

THE KILN WOOD AND FIELD WALK

Walk Overview

Distance: 2.2 miles (3.5km)

Time: 2-2.5 hours

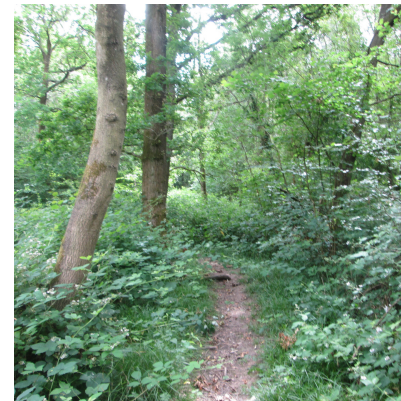
Description: Through the protected conservation area of 'Kiln Wood' with a profuse variety of flora and fauna.



1. Turning right to Boughton Road



2. View across the Manor park



3. The style over the fence



4. The grove of Oaks



5. The style by the iron gate



6. The Copper Beech on the heath

On leaving The Wishful Thinker turn left and immediately left again. Follow the road up and after approximately one hundred yards cross over the Eurostar bridge. Follow the road up for approximately another two hundred yards until you come to the 'T' junction. Turn left on to Headcorn Road. Sign Posted 'Platts Heath.' After a few yards, cross over the road and take the small footpath to the right of 'The Lodge.' Follow this footpath down for approximately fifty yards and continue over the stream and small bridge. Follow the footpath up the footpath keeping the fence on your left for approximately three hundred yards until you come to the style at the top. Step over this and into the meadow field.

Head across the field and slightly to your right in a North Westerly direction towards Kiln Wood. Once across the field you will come to a Lynch gate amongst the trees into the woods. Kiln Wood consists mainly of oak, hazel and hornbeam with some field maple, willow and birch. Coppicing and ride management is carried out by staff and volunteers. The stream to the north is particularly interesting. Lady fern, broad buckler-fern and Herb-Paris are common. The pond in the northeast corner supports a good colony of water violet and is a great spot for birds such as woodcock, wood pecker and the occasional kingfisher. Go through the gate and take the footpath to the left. After approximately fifty yards cross under the line of electricity pylons where various types of orchid can be seen during the summer months. As you enter the woods once more, take the path to the right.

Continue meandering through the woods enjoying the flora and fauna for approximately four hundred yards until another path crosses this path. Here; take the path to the left and continue for approximately four hundred yards until you come to a wooden lynch gate on to the Headcorn Road once more. Turn right towards the hamlet of Sandway and the Old Post Office, approximately three hundred yards. At the crossroads turn left onto Lenham Heath Road. After approximately four hundred yards you will see The Wishful Thinker on your left.

