



## North Downs Way - Section 10: Wye to Chilham

**7 miles (11.2 km)** allow 3 hours

Journey into the mighty Kings Wood with views of Canterbury Cathedral. Explore the quaint village of Chilham and its medieval history.



Tall conifers in King's Wood

### How to get there -

**Parking:** Free car parks in Wye and Chilham

**Train:** Nearest stations: Wye and Chilham

**Bus:** 1A from Canterbury to Ashford

<b>S</b>	Start	Wye station Postcode TN25 5EB
<b>///</b>	what3words	simply.action.parsnip
<b>F</b>	Finish	Chilham Square CT4 8BY
<b>///</b>	what3words	costumed.await.resting
<b>⌋</b>	Gates	7
<b>⌋</b>	Stiles	2
<b>⌋</b>	Steps	0
<b>▲</b>	Terrain	Bare earth, fields gravel tracks, grass, surfaced tarmac roads.
<b>☀</b>	Views	Great views over Stour Valley
<b>☕</b>	Refreshments	Cafes in Wye and Chilham. Perry Court farm on the way.

## Route description

1. With your back to the station, turn right and cross the railway crossing. Turn left immediately onto Harville Road. After the houses turn right onto a footpath, continue straight for 0.5 miles passing through a field, a metal gate and another field. The footpath will turn to the right then left. Keep walking into Perry Court Farm. You have the option to turn left here into Perry Court Farm for refreshments.
2. Continue through the gap onto footpath with the polytunnels on your left. When you reach the busy road take care to cross straight over. In the field turn immediately to your left and walk with the hedge on your left. After a short distance turn right and cross the field to the trees.
3. Turn left at the top of the field and then after a short distance turn right. Follow this footpath around the edge of the field. Turn right through a metal gate onto a road. Turn left and follow the road for 200 metres.
4. Turn right onto a footpath that runs between two fields. Continue straight on this wooded footpath as it opens up with a field on your left. Pass through a metal gate to your right into a grassy field and straight until you reach All Saints Church on your left.
5. With the church on your left continue straight through a gate, over a small road and over a stile in the trees. Continue straight, over a second stile and down and up a field with wide open views. At the top of the field follow the path into the trees as it bends and leads you through a gate to a road.
6. Cross the road and continue straight on this footpath for 1 mile. You will pass through a farm and then a gate. The footpath will bend as it rises uphill through woodland. Keep on the main footpath passing through a high metal fence and on to the crossroads. You are now in Kings Wood.

7. Turn right at the crossroads and keep left passing a Pilgrims Way sign. Keep straight on this footpath for 2 miles, passing a North Downs Way marker on your left. You will also pass a sign showing you a view of Canterbury Cathedral in the distance. Continue Straight until you reach a footpath T-junction.
8. At the intersection turn right and walk downhill. Take care as this chalk footpath can be slippery. At the bottom of the hill turn left and follow the footpath to the road.
9. Join the road and continue straight for 1 mile. Walk up School Hill into Chilham Square. Cross the square diagonally to your right. This walk finishes next to The White Horse Inn Pub at the entrance to St.Mary's Church.

## Points of interest

### 1. Perry Court Farm

This is a family run farm business on the North Downs Way. There is a farm shop, tearoom and garden centre to explore. Perry Court Farm grow over 150 varieties of apple and became the first fresh food producer to use compostable packaging.



### 4. All Saints Church, Boughton Aluph

This 13th century Grade 1 listed church stands close to the entrance of Kings Wood. It is believed that pilgrims would gather in the enlarged porch to walk as a group, through the dangerous section of woods.

### 6. King's Wood

This woodland is one of the largest in Kent at almost 1500 acres. It used to be a royal hunting forest and a large group of fallow deer can still be found in the woods today.



### 9. Chilham Castle

Chilham Castle consists of the Jacobean house built in 1616 surrounded by gardens redesigned by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. The ancient keep nestled behind the house dates back to 709AD. Although it never saw military conflict the keep was part of a medieval fortress that once covered eight acres.



The gates to Chilham Castle



