just before the houses on your right-hand side.
7. Walk down the narrow tree lined path, through a kissing gate into a cow pasture and continue downhill towards the reservoir with the field boundary on your left, go through a metal gate and follow the enclosed path through the trees, ignoring the footpaths to your right.

*Halfway Point (3 miles / 5 km):
Weir Wood Reservoir Local
Nature Reserve*

8. When you are nearly at the reservoir, turn diagonally right across an open field, cross under a power line, go through a gate and follow the fence around to the right until you come to a track with some metal gates on your left, with no public access.
9. Turn right here, past the car park on your right-hand side and follow the track to the main road, then turn right up the hill.
Take great care at this point as it is a busy road. A short way up on the left, there is a public bridleway sign and a metal gate, walk this way and go past the Stone Hill climbing rocks on your left.
10. At the point where the main track bears right, follow a public footpath that turns left, through a gate into a sheep field, go straight across the field downhill toward a gap in the trees, past a stream and over a gated bridge on your right.
11. Turn left and go over another little bridge and head for a gate on the far side of the field, with the vineyard to your right. Cross over the track, go through the metal gate into the woods and follow the path.
12. Go over a stile and up a steep hill toward the Bluebell Railway line. At the top, Stop, Look, Listen and then cross over the tracks, go down the other side and over a stile at the bottom. Cross over a little wooden bridge and follow the path keeping the fence to your left until you reach a track.
13. Turn left up the track toward Birch Farm, then turn right just before the white gates, to go over a stile and follow the public footpath straight on toward the woods. Go over a stile at the end of the field and walk through the woods on a wide path.
14. Keep following the path straight on until you come to a wide track, turn left and then almost immediately right, to continue on through the woods on a slight incline with some tall pine trees on the left. Cross over an unmarked track and continue uphill.

15. When the path narrows you will reach a footpath junction, bear left on the path with banks either side and head uphill until you come to a gate and a kissing gate. Continue on, past Laburnum Cottage on your right and a garage on your left, toward West Hoathly village ahead.
16. Take care crossing the road as there is limited visibility and then walk along the pavement on the right-hand side of North Lane. Walk past the recreation ground and public toilets on your right, and the primary school on your left, and then turn left onto Sandy Lane.
17. Walk to the end and then take the path on the right past the garages, follow this path to the left of the Millennium Beacon, where you can take in the view toward the South Downs, and you will see the car park ahead (WAYMARKER 8).

If you are in need of refreshments, there are two pubs in West Hoathly – The Cat Inn, North Lane RH19 4PP and The Fox, Highbrook Lane RH19 4PJ



**Waymarker 8
West Hoathly**