



Location Map




Location Symbols

-  Railway Station
-  Walk Location

Essential Information

Distance:
3.5 miles/5.5 kms

Walk grade:
 Typical country walk with some hills and stiles, paths can be muddy (depending on weather)

Maps:
OS Explorer 124
OS Landranger 199

Start/Finish:
Crowhurst Railway Station
TQ 760128

Public Transport:
Trains: Crowhurst Station is on the London to Hastings line and has a regular service

Parking:
Parking is available in Crowhurst Village



Crowhurst Walk



Paths to Prosperity

East Sussex is a welcome haven for walkers in the busy south-east of England, with over two thirds of the County covered by the High Weald and Sussex Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

There is also a wealth of picturesque villages, country houses and parkland hidden within its rolling landscape, waiting to be discovered.

Please come and enjoy the unique splendours of our countryside, but please also support the local businesses that help make the countryside the vibrant place that it is today.

The Countryside Code

- 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

Tourist Information Centre

Battle Abbey, High Street, Battle

Tel: 01424 773721

Fax: 01424 773436

email: battletic@rother.gov.uk

The information contained in this leaflet was correct at the time of printing (June 2005)

Refreshments and Local Services

(see map for location)

1

Crowhurst Post Office

Post Office - 01424 830242

2

The Plough

Public House & Restaurant -
01424 830310

3

Hyfield Stables

Horse Riding School - Swineham
Lane, Crowhurst, 01424 830416

4

Brakes Coppice Park

Camping & Caravan Site -
01424 830322

5

Crowhurst Holiday Park

Holiday Park Accommodation -
Telham Lane, Battle,
01424 773344

6

Little Hemingfold Hotel

Farmhouse Hotel - Telham,
Battle, 01424 774338

Please note that inclusion of business details in this leaflet does not constitute an endorsement of the business by East Sussex County Council or its agents.

We hope that you enjoy the walk in this leaflet, which is one of a series produced by East Sussex County Council.

Copies of the leaflets for other walks in the series are available from Tourist Information Centres and libraries or direct from East Sussex County Council, by contacting the Rights of Way Team:-

By phone on:-

01273 482250 / 482354 / 482324

By post at:-

Transport and Environment Department
County Hall
St. Anne's Crescent
Lewes BN7 1UE

By e-mail at:-

rightsofway@eastsussex.gov.uk

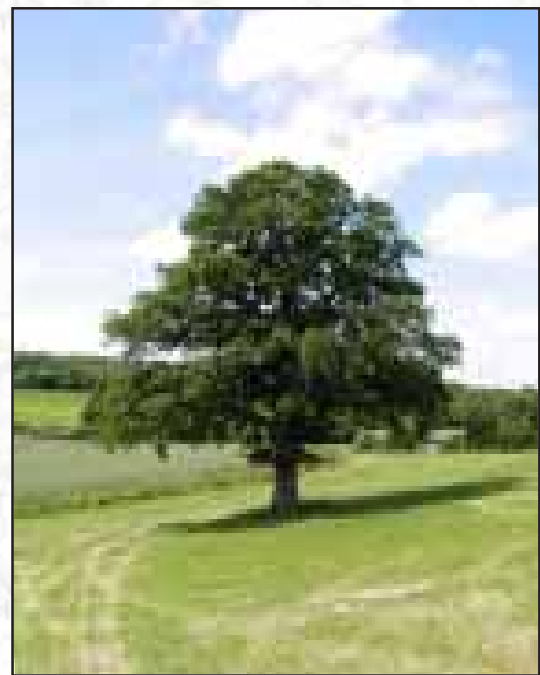
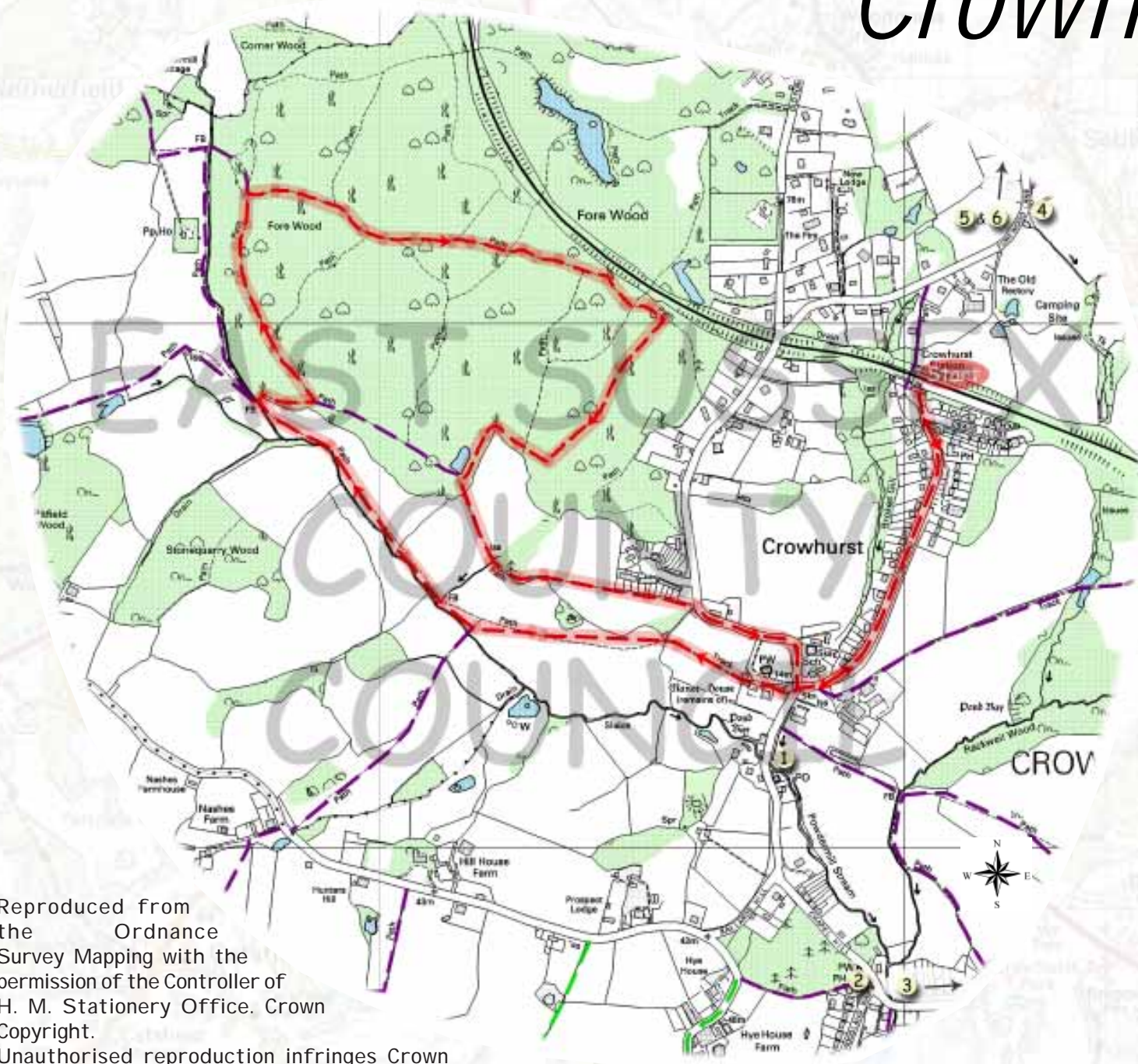
By downloading from the website at:-

www.eastsussex.gov.uk

If any problems are encountered on the walk please report them to the above contact points.





Printed on elemental chlorine-free paper using wood pulp obtained from sustainable forests.

Crowhurst Walk



View along the walk

Map Legend

-  Refreshments & Local Services (see over for details)
-  Route
-  Other Public Footpaths
-  Other Public Bridleways

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Starting from Crowhurst Station, follow Station Road for a distance of approximately 680 metres (740 yds.) to its junction opposite Crowhurst Church. Turn left, and then immediately right to follow the signposted track towards the ruins.

The ruins that can be seen today are the only remains of a manor house built in the 13th century. Its builder, Walter de Scotney was the chief steward to the Earl of Gloucester, but after being accused of trying to murder his employer, Walter was executed in 1259. In the church yard beside the ruins an ancient yew tree can be seen. Estimates for the age of this yew range from 1000 to 3000 years.

Beyond the ruins follow the cross field path towards a gate. Continue to follow the path across a second field as waymarked, heading towards the single Oak tree that soon comes into view. Beyond the tree, bear right at the path junction and follow to a kissing gate and footbridge. Continue to follow the field edge path, with the Powdermill Stream on your left, to reach another footbridge. Turn right at the path junction after the bridge and follow the path to a stile on the woodland edge.



Crowhurst Church and Ancient Yew Tree

Cross the stile and turn right to enter Fore Wood Nature Reserve, owned by the RSPB (the route now follows a section of the 1066 Bexhill Walk, and permissive paths around the wood marked by white arrows). At the junction, next to a bench, turn sharp left. Follow the main track and turn right at the second waymark post, to follow a path uphill, through the trees.

Turn left at the junction with a well defined track, and follow this, passing straight over at the path junction, and past a track on the right. When the main track descends sharply towards a deep ghyll, turn right downhill on a path that runs beside the ghyll.

At the next junction turn right until a bench is reached, then continue straight on, following the path that runs just inside the wood. When you reach a pond on your right, ignore the white waymark and head straight towards the stile leading out of the wood.

Cross the stile and head straight across the field, passing the bottom of a shaw on a well defined track. Head straight across the next field and exit onto the road through a gate. Turn right and follow the road back to the junction with Station Road. Turn left to follow the road back to the Station, and the start of the walk.



Spring Bluebells in Fore Wood

Fore Wood RSPB Reserve

Fore Wood is one of the larger blocks of semi-natural ancient woodland remaining in East Sussex. The use of Fore Wood as a coppice woodland dates back at least 500 years. Roman bell pits are found throughout the reserve and reflect the intensive use of the woodland during the peak of the local iron industries. The perpetuation of the coppice and open ride system provides a home for many colourful insects, including silver-washed fritillary and white admiral butterflies.

The areas of high forest hold green, greater and lesser spotted woodpeckers, along side nuthatch and treecreeper, whilst the coppices and scrub support marsh tit and migrant warblers such as blackcap. Moorhen and mallard, plus the occasional kingfisher and grey heron, visit the large pond, which also supports large numbers of dragonflies and damselflies.

Please keep your dog under control whilst walking through the nature reserve.



for birds
for people
for ever