



Trail Information

THE BOTTOMS

Although always enjoyable, this walk is especially beautiful during the primrose and bluebell season.

Distance:
5 miles (8km).

Time for walk:
2½ hours.

Maps:
OS Explorer 125.

Start of walk:
Tenterden Gateway,
2 Manor Row, High Street,
Tenterden. TQ881332.

Terrain:
Well marked field and
woodland paths. Short
section on busy lane.

Suitable for:
Moderately fit adults and
children.

Refreshment:
Public houses and cafés in
Tenterden.

Parking:
Bridewell Lane TQ882331.

Public Toilets:
Station Road (opposite car
park).

Public Transport:
Buses: Traveline -
0870 6082608.

Walks around Tenterden

1 From Tenterden Gateway walk in an easterly direction, towards Ashford.

Cross over Station Road and Church Road. At the pedestrian crossing, cross to the opposite side of the A28 and go left.

At the next set of traffic lights, cross Recreation Ground Road and keep ahead into the Recreation Ground, following a surfaced path, with a fence to your left.

At the far end of the path leave the Recreation Ground through the gateway to your left.

2 Turn right and immediately right again into Sandy Lane (*yellow route marker AB 33A*).

After approx. 400m/437yds, at the driveway to 'Huson Cottage', take the path to your left.

Follow this path to cross a bridge over a stream.

The pathway is now surfaced, passing to the right of houses. Cross over 'Abbott

Way' and keep ahead, crossing Priory Way/Tilden Gill Road.

Maintain direction, with the rear gardens of houses to your left, until you reach a tarmac driveway.

3 Turn right and follow the driveway until you reach a house named 'Belgar'. Here, follow a path that descends, passing a double garage to your left and the garden of 'Belgar' to your right. The path narrows.

Keep ahead, ignoring a turning on your right, and continue along the side of a field, keeping the hedge to your left.

4 Pass through a metal gate at Belcot Manor Farm and cross the driveway to a stile. Cross the stile into a field and go diagonally left, passing to the right of a pond, to reach another stile.

Cross the stile and follow the path, keeping to the edge of the wood.



On reaching the far end of the wood, walk a short distance across the field to the wood opposite. Keep this wood to your right and follow it to the corner of the field.

5 Enter the wood at this point to descend a series of steps and cross a small bridge – you are now in the 'Bottoms'.

This section of the walk can be very muddy in the winter and after periods of heavy rain.

Continue for approx. 30m/33yds, with a stream to your left, then cross a plank bridge and maintain direction through the wood, now with the stream to your right.

Pass through a gate at the end of the wood and keep ahead, with the stream to your right, to cross a footbridge, then another footbridge/stile.

Maintain direction, passing to the right of a lake. At the far end of the lake descend steps, cross a track and enter the field ahead.

Keeping the stream on your right, continue to reach a footbridge over the stream.

6 Cross the bridge and turn immediately right. Follow a farm track which rises gently, with woodland to your left, for approx. 700m/765yds to reach a farm gate with a stile.

7 Cross the stile and keep ahead, passing the driveway to *Ashenden*, to reach steps on the right-hand side, which lead to a stile.

Cross the stile and go diagonally across the field to the far corner.

8 Cross a stile by a large oak tree and go diagonally across the next field to a stile by a pond.

Cross the stile and keep ahead, on a track between two rows of apple trees, with a tile hung building ahead of you.

On reaching a fence, turn right and continue, with the fence to your left, to reach a stile. Cross the stile and go right, on a track.

When the track turns right, bear left as indicated by a yellow arrow. After approx. 30m/33yds, go right, across a plank bridge and through a kissing-gate.

9 Continue along the left-hand side of the field to reach a stile. **Take care here, particularly with children – busy road (B2082) on other side of stile.**

10 Cross the stile and go right, towards the town, passing Tenterden Cricket Club on your left.

At Hopes Grove Nursery pass through the gate and follow the fenced footpath ahead.

11 From here the footpath is paved and on reaching Bells Lane, keep ahead to reach the High Street.

Cross the A28 and go left to return to the Tenterden Gateway.



Trail Information

Public Rights of Way

All walks have legal access to land using public paths and bridleways. Walkers should take care to stick to the correct paths and ensure that dogs are kept under close control.

Equipment and Clothing

Walking boots or shoes are recommended for all walks and protective clothing should also be carried.

Country Code

Please adhere to the country code.

- Do not drop litter.
- Do not pick flowers and plants.
- Face oncoming traffic on country lanes (except on blind bends where the outside should be taken to ensure that traffic in both directions can see you).
- Do not start fires.
- Fasten all gates.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Do not make unnecessary noise.

Some of the walks use footpaths that cross the Kent & East Sussex Railway at designated points. Please stop, follow any instructions shown at the crossing points, and proceed with care.



TENTERDEN
—IMPROVED—

