

Linking Coast to Downs Route 4

5 miles (8km) allow 1 1/2 hours

This walk runs through the pretty villages of Borden, Bredgar and Tunstall. You will amble through open countryside, safely cross the M2 and adventure into the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). You can link to the Linking Coast to Downs Route 3 if you wish to walk further into the downs.



Artist's impression of Bredgar Village (Sally Barton)



Heritage photo, provided by Bredgar Parish Council



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

European Union









How to get there

By car: From M2, take exit toward Detling, then take first left toward Oad St, then follow signs to Borden. From the A2 in Sittingbourne, from Bapchild, take a left onto Swanstree Ave, then follow the signs to Borden.

Parking: Use roadside in Borden village, or start at Tuntall or Bredgar and park in the village centre.

Train: Nearest station Sittingbourne. If walking from the station, follow the M2 toward Chalkwell and walk down Borden Lane.

National Rail Enquiries: 08457484950

	Start / Finish	The Street, Borden
	what3words	limes.curl.warthog
	Stiles	0
	Gates	4
	Terrain	Flat to moderate
	Warning	Take care
	Views	Farmland
	Refreshments	Pub and cafe

Route description

1. Starting on The Street, walk towards the pub and the church situated at the junction with Pond Farm Lane

2. Turn left into Pond Farm Lane and look for the signed bridleway between the houses, on the corner of the lane opposite the church. This route then heads out into open farmland, with a newly planted hedgerow to your right just beyond the farmyard.



Path between houses in Borden, and newly planted hedgerow

3. At the far end of this stretch, carefully cross Sutton Baron Road into the field opposite until you reach the M2, where the path turns left. Upon reaching the waymarking post in the field, bear right and follow the path to Wrens Road and the motorway bridge.

4. Turn right and cross over the bridge, staying on the narrow footway which ends at the entrance to the paddocks on your right.



Bear right here

5. With caution continue along the lane until you spot the footpath finger-post on your left. Cross over here and follow the path into the field edged by trees and a mature hedgerow. Upon reaching the field edge follow the slope until you emerge at the junction with Primrose lane.

6. Take great care as you turn right and continue along the lane into Bredgar village as there is no footway along this short section of the route.

Take time to enjoy the beautiful village centre, with farmshop and tea house, pond, church, pub and many heritage buildings,

7. Turn left just after the church and head down Bexon Lane. After a few hundred yards take the footpath to the left of the road, between the houses. Follow the path across farmland to the underpass (under the M20).

8. Turn left out into an orchard, and follow the path along the wall. Then, bear right on the far side of the poplar trees.



Underpass, path along wall through orchard



Path to left of poplars

9. From here you will reach a field gate. Go through and follow the drive toward the road, then take the path to the right, through the gap in the brick wall, shown below.



10. Reaching Grove End Farm, cross the yard and head for the field gate at the far side, into a grassland area, with a large cherry tree right ahead. Follow the path across to the far side and you will reach Tunstall village.



11. Turn right and walk through the pretty village full of heritage buildings. Pass the church, then turn left at the next bend onto a no-through road. At the end, take the footpath to the left, following up through the tunnel of trees.

12. Pass the first footpath sign to the left, then take the next left. Use the metal pedestrian gate into an old orchard and go straight over to the gate at the far side. There may be sheep grazing here, so please keep dogs under close control.



13. Reaching the edge of the field, turn right onto another no-through road, then left toward Borden village. At the junction, turn right and you will come back to The Street, your starting point.

Please remember the Countryside Code when walking in rural areas:

The Countryside Code

- RESPECT- PROTECT- ENJOY
- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any 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
- Remember to always follow the Highway Code

