



Walk on Fulking

The St, Fulking, Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9LU

TRAIL
Walking

GRADE
Moderate

DISTANCE
2 miles (3.2km)

TIME
1 hour 30 mins to 2 hours

OS MAP
**Landranger 198;
Explorer 122**

Contact

01273 857712
devilsdyke@nationaltrust.org.uk

Facilities

Food, toilets and WIFI available daily at the Shepherd and Dog pub

A moderate circular walk, starting and finishing at the Shepherd and Dog pub, comprising ancient landscapes and breathtaking views. Along the way, look out for the lime kiln dating back to the Victorian era as well as banks of chalk grassland teeming with flowers and butterflies. At the top, take in the spectacular views across the Downs before heading back down to the Shepherd and Dog for a well earned pint.



Terrain

Short steep ascent at the beginning and in the middle. Part of the walk is on uneven chalk trail paths and some points can get very muddy in winter. Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead at certain points, as livestock are in surrounding area. No dog bins so please take dog litter home.

Things to see



Lime kiln

What is a lime kiln? Chalk was burnt with charcoal and changed into lime, which was mainly used for improving clay fields or in the building industry. What you can see of the kiln is the brick face where lime was removed. Behind this is a bottle-shaped hole – the kiln. The kiln was loaded with layers of chalk from the quarry behind it and charcoal, probably from Furze Field woods, north of Edburton. The kiln worked continuously: as lime was removed below more chalk and charcoal was added at the top.

Bostal track

'Bostal' is a local Sussex name for a track up the side of a steep hill, usually one on the northern escarpment of the South Downs.

Butterflies and orchids

During the summer months the north facing bank will be filled with butterflies and moths, such as the marbled white (pictured) and the six-spot Burnet moth. Fragrant and pyramidal orchids are also in abundance here. The south facing bank, which gets the most sun, grows wild thyme.

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Start/end

Start: Shepherd and Dog pub car park, grid ref: TQ 247113
End: Shepherd and Dog pub car park, grid ref: TQ 247113

How to get there

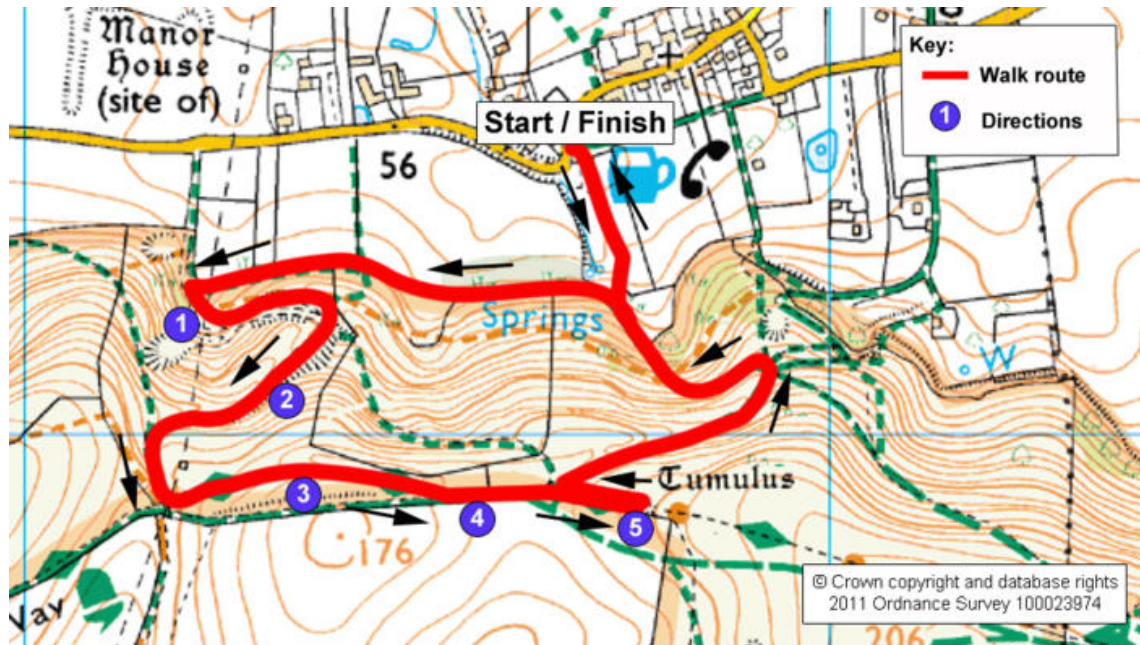
By bus: Service 77 from Brighton (Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Company), alight Devil's Dyke and walk down to Shepherd and Dog pub (approx 1 mile/1.6km). The number 17 from Stagecoach (Stagecoachbus.com) stops at Newtimber Crossroads, walk to the Shepherd and Dog pub (approx 2 miles/3.2km). 104 service by Compass Travel, Mondays only, stops right outside the Shepherd and Dog pub

By train: Brighton station is 7 miles (11.2km) from Devil's Dyke, then take the 77 bus (see 'By bus' above)

By car: From the A23 at Dale Hill take the junction which leads you on to the A281 past Tates Garage. Go through roundabout onto West Road. Take the second exit on the next roundabout onto Cora's Walk. Continue on to Poynings Road. Continue onto The Street and stay left. The Shepherd and Dog pub car park will be on your left

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1. To start, look to the left of the pub garden where there is a small track with bushes on both side and a small concrete public footpath sign at the bottom. Follow this track. Take the turning on the right when you reach the fence.
2. Continue forward until you reach a stile. Climb over the stile and up the steps. At the top of the steps you will come to another junction which will have a National Trust omega sign on the left hand side, take the path down and to the right.
3. You will soon come to a fork in the path and you will need to take the left upper fork. Cross over the stile and follow the path until you come to a clearing with a trough in the middle. Go past the trough and continue up the path ahead.
4. Take the bottom path on the right keeping the wooden sign post on your left. At the end of the track you will come to another large trough. Go straight on keeping the trough on your left until you reach the main track. Turn up to the left, do not take the small track to your immediate left, stay on the main track.
5. You should now be able to see the top of the old lime kiln on your right hand side which dates back to the Victorian era. Head towards this.
6. After viewing the lime kiln continue up the main track. This is an old Bostal track which snakes up the hill. After the first right hand bend in the track you should be able to see a pylon ahead of you on the top of the hill, head towards this. The part of the track just before the pylon is quite steep.
7. When you have passed the pylon you should see a metal gate at the top, take the sunken track on your left immediately before this gate. Follow the sunken track along the hillside. In the summer the banks will be teeming with butterflies, moths and orchids.
8. When you emerge from the sunken track you will be greeted with a breathtaking view. Continue forward through the gate ahead and towards the wooden waymarker post which is by the fence on your right. This path is now part of the South Downs Way which runs from Eastbourne to Chichester. On your right hand side over the fence from the waymarker post you can see the remains of the Fulking Isolation Hospital.
9. If you look ahead of you along the South Downs Way there is a small wooden fence which contains a Bronze Age burial mound. Once you have viewed the burial mound walk back down to the wooden waymarker.
10. Take the sunken track that leads down the hill, and continue forward. After about 220yds (200m) turn left at another wooden waymarker post. Follow the track round to the left.
11. Head down towards the trees and you should see the National Trust omega sign which was near the beginning of the walk. Take the right hand track and stick to the fence line, back down the steps and over the stile.

12. Continue along the path until you can see the pub garden on your left, take the track that runs alongside the garden down to the car park.
