Walk 13

East Grinstead Circular (6.5 miles / 10.5km) Grading = Moderate

OS Explorer map 135 (Ashdown Forest)

Start/End point:

East Grinstead Railway Station, Railway Approach RH19 1EB





- Walk away from the station entrance (WAYMARKER 7) on the pavement toward the roundabout with Sainsbury's on your right. Follow the signs for the Forest Way and cross over to reach Railway Approach.
- 2. At the end of Railway Approach turn right and walk to the top of London Road on the right-hand side until the road bends to the right and you reach a belisha beacon crossing. Cross here and turn left down the High Street.
- Continue on the High Street past the War Memorial, Sackville College and the McIndoe sculpture to your left. Cross over Fairfield Road and walk straight on until you reach the Forest Way on your right; it is clearly signposted West Sussex Border Path and High Weald Landscape Trail.
- Follow the Forest Way straight down, cross over a residential road and continue on this wide tree lined path for some way. When you reach a brick bridge, go underneath and then turn right (to go back on yourself) and at the top, turn right to go over the bridge.

- 5. Follow the tarmac road for short way until you see a footpath sign on the right, turn off the bridleway and follow the footpath slightly uphill through a field. At the top of the field go through a metal kissing gate and carry on the public footpath into the woods past some large rocks.
- The path goes under a little brick bridge and past a closeboard fence on the left. Continue on the path until you reach the main Lewes Road, turn left and cross over at the island, then pick up the Public Byway opposite, at the top of Hammerwood Road.
- 7. The byway goes between a closeboard fence on the right and a wooded bank on the left, follow it downhill between the houses. When you reach a residential road, turn left until you see some high metal fencing, then turn left toward Cherry Garden Farm.
- Turn down the drive, through a wooden kissing gate to the right of the main gate and walk along the loose gravel track. Follow it up hill to the farmhouse and then take the right hand turn to follow a narrow public footpath which

runs between a metal fence and a hedge.

- 9. Keep following the path as it meanders through the woods and at the top of a slope you need to turn right through a wood and metal kissing gate. The path goes downhill through the woods, the path turns to the left, past some big redwoods on the right.
- 10. When you reach a wooden log bench, turn right. The path skirts round Fowl Wood and when it bears right you need to turn left over a stile, keep left and walk downhill. You will see a solar farm through the trees on your left-hand side.
- 11. Go over a wooden plank bridge, keep following the public footpath through the trees then go over a stream on another wooden bridge. Walk into an open field, the path goes straight on between two metal fences. At the top of the field go through a kissing gate, walk on with the hedgerow on your left and a metal fence on your right.
- 12. Go through a metal gate and follow the narrow path between a closeboard fence and hedgerow (mind the overgrown holly bush!).

When you reach Fairlight Farm bear right up a farmyard track, past some barns. Just past Fairlight Cottage, turn left to follow the public footpath signposted West Sussex Border Path.

- 13. The path goes downhill toward Ashplatts Wood. Continue on the West Sussex Border Path until you see a green arrow directing you to turn right to follow a woodland trail. Go over a wooden bridge over a little stream and then over another little bridge, keep following the green arrows until you reach the East Court recreation ground.
- 14. Turn left and walk round the edge of the playing fields with the woods on your left, you can see a large mansion house in the distance on your right (East Grinstead Town Council offices). At the end of the playing fields the green woodland trail turns left, by the dog waste bin, over a wooden plank walkway and then turn right.
- 15. The path winds through a wooded area then continue on the narrow Sussex Border Path. The path goes slightly uphill, past a pond on the right,

there are residential gardens to your right. You will come out onto a tarmac road by some pretty cottages and Estcots farmhouse, walk straight ahead then cross over the road and turn left toward Estcots Drive.

- 16. Cross over Estcots Drive at the island, walk over the bridge and cross over at the pedestrian crossing, then turn back on yourself over the bridge and go left down Sandy Lane. This quiet road runs alongside the railway cutting to your left, now the A22 Beeching Way, and there is no pavement so be aware of vehicles.
- 17. At the bend, turn left to take the footbridge over the main road. Turn left, then cross over at the junction and go right on the pavement with King Street car park on your right. Walk on past the public toilets on your right toward London Road, cross over at the pedestrian crossing ad then turn right.
- 18. At the mini roundabout at the bottom of London Road, turn left onto Railway Approach. Follow the road back to the roundabout to return to the East Grinstead station forecourt (WAYMARKER 7).



Waymarker 7 East Grinstead