



# 08 KENT PLUCKLEY

▶ Distance: 10 miles/16km ▶ Time: 4-5 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



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Oast houses; plentiful  
in this part of Kent.

PHOTO: TOM BAILEY



CHOSEN BY...

**PHILIP THOMAS**

Immerse yourself in  
Darling Buds country

– a tranquil patchwork of orchards, coppice and pasture in the Kent countryside, where the Greensand Ridge spills into the Low Weald. Beginning at Pluckley railway station, the first loop of this figure-of-eight makes for a pleasant standalone walk, while the second loop is more complicated, but takes in the Darling Buds farmhouse.

## 1 Start

From Pluckley Station go down access road to Dering Arms and swing R down lane into field. Cross to stile in L corner; continue straight across

arable land, emerging onto lane near Dowle Street Farm. Turn R, continue on lane about 300m, L at signpost across towards Gore Court; right of way veers R around property to track, then onto lane.

## 2 1¼ miles/2km

Turn L and after 300m take footpath R opposite cottages, following R-hand field boundary to Malmins. Cross stile into orchard, from here the right of way follows a farm track, picking up a restricted byway to Sheerland Farm.

## 3 2¼ miles/3.6km

Before farm buildings, turn L at sign onto Greensand Way (GW), continuing through orchards to recreation ground

## PLAN YOUR WALK



## ROUTE

**Start/parking** Pluckley Station car park, grid ref TQ922433

**Is it for me?** Farmland, tracks, lanes and verges. Rs of way over farmland, can be muddy after rain. Some places overgrown in late summer

**Stiles** Several

## PLANNING

**Nearest town** Ashford  
**Refreshments** The Dering Arms (Pluckley Station) or The Black Horse (Pluckley)  
**Public toilets** None  
**Public transport** Frequent trains to Pluckley Station  
**Maps** OS Explorer 137; Landranger 189

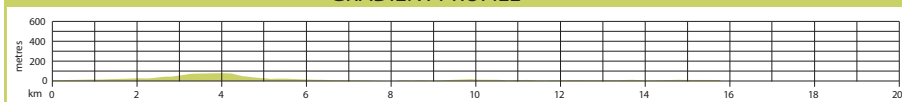
at Pluckley, turn L down road into Pluckley.

## 4 2¾ miles/4.4km

Continue down Smarden Road on GW spur towards Pluckley Thorne and turn L



## GRADIENT PROFILE



08 KENT  
PLUCKLEY► OS Explorer map 137 ► Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapshop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapshop)

at signpost onto footpath (by garage) and through a series of fields to emerge onto Lambden Road. Turn L, then R soon after over stile and along path into field. Cross into L corner, from where right of way continues south across arable fields and emerges onto Station Road.

**5** 6.4km/4 miles

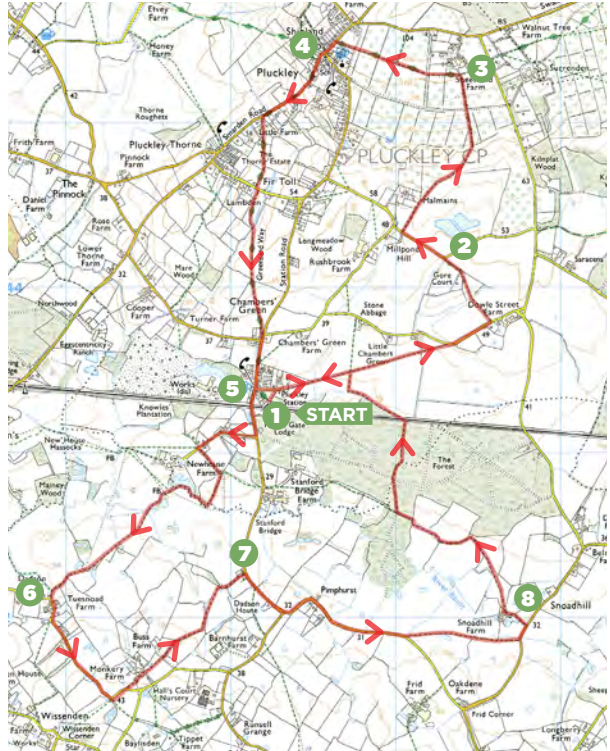
Turn R and continue past station over bridge (caution, no pavement) and turn R into Newhouse Lane. Continue for 400m and path L (SE) through gate and across field to gap in fence, R across field to marker post and gate and cross stream. Turn R and follow stream to track, continuing to field boundary. Cross next field to far corner (SW) and another to Tuesnod Farm.

**6** 5¼ miles/9.2km

Turn L onto lane and continue for about 800m, then after bend L, take footpath over stile in hedgerow L. Cross fields via stiles to farmyard of Monkey Farm, leaving onto track. You'll see Buss Farm, as seen in Darling Buds of May, on your L (private). The right of way continues across the next field and another track, then by a series of stiles and gates along a fenced path to an open field. Cross to track on opposite side and continue to road.

**7** 7 miles/11.2km

Turn R and continue (on grass verge), turning L onto



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lane. Continue, passing Pimphurst, for about 800m and take marked footpath L over stile. Cross field (W) to kissing gate and along next field edge to Bethersden Road. Turn L, and after 100m L onto footpath to Snoadhill Farm.

**8** 8 miles/13km

Go through farmyard and kissing gate on R, following path across fields into woods. At crosstrack, turn R onto track through woods, then straight on at next crosstrack and over

railway via foot crossing. Continue on footpath, turning L at junction to retrace steps to start. **CW**



**TRAILZILLA ID:**  
TZID29801

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