O7 WEST SUSSEX horsted keynes to sheffield park

Distance: 7½ miles/12km Time: 4 hours Grade: Moderate



CHOSEN BY... NICK HALLISSEY This wonderful

walk-and-ride links two stations on the Bluebell Railway. You can either start at Sheffield Park Station and get the train up to Horsted Keynes first, or start at Horsted Keynes, walk to Sheffield Park, and get the train back. It's a perfect walk for April-June, when the bluebells for which the line was named will be out as you pass through ancient woodlands.

Start

Pass station entrance and follow access road to lane. Turn R and follow lane. Just before railway bridge, turn L over stile. Go diagonally across field, making for fingerpost on far side. Join farm track, passing through gate. Continue uphill on R of meadow. Pass L of small paddock and go through metal gate to emerge on farm track. Turn L into farmyard.

1/2 mile/0.9km

Go through gate and turn R through farmyard to join enclosed track heading downhill. Turn first L over stile beside gate and take diagonal path descending over next field, heading for gate by road. At gate, cross stile and turn R on road. Cross bridge and take first path L, heading into woods. At crossroads of paths by fishing lake, continue ahead. Passing Old Millhouse, track becomes enclosed path. At top,

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Free car park at Horsted Keynes railway station, grid ref TQ372292, RH17 7BB. Is it for me? A gentle woodland and farmland walk; the only challenge comes in navigating over sequential farmed fields Stiles 6

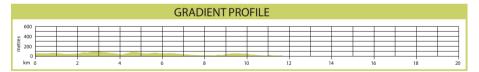
PLANNING

Nearest town Haywards Heath Refreshments Cafés at stations; pubs on route Public toilets At stations Public transport Bus 270 East Grinstead-Brighton: Maps OS Explorer 135, Landranger 198

emerge on lane. R and follow lane into Horsted Keynes, emerging at junction by pub.

71¾ miles/2.8km

Cross road and go over green opposite. Turn L on lane (Sussex Border Path – SBP),



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OS Explorer map 135 Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

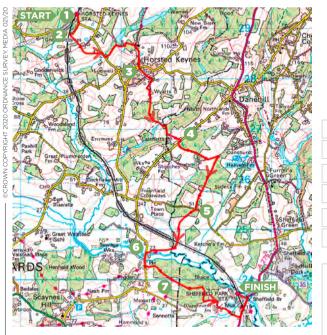
passing L of Old Chapel. At junction, continue ahead on Wyatts Lane. As lane veers R, go through gate L and follow path by lane. Through two gates and rejoin lane, entering Sandpits Wood. Pass through wood, and join lane. R on lane. At brow of hill, turn L on SBP and continue to reach road.

3 miles/4.8km

Turn R on road then take first track L (SBP) to reach Butchers Barn. At fork. continue ahead then take path L (SBP). Cross stile and continue ahead round R edge of meadow. Ignore path R and make for trees in far corner. Look R for two paths, taking sharpest R option (SBP) via stile into woodland. Emerge into meadow walking on L edge. Cross stile and pass through Northland Wood and continue on track to Northlands Farm Follow access track to reach Ketche's Lane.

4¹/₃ miles/7km

Cross lane and head through King's Wood. Continue across meadow, passing small copse and pond. Continue downhill towards railway. Pass through hedgeline and continue over next field. At railway, follow track passing through tunnel. Continue across field, bearing R with signpost though gate. Cross field, crossing footbridge in middle of field and through gates to arrive at Freshfield



Mill Farm. Skirt R round farm, and through gate to lane.

65½ miles/8.5km L on lane, passing Sloop Inn. Take path L (SBP and Sussex Ouse Valley Way). Pass cottages and round gate, into Hammer Wood. Path climbs R. At junction of paths, leave SBP and continue with SOVW and Greenwich Meridian Trail through campsite. Through gate intor Wapsbourne Wood.

6 miles/9.7km

Through wood. Where path reaches larger track, turn R then immediate L onto smaller track. Emerging from wood via

footbridge, arrive at junction of paths and turn L. Continue on L edge of field. Continue round farm. Emerge on track and turn R. Track veers L and climbs to reach road. Turn L and take permissive path along field edge, parallel to road. Re-emerge on road and continue round bend, L into station.

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE: Ifto.com/cwroutes IN ASSOCIATION WITH DATE

WALKED