

## Walk 7

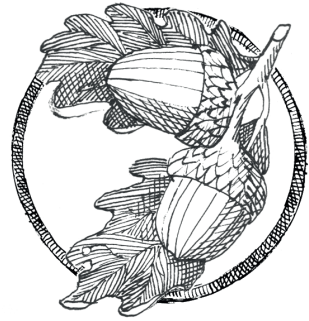
### West Hoathly to Lindfield

(6.5 miles / 10km)

Grading = Moderate

Explorer map 135

(Ashdown Forest)



**Start point:**

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

**End point:**

Lindfield High Street, opposite The Tiger,  
All Saints Church RH16 2HT  
(The Wilderness Car Park RH16 2JE).

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**Warning!**

**Sections of this walk,  
particularly the paths  
that go through farmyards,  
may be very muddy.**

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1. From the car park (WAYMARKER 8), follow the footpath adjacent to the road that runs past the allotments. At the bottom of the steps, turn right by the pub and follow the pavement on the opposite side of the road along Top Road until you reach the Sharpthorne Club which is on the right, just past the Costcutter and Post Office.
2. Turn right and then left at the end of the building, before the car park, to follow the footpath down an alley at the back of the clubhouse which continues on between two fences. At the end of this path there is a metal kissing gate, carry on across the field with the hedge to your left. Lovely views of the South Downs ahead.
3. Head down the hill and at the bottom of the field continue through a metal gate into another field. Head straight across this field toward the metal gate at the bottom of the field.
4. Walk down a steep bank and over a small stream to a stile and then turn right along the side of the stream. Head toward a large oak tree in the middle of the field, walk uphill and through another gate.
5. Bear diagonally right across the field to the hedge on the other side, through a metal gate then walk through the field keeping the little fence to your left and head toward the trees. Turn right along the bottom edge of the field until you reach a gate, stile and fingerpost directing you to follow the Sussex Border Path.
6. The path goes between two fences and comes out onto a track by a house called Claverdale. Turn left and follow the track to a road where you need to turn right. The traffic is fast and there no pavement but there is a narrow grass verge on the right-hand side.
7. When you reach the houses, turn right at Vox End down a

track, the footpath turns to the left, go over a stile into a horse field. Walk straight through a couple of fields until you reach the Bluebell Railway.

8. Don't go over the bridge, cross the tarmac drive, over a stile and head South through a field with the railway line on your right until you reach a crossing. Stop, Look, Listen, over a stile, through a kissing gate over the tracks and turn left down the side of the track along the embankment which falls away quite steeply in places.
9. When you reach a metal gate, turn right over the stile and follow the path through the woods, the path loops around back to the left, over the railway bridge, into a private car park and then turns to the right.

*Resting Place (2 miles / 3 km):  
Bluebell Railway, Horsted  
Keynes Station RH17 7BB  
– stay on the track and walk  
down the hill to the entrance,  
if the station is open you can  
purchase a platform ticket and  
there is a café serving teas,  
coffees and snacks.*

10. From the car park, walk down the track, under the power line, and turn left (before the station) through a kissing gate

onto a footpath with Leamland Wood on the right and a horse paddock on the left. Go over a stile into the field and follow the post and rail fence to the end then back over another stile and down a steep muddy path to reach the road.

11. Go right at the road, there is no pavement so keep close to the hedgerow as the traffic is quite fast, pass Station Approach on your right and continue until you come to a house on the right hand side where there is a public footpath sign directing you down a track which leads to Oddynges Cottages.
12. Go past Great Oddynges, a Georgian style house, and into a working farmyard. Go straight on keeping to the right hand track, continue straight on with farm buildings on both sides, then out through a five-bar metal gate. Keep going straight ahead, pass through two more metal gates, and you will reach a bridge over the Bluebell Railway.

Halfway Point: (3 miles / 5 km) Bluebell Railway Bridge, Nobles Wood

13. Walk into the field, with Nobles Wood on your right, and go over a stile into the next field. Go straight on and down the

- hill, through a tight squeeze kissing gate, straight ahead toward a little bridge on your right that goes over a stream.
14. The path goes off to the left, go through a high wooden gate and straight on uphill through a conifer plantation (not right), continue on through the next conifer plantation and at the top turn right, then go over a stile with a mesh gate into a wooded area which has lots of wild garlic growing in Spring.
  15. The narrow footpath runs along the top edge of the wood with a smallholding to your left. Turn right, on a plank bridge over a boggy patch, the path then heads left toward Goddenwick Farm where there is a pond on the left and field with a wooden animal shelter on the right.
  16. Follow the cement path with chestnut trees on either side and then turn left into a staked field and straight up through another conifer plantation. Follow the path around to the right toward the houses and over a stile.
  17. Turn left toward the main road, go straight across (taking great care because this is a fast road) to join a public footpath opposite which goes through some woods. Keep following the path through the woods until you come to a narrow path with trees on the right and a house on the left with a large beech hedge.
  18. Go past Burstye Farm on your right and then turn left to follow a tarmac track. Go past a large pond down on your right and just before a house a little further on turn right down a public footpath.
  19. Keep to the left-hand edge of a ploughed field, the path heads off from the corner of the field into a wooded copse and on to a bridge over the River Ouse. You will reach a field with a Beware of the Bull sign so cross swiftly and through a side gate into the farmhouse garden opposite. Keep right here as the ground near to the left hand fence can be particularly muddy.
  20. Keep the house on your right, go past the farm buildings and continue down the track ahead. Go through a metal kissing gate onto Spring Lane which leads to Lindfield High Street, turn right toward All Saints Church and turn left just before the Bent Arms into Dukes Road (WAYMARKER 1), then left again into the Wilderness for the car park.