
Route Directions

Some footpaths are not well defined, especially across fields where it has been recently ploughed or a crop harvested. Please follow the public paths as shown on the map or the directions below. There are a number of stiles on the route, some of which are in poor condition. (KCC informed via website)

1. Start at the bottom of Chequers Hill at the junction with The Street. Turn LEFT and continue through the village, crossing over Church Hill to a set of old gates, just beyond the village sign to a footpath on the RIGHT, leading slightly uphill across the field.
 2. Follow this path to the brow of the hill where it meets a line of trees. Do not go through the trees but turn RIGHT, keeping them to the left. Follow this path to the lane (Hopes Hill). Turn RIGHT and after a few steps turn LEFT onto a footpath which then goes downhill, through the wood to a gate at the bottom and into a field.
 3. Walk diagonally across the field, aiming for the corner of the trees ahead to a kissing gate. (this gate is broken but can be passed). Through the gate, then an electric fence, to continue uphill toward the buildings. Go through the private yard of Sandhurst Farm & forge to the road.
 4. Turn LEFT onto the road and continue to the first house on the RIGHT. Just before the house, take the footpath on the RIGHT leading across the field toward Little Frith Farm. There is a grass bank dividing this field from the next. Cross straight over the bank and continue toward the left of the fence and on to a gap in the hedge, on to the lane. DO NOT turn onto the grass bank as it leads directly into the gardens of Little Frith farm house.
 5. Turn LEFT onto the lane, following it as it curves first to the left then right, going quite steeply down hill. Then just as steeply uphill passing the lane to the left and continuing on, first passing an oast house on the left and then the double gates of Frith Farmhouse. As the road bears to the left, take the lane on the RIGHT. (Wyebanks Road)
 6. The lane continues slightly down hill, passing an old chalk quarry. At the bottom of the hill turn LEFT onto a footpath into the wood. As the path enters a grassy clearing, turn immediately LEFT, leading steeply uphill, back into woodland. At the top go through a 5 bar gate and continue straight on toward the thatched cottage ahead. Go through another gate and turn immediately RIGHT and through a
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second gate into a field. Go straight ahead, eventually passing to the RIGHT of the buildings which is Otterden Place & to a 5 bar gate, leading onto the drive.

7. Turn RIGHT onto the drive (a wide unmade track) going downhill, round an 'S' bend then uphill to a lane. Go straight across, ignoring the 'Private Road' opposite and take the footpath on the LEFT, over a stile & marked with a stone footpath marker. Cross the field keeping the fence just a few yards to the right but aiming slightly left going toward the trees ahead to meet another stile into the wood. Almost immediately cross a wide track and continue straight on into the wood following an indistinct path. Cross another wide track (a yellow sign on the left suggests it is the 'Toll Riders Off-road Trust') to a 5 bar gate into a field. Go straight on, leading uphill to meet the 'private road' (a track), the beginning of which was encountered earlier. The footpath cuts diagonally across this and then follows it to a stile onto a road. As this stile is broken and difficult to climb it would be easier to follow the 'private road' to the lane.
 8. Turn RIGHT and after 300yds (275m) turn LEFT over another broken stile into the apple orchards. In the orchard, turn LEFT, going down toward Rhode Farm to meet another lane. Turn RIGHT onto the lane and follow it for 650yds (600m) passing Wellwood Farm, to a dual footpath sign on the LEFT. Take the righthand fork, leading diagonally across the field. Where it dips then rises again turn RIGHT toward the building to meet a lane.
 9. At the lane, turn RIGHT then almost immediately LEFT down a metalled drive leading to Frangebury. At the entrance to Frangebury go RIGHT, off the drive and follow the path skirting the property. Follow this round to the LEFT then cut across the field toward the power lines. Go under the power lines and turn LEFT, going downhill toward the woods and aiming for a footpath sign at the bottom. Go into the woods and gently uphill to meet a junction of the paths and turn RIGHT. Follow the path through the woods to emerge into a field.
 10. Go across the field aiming to meet halfway along the hedge ahead. Go through the gap where there is a wooden sign referring to dormice. Cut diagonally across the next field to the tree line and turn RIGHT. Continue to the lane and turn LEFT, going downhill to meet The Street, opposite the butchers. Turn RIGHT back to The Chequers.
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Out To Otterden Park

A leisurely 6 mile (9.6km) walk across the Downs



