Walk across the road onto a smaller street (along the brick wall on the left). Follow the street across a main road in the direction of the church. Walk past the graveyard on the right (9) and a pond on the left – the street name is Hornst Road. Continue across a main road onto the smaller street – Stream Lane. Follow this road down the hill for 1 mile (1,6 km). Go over a bridge and you see a 'Public Footpath' signpost on the left. Turn left, climb over a style and walk up the field. In the furthest corner climb over a style and turn left onto a road. Follow this road for 0.5 mile (800m) until a 'Public Footpath' signpost on the left. Turn left and follow the trail in between the orchard and the hedge fence until a main road.

Turn left onto a main road and follow this road for 0.3 mile (500m) until the first turning to the right. Turn right onto Water Lane and follow this lane for 0.5 mile (800m) until a 'Public Footpath' signpost on the left (10). Turn left, climb over a style and walk down straight across the field. At the end of the field climb over a style with an iron gate and walk up the hill. Follow the edge of the field until a style in the corner of the field (11). Climb over it and keep walking straight along the edge of the field (ignore the style on the right). In the corner climb over the last style and turn right onto a road.

Walk along the road through Duval's Farm until a 'Public Footpath' signpost on the right (Be careful, it might be in the bushes. On the other side of the road is another one, which may be easier to find). Turn right, climb over a style and walk along the edge of the field. Go through the gate (12) and keep walking straight along the line of the trees on the left and later along the edge of the forest. Follow the edge until a style in the corner of the field. Climb over a style and follow the trail through the forest and around the water treatment plant. Join the small road and keep walking straight until a T-junction next to the car breaker's yard. Turn right, walk over a small bridge and follow this road. At the end walk straight across the main road and go back to The Great House.

The Great Hawkhurst Ring

Walk overview:

Distance: 8 miles (13 km) Time: 3.5 – 4.5 hour

Description: Allow time to complete the longest and most challenging

walk around Hawkhurst, completing a full circle of the

surrounding areas and landmarks.



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WALKS OF THE GREAT HOUSE

Leave The Great House and turn left up the lane. At the T-Junction turn left and after 15 yards (15m) turn right through the bushes. Follow the sign 'Public Footpath' - there are several steps from the road (1). Continue between fences and at the end turn left into the fields. Follow the edge of the field and climb over 5 styles. You come to a stony rural road, turn right and follow the road down the hill. Continue straight through the bottom of a valley over the wooden footpath bridge (2) and steeply up the hill. Climb over a style into the field. Go straight and follow the edge of the field, along the bushes on the left. In the middle of the field go through a gate – follow the yellow arrows and continue straight along the bushes, this time bushes are on the right. You meet the style, climb over and join the rural road. Turn right and follow this road (past Soper's Oast and Springfield Cottage). Shortly after the road bears to the right, turn left onto another rural road through Siseley Farm.

Follow the road (past the main entrance to the farm) until the road bears to the right. Keep walking straight – past a post with a yellow stripe. Follow the path, climb over a style into a field and keep walking along the edge of the field until you meet a style on the left (marked by a yellow arrow). Turn left and climb over a style into the forest, go over a small footbridge and follow the path to the left. Keep walking into the forest, over a small footbridge, up the hill and over a style into a field. Turn left and walk up the hill along the edge of the field until you meet the next style. Climb over this one and the following one (3) and you are on the road.

Turn left and keep walking along the road for 100 yards (100m) until you reach a gate on the right. Go through the gate into a field. Follow the edge of the field (the field is on the left and bushes are on the right) until you reach a gate on the right. Go through this gate into forest and follow the path through the forest into the next field. Turn left and follow the edge of the field (past a rural road to the next field – ignore it) until you come to a 'mouse hole', which leads into the forest. Walk into the forest and follow the trail to the next field. Turn right and walk diagonally across the field to a gate (4).

WALKS OF THE GREAT HOUSE

Go through the gate and follow the forest trail up the hill. Immediately before the field turn right and walk up several steps (marked by a yellow arrow) (5) into the next field. Walk straight along the edge of the field (the field is on the left and bushes are on the right) until you see an isolated tree in the middle of the field.

Turn left and walk around this tree and continue through the field in the direction of the buildings on the edge. At the edge of the field climb over a style and walk through the hospital car park to the main road.

Go across the main road and follow a 'Public Footpath' signpost on the second side of the road. Climb over a style and go down the hill. Follow the trail over the next style, along the fence and over the last style onto a road. Walk across the road and follow a 'Public Footpath' signpost between the fence and bushes (6). Follow the path down the hill, over a small footbridge and over a style into the orchard. Turn left and follow the edge of the orchard until you meet a hole in the bushes (7) in the corner of the orchard. Go through it into the next orchard. Turn left and follow the edge of the orchard again (past an entrance into the next orchard) until you come to a track.

Turn left onto this track and walk through the next orchard to the corner. Keep walking straight and follow the trail into the forest. Climb over two styles until a small footbridge on the right (8). Walk over this footbridge and climb over a style into the field. Walk straight along the edge of the field, in the corner climb over the next style and turn left. Follow the edge of the field (the field is on the right, bushes are on the left) and in the corner turn right onto the track. After 20 yards (20m) turn left, climb over a style and walk into the field. Follow the edge of the field and in the middle of the edge turn right onto a trail. Walk down and join a track from Rowland Farm. Keep walking along this track, later join the bigger road and continue until you reach a street (the bigger asphalt road) at The Moor (the second side of Hawkhurst).