
Route Direction

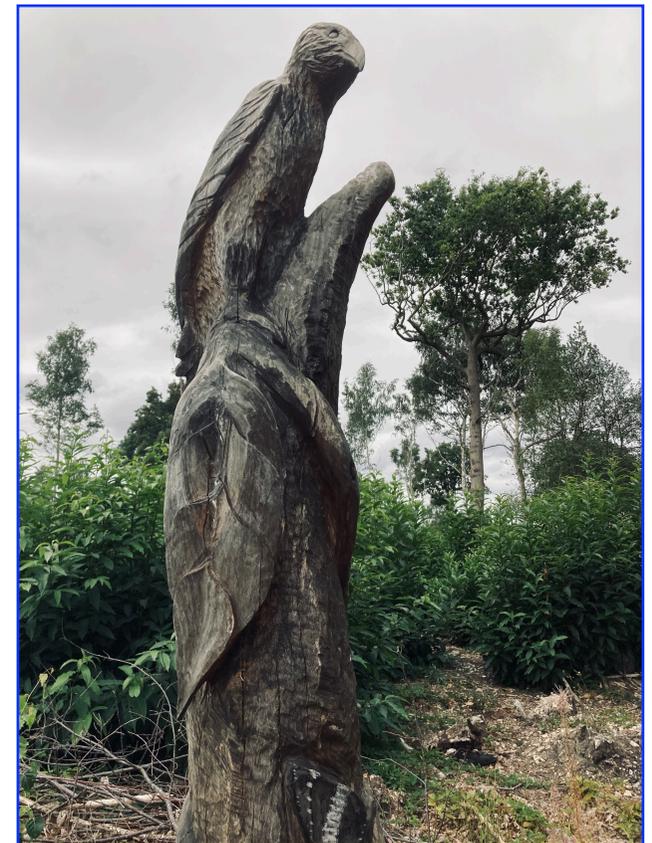
These directions begin at the Red Lion pub in Rawling Street, Milstead where parking is available with the landlord's permission. Alternatively there is parking at the village hall where there is a small car park. Please contact **01795 830102** to ensure parking is available. *If starting at the village hall, turn LEFT out of the car park and follow the road downhill, passing under the motorway to arrive at the Red Lion.*

1. The walk begins in the back garden of the pub. Walk to the top of the grassy slope and go through the treeline into a field. Go slightly LEFT toward the trees and a kissing gate into the woods. Turn RIGHT to follow a path to another kissing gate into a field. Cross the field going downhill to a gate to meet the road.
2. Turn RIGHT and follow the lane for approximately 550yds (500m) to the entrance of Cromers Wood (Kent Wildlife Trust) on the LEFT. Through the gate into the wood where there is an information board. Ignore the track immediately on the RIGHT and continue straight on uphill to a junction of tracks sign posted 'car park & viewing platform.' Bear RIGHT here.
3. Continue on to meet a T junction signposted 'main trail'. Turn RIGHT and carry on to where the path meets a crossroads of tracks. There is striking sculpture & a picnic bench here. *(A few steps prior to the T junction there is a narrow path off to the RIGHT which leads to viewing platform & is worth a visit.)*
4. At the cross roads ignore the paths to the LEFT & RIGHT. There are 2 paths straight ahead and either one can be taken. The righthand path leads straight down out of the woods whereas the lefthand path is more interesting with a number of carvings along the way and leading to the "Will You Marry Me" tree! If this path is taken it continues until it goes under power lines and then bears LEFT then RIGHT, eventually arriving at the tree. Turn RIGHT at the tree and a few yards further on it joins the righthand path. Turn LEFT to emerge out of the wood and into a field overlooking Highstead and far reaching views to the North.

5. Follow the path gradually downhill to the LEFT and into a pear orchard. The map shows a path to the LEFT and RIGHT. The RIGHT is shown as cutting diagonally through the orchard down to the road but is not easily discernable through the trees. It is better to ignore this and follow the path ahead until it is level with the farm buildings to the RIGHT of the path, then turn RIGHT along the edge of the orchard to pass through the farm buildings down to the road.
6. Cross the road and almost immediately opposite take the footpath leading steeply uphill between the houses. The path is narrow and overgrown in places. At the top turn RIGHT onto Stockers Hill and continue into Rodmersham.
7. At the Fruiterers Arms pub turn LEFT and then RIGHT on a footpath alongside the school. Follow the path through the trees into a small orchard toward a post at the top. Turn RIGHT here and follow the field edge to bear LEFT on a path across the field. Go through the treeline into another field and again follow the path across the field toward the farm buildings of Pickstock Farm at the top of the rise. This path is shown on the map crossing Bargains Hill with a dogleg going first LEFT then RIGHT whereas on the ground it is a straight path toward the farm.
8. At the farm turn LEFT onto a concrete path *(look out for the unusual sign painted on the path)* and follow it through the farm buildings to the lane. Turn RIGHT & continue on the lane passing Pinks farmhouse and onto Dungate. Ignore the lane to the LEFT and continue on to where it turns sharply to the RIGHT beside Dungate barn. Stay on the lane, passing the 2 junctions on the LEFT (both Sawpit Road) then going slightly uphill to a junction. The road bears to the RIGHT but take the turning on the LEFT.
9. Follow this lane toward the motorway where it turns abruptly to the RIGHT to follow the motorway. Continue downhill to the junction. At this point turn RIGHT to continue back to the Red Lion or LEFT, under the motorway bridge uphill toward Milstead and the village hall.

Milstead to Rodmersham circular walk.

**A walk just short of 5miles (8Km)
between two local villages via
woods, fields, orchards & quiet lanes
(ignoring the M2 motorway!)**



Where is this magnificent bird to be found?

