

## Walk 4

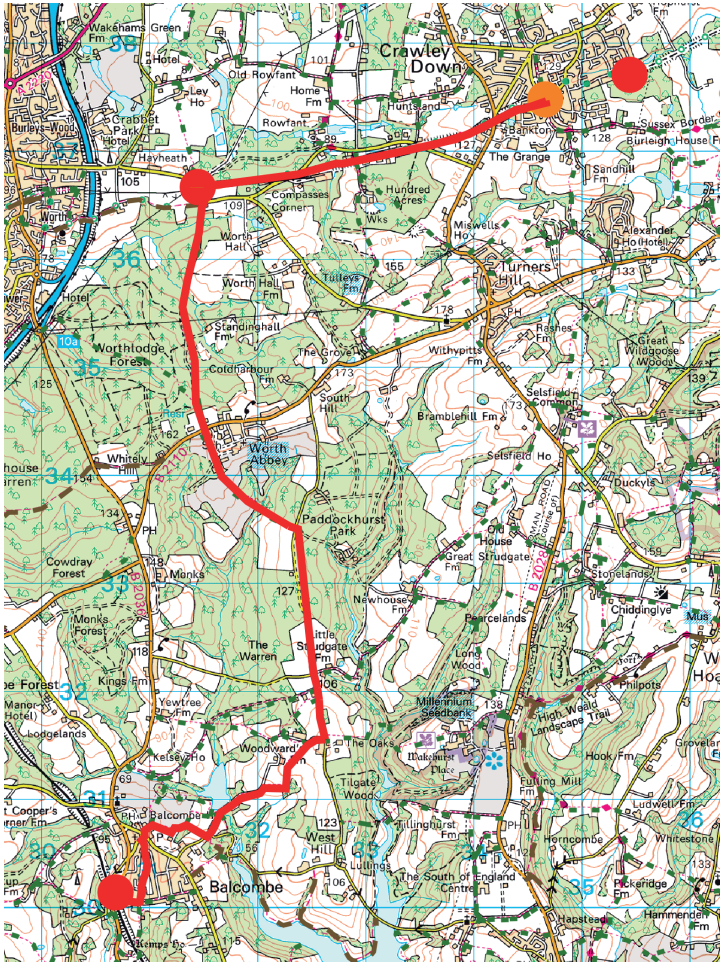
### Balcombe to Crawley Down

(7 miles / 11km)

Grading = Easy

OS Explorer map 135

(Ashdown Forest)



### Key

Red dots =  
Waymakers

Orange dot =  
village map

**Start point:**

Balcombe Railway Station (car park), London Road,  
Balcombe RH17 6JQ (reasonable daily charge)

**End point:**

Burleigh Way Car Park, Crawley Down RH10 4HJ

1. From the station car park, take the pedestrian bridge, from the north bound platform, over the railway line and go up the steps to London Road. Turn left (WAYMARKER 4) and cross the road at the island. Take the path to the left of the red telephone box which leads to Newlands
2. Cross over and turn right to walk along the pavement until you reach Jobes. Turn left and follow the public footpath on the right which leads to the recreation ground. Walk straight on past the bowls club until you reach Stockcroft Road.
3. Turn left, past Victory Hall, then go right toward the Half Moon Pub and Balcombe Village Stores. Go past the store and then turn right to follow the public footpath. The track bears right and goes toward Balcombe Cricket Club.
4. When you reach the playing field, follow the footpath around to the left until you reach a small wood. A gate leads into another field, keep the hedge to your left and go straight on, then at the sign turn right downhill toward Balcombe Lake.
5. Walk on past the lake to your left, up the tarmac path which eventually bears left. A red sign states that the drive beyond this is private and a detour is necessary to rejoin the drive on the other side of the farm. Take a sharp right through a gate and a stile into a field, keep along the top edge by the hedge.
6. A gate and stile lead into the field on your left. Go up with the wood to your right but do not get too close to it. Head for another field the other side of a hedge toward a barn where the drive, now a track, is rejoined.

7. Turn right through a gate and up the chalk track ahead to the top where another track comes in from your left. Turn right and follow this track to emerge on a narrow lane. Turn left and follow this lane (Back Lane) for about 1.25 miles.
8. Continue to follow Back Lane, passing a lane (Stoney Lane) to the left and a drive to the right. There are initially fields on both sides of the lane, it then passes through a wood, then a large field on the left with a view of Worth Abbey.
9. The route turns left along a footpath just as a wood starts on the left opposite a drive and white gate. Cross the stile next to the gate and follow the path downhill with the field on your left and a fence and woods on the right ignoring two tracks into the woods.
10. At the bottom of the field the path enters a wood and crosses a stone bridge (or alternatively use the wooden plank bridge which crosses the stream to your right). Follow the track up with a field to your left and a wood to the right.
11. Ignore the track off to your right and when the wood finishes; Worth Abbey can be seen to your right. There are tennis courts on the right and then the track becomes a paved road. Before you reach the impressive gates, continue straight on into a field which is used as a golf course. Keep the low wall to your right then bear left toward the busy road (B2110).  
  
*Halfway Point (3 miles / 5 km):  
Worth School, Worth Abbey,  
Paddockhurst Road, Turners  
Hill RH10 4SD*
12. Cross over the road with care, turn right, then almost immediately left toward a large wooden gate to follow a wide track which heads north. Shortly after the track starts to descend ignore the left fork and continue straight on.
13. Follow the path for just over a mile through the woods until you reach a stile a few yards to your left which leads onto The Worth Way (footpath/bridleway from Three Bridges to East Grinstead). Turn right toward the road and then turn left to walk along the pavement. At the end, cross over to pick up the Worth Way opposite (WAYMARKER 5).

14. The Worth Way is very flat, level and wide, continue on the Worth Way, crossing a tarmac track, until you reach a crossing over a road which leads toward an industrial estate to your right. You can make a short diversion to stop for tea and coffee at the Centre Café which is up the road on the left.

*Resting Place (6 miles / 10 km): Centre Café, Rowfant Business Centre, Wallage Lane RH10 4NQ*

15. Continue on the Worth Way past the Rowfant Sawmills on your right hand side, there are some steep drops down the embankment on either side of this stretch.
16. Arrive at Old Station Close and walk straight on, past The Carriage restaurant on the corner, over the road ahead to the war memorial, turn left then immediately right into Burleigh Way, following the Worth Way signs, where you will see the Car Park on the left, opposite Auchinleck Court.

*The pictorial village map on Station Road was designed by artist Helen Cann*



**Waymarker 5  
Worth Way**