

GREENSAND WAY AND IDE HILL WALK

Walk Overview

Distance: 4.5 miles (7.2km)

Time: 3.2 hours

Description: Hills and dales contrast with open pastures and forest glades on this extensive walk that lets you get to know the surrounding area well.



The Pheasant Plucker
Bessells Green Rd
Ide Hill, Sevenoaks
TN14 6BU

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1. Old pump house



2. St Mary's Church



3. The track cross roads



4. The footpath to the brook



5. The bridge over the brook



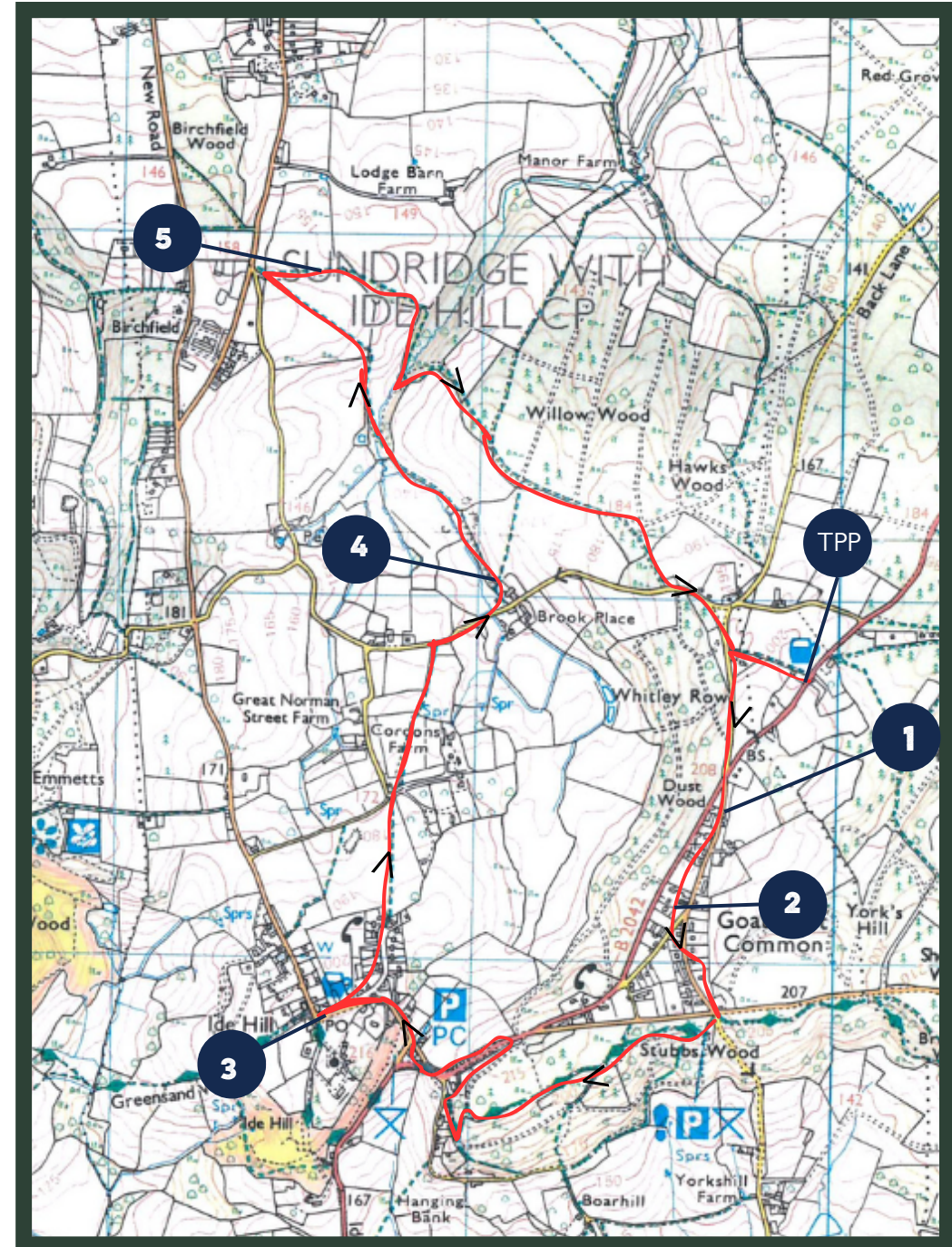
6. The gate back to the road

WALKS OF THE PHEASANT PLUCKER NO. 5

Leave the Pheasant Plucker and turn left along the road. Cross over beside 'Whitley Cottage' and take the footpath opposite. Continue down until you come to the house 'Beech Grove' on the left beside the lane. Turn left onto the lane and continue down for approximately three hundred yards to the cross roads. Go straight over (beware of traffic) and continue down the lane going past 'The Oast House' on your left hand side. Continue for approximately one hundred yards and you will see the old pump station on your right. (Pic 1) This used to be the main fresh water source for Goathurst Common, it was restored in 1994. Continue down the lane and by the post box; take the left hand fork and continue for approximately another three hundred yards to the cross roads. Cross over the main road and go into the car park to the right. There is a footpath beside the sign, which takes you into the woods: 'The Greensand Way' After the fork take the path to the right and continue straight on through the woods. After approximately two hundred and fifty yards there is a good viewing point with a bench and interesting views to the south. Continue along beside the fence where the path overlooks the valley.

The path will curve around to the right and then in a loop through the woods. This will eventually bring you to the road. Cross over and turn left down the hill on the path. At the bottom of the hill take the lane on the right Signposted Ide Hill. Pass the village hall on the left hand side and continue up the hill for approximately three hundred yards to the village of Ide Hill the beautifully kept common green and St Mary's Church. A good place for a short rest and perhaps a look around the church. (Pic 2) Take St Mary's Lane past 'The Cock' Continue right to the small gate at the end beside the houses. Join this footpath and after a few yards go through the lynch gate into the field. The path will take you straight across to Gordons Farm. Go through the gate and turn immediately right onto the signed footpath. After a few yards turn left through the gate beside the paddocks.

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Then through the lynch gate. After approximately one hundred and fifty yards across the paddocks take the next lynch gate. Follow the footpath down and over the stile. Followed immediately by a second stile. Turn right onto the lane opposite 'Little Norman Fields' Continue down the lane to 'Brook Place.' Opposite Brook Place beside some cottages is a footpath. Take this footpath and continue upwards in a northerly direction until you come to a farm track. follow along this and take the left hand track after a few hundred yards. (Pic 3) Stay on this track until it bends around to the left beside a sandy bank. There is a small footpath signposted. Take this and continue to the left and over the small bridge and the brook. Follow the path along for approximately three hundred yards as it bends to the left and up the hill. You will come out into a field. Follow the edge of the field along for approximately fifty yards and turn left into the field. Keep your eye out for the footpath which goes diagonally across this field right to the top left corner. This footpath may be hard to spot, depending upon which crops are planted at the time of year. Beautiful views of the North Downs to the north east.

Keep going right across the field until you come to Penn Lane. There is a path by the fence. Take this path almost turning back on yourself in an easterly direction and go across the field. Once at the edge of the field turn right for a few yards and then left into the bushes. (The signed footpath can get overgrown here but there is another path just a few yards along which joins the footpath). The path then descends here to a gate. Do not go through the gate continue to the right and (Pic 4) down on the path to the brook and across the bridge. (Pic 5) Cross the bridge and follow the path first round to the left and then up the slope to the top. Join the track from the left and take the right hand path. Join the main forest track and continue up until you come to the road. (Pic6) Turn left and up to the crossroads and the green island once again. Turn right and then beside ' Beech Grove' take the small footpath. This will take you back to the road and The Pheasant Plucker is on your left.

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