



# Shorne Woods Country Park Luddesdown Trek

8.3 miles (13.4km) approx. 9900 steps  
Allow 4 hours

## About the walk...

This walk begins in Shorne Woods Country Park and takes you through the historic villages of Cobham and Luddesdown. There is a range of landscape including woodland and beautiful views over open countryside. The path through Cobham Park takes you past the imposing Darnley Mausoleum.

## Walk Overview

**Distance:** 8.3 miles (13.4km) Allow 4 hours

**Start/Finish:** Shorne Wood Country Park



**Stiles:** 7



**Gates:** 9



**Terrain:** Some steep slopes and steps



**Views:** Some good views



**Toilets:** At Shorne Wood Country Park



**Refreshments:** At Shorne Wood Country Park



**Steps**

## How to get here...

### Road Map:

Multimap website  
[www.multimap.com](http://www.multimap.com).  
Search for "DA12 3HX".



**By Car:** Signposted from the A2 at the Shorne/Cobham junction, just south of Gravesend.

**Parking:** Parking is available at Shorne Woods Country Park.

**Train:** Nearest stations: Gravesend, Higham, Meopham, Sole Street. National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

**Bus:** Red route 416/417 Meopham, Sole Street, Gravesend, Higham. Mon-Sat. 4 times.  
Traveline: 0870 6082608

This circular walk is one of a number of walks produced by Kent County Council. If you liked this walk you can find more on the Explore Kent website at [www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent](http://www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent)

We welcome any feedback about this walk or the content of the guide. If you know of a good walk and would like to share it, please let us know and we may feature it on our website.

If the route description or pictures are out-of-date please e-mail [explorekent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:explorekent@kent.gov.uk)

Please tell us about any problems concerning the paths using the Kent Report Line **0845 345 0210**. This guide is available in other formats on request.

### FAMILY FUN!

Walking is not only a healthy activity but it can be fun and informative too. Free activity worksheets for children of all ages to take on the walk can be ordered by emailing [explorekent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:explorekent@kent.gov.uk) or calling **08458 247600**.

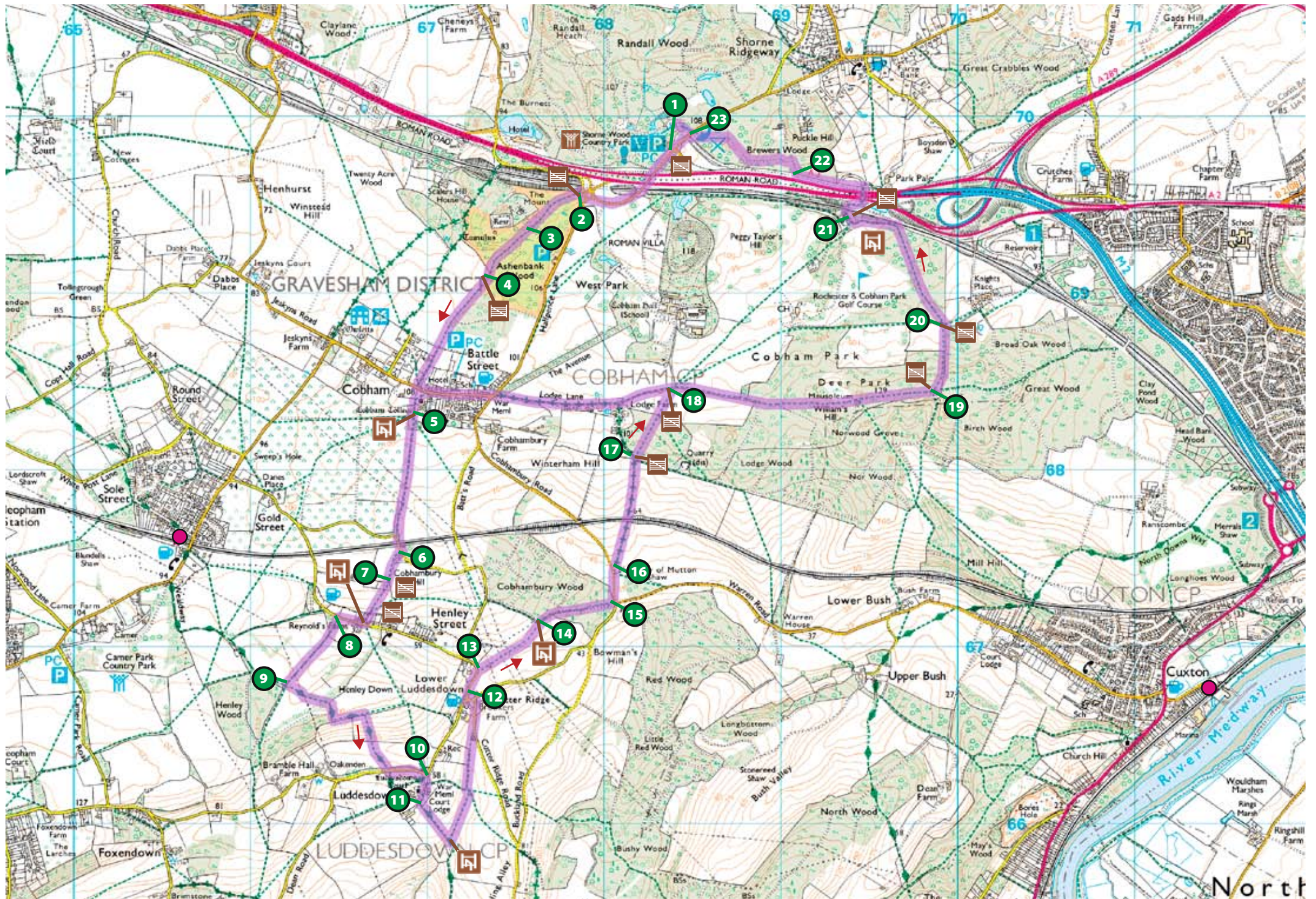


*When you're out walking in the countryside, please respect the Countryside Code.*

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any arrows or signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people







Also use Ordnance Survey Map: Explorer 163 Shorne Wood Country Park [www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent](http://www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent)



# Route Description

- 1 Leave the Visitor Centre towards the main entrance. Turn right just before the main gate and follow the path through the woodland to a kissing gate next to Brewers Road. Turn right and follow footpath across the A2 bridge to the roundabout. **Beware of traffic.** Cross Brewers Road, then cross Halfpence Lane.
- 2 Enter Ashenbank Wood through a kissing gate ahead of you. Follow the way marked route through Ashenbank Wood and pass through the remains of a WW2 camp.
- 3 Fork left after the camp and head downhill then along a field boundary underneath some towering Chestnut trees.
- 4 Turn right at the fence at the bottom of the hill, next to an interpretation panel. Go through the kissing gate and turn left. Follow the field boundary and footpath heading towards Cobham Church keeping an orchard on your left. Go straight ahead through a kissing gate with a sports field to your left. When you reach the tarmac main road through Cobham, turn left and follow the footpath up to the Leather Bottle pub. (For an alternative shorter route follow the main road through Cobham up to the roundabout and then follow Lodge Lane up to the Mausoleum and continue from point 18). Cross over the road and go into the churchyard. Follow the path keeping the church on your left, downhill and through another graveyard.
- 5 Cross a stile into a field with an orchard on your right hand side. Follow field boundary down to road, then turn left across a railway bridge.
- 6 Just before a house, turn right onto a footpath following a field boundary.
- 7 Cross over a stile to your left, then through a kissing gate. Keep dogs on a lead as this field is used by horses. Leave the horse field through a second kissing gate and continue downhill towards the houses until you reach the road at Henley Street.

At the road turn right and follow the road for approximately 80m. The white building in front of you at this point is The Cock public house.

- 8 Turn left onto a bridle path and follow it uphill until you reach a signed path junction at the very top.
- 9 Turn left and follow the Wealdway along the ridge and then down to the road at Luddesdown.
- 10 At the road turn left up to a triangle road junction. Turn right here and follow the road up onto a cobbled path. Continue straight ahead past the church towards the farm buildings.
- 11 Cross a stile on your left, then climb the hill and turn left over a stile. Head straight across the field then go through the hedge and turn left following the footpath along the field edge until you reach a road. Turn left at the road and head downhill past Luddesdown Organic Farm until you reach the car park of the Golden Lion pub.
- 12 From the pub, follow the road named Henley Street.
- 13 As the road bends left, enter the field to the right at the way mark sign. Head straight across the field, towards the wood.
- 14 Cross the stile into Cobhambury Wood. Turn right immediately after crossing the stile and follow the path to the next junction. Turn right and head downhill into dense woodland.
- 15 When you reach the road, turn to the left and head towards the phone mast on the hill.
- 16 Take the first right up a track passing close to the phone mast and then go underneath the railway. Continue uphill until you pass two field gates on your right.
- 17 10m further on, go through a small kissing gate on your right hand side and uphill through the woodland. Go through a kissing gate at the edge of the wood and then head straight across the field towards a large dead tree.

## Walk your way to a healthier lifestyle



*“Walking for one mile burns virtually the same number of calories as jogging for one mile, it just takes a little longer!”*

*“Walking is FREE and requires no special equipment or clothing – as long as you are comfortable”*

*“Regular walking helps reduce the risk of heart disease, strokes, diabetes and high blood pressure”*

- 18 At the vehicle track, turn right onto Lodge Lane (the shorter walk rejoins here). Follow the track, ignoring all junctions until you reach the Darnley Mausoleum. Continue past the Mausoleum and head straight along the track that follows the ridge for about 200m.
- 19 Go through the kissing gate and after 30m turn left at the Ranscombe information board, heading downhill into woodland.
- 20 At the bottom of this path, next to Knights Place Farm, go straight ahead through two kissing gates into some more woodland. Follow this path to the bottom and then cross over a stile next to the railway line. Turn left and follow this path down to the road. Dogs should be kept on a lead for the rest of the walk.
- 21 Go through the gate, turn right underneath the railway and cross over the A2 road bridge. At the T junction, turn right.
- 22 After about 100m, turn right down a ramp into Brewers Wood. Follow the wide track through the wood and emerge at a pedestrian and horse crossing.
- 23 Turn left after crossing the road and return to Shorne Woods Country Park.

# Photo Guide



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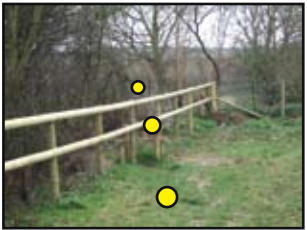
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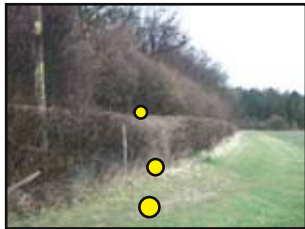
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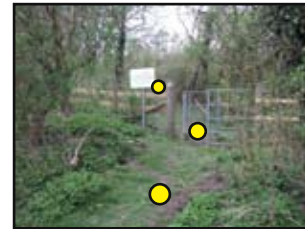
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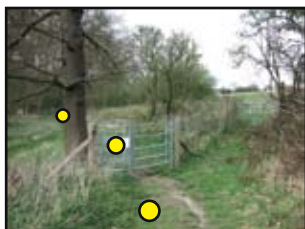
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For guidance only, actual conditions encountered may be different to what is shown depending on weather and time of year.