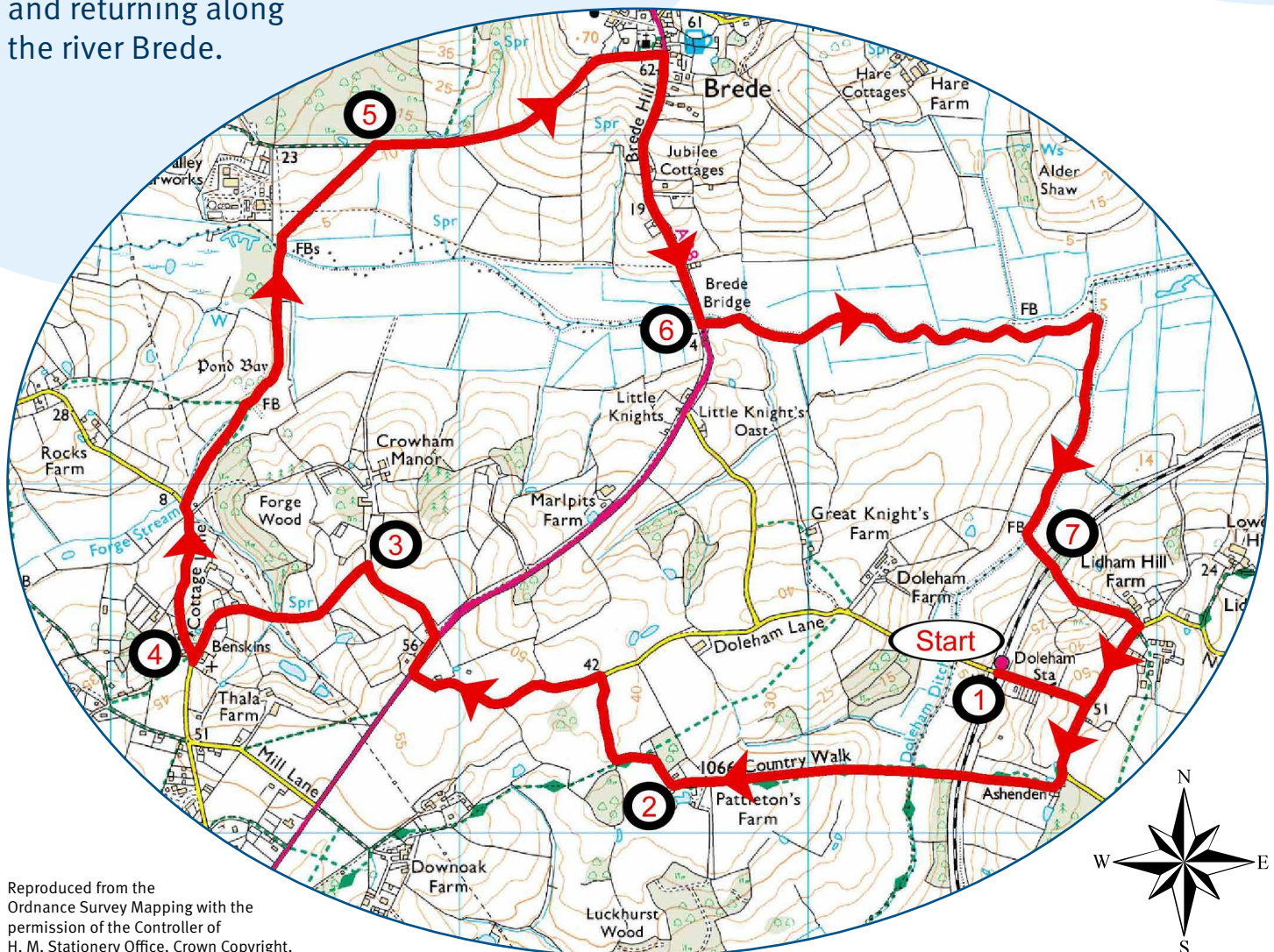


Doleham Walk

A country walk to the village of Brede, starting from Doleham station, and returning along the river Brede.



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Local Information

This walk passes the Brede Valley Waterworks. The main building visible from the walk is part of the Grade II listed structure built in the early 1900s to supply drinking water to Hastings. The buildings still house two of the three original triple expansion steam engines.

Essential Information

Distance: 6.2 miles/10 kms
Walk grade: Average
Maps: OS Explorer 124
 OS Landranger 199
Start/Finish: Doleham Railway Station
Post Code: TN35 4ST
Grid Ref: TQ 835165

Route Description

- 1) Starting from Doleham Railway Station, turn left and follow Doleham Hill for approximately 275 metres (300 yds.) to the road junction. Turn right and follow this lane for approximately 225 metres (245 yds.), turning right onto the footpath as the road bears left. Follow the track for a short distance around a pond before crossing the field in the direction waymarked to reach a railway crossing. After crossing the railway, follow the cross-field path down to a footbridge. Beyond the bridge the route crosses the next large field, heading initially up to the clump of trees, and then straight on towards Pattletons Farm.
- 2) After crossing the stile on the field boundary, continue to follow the path passing the converted barn to reach a driveway. Turn right and follow this drive to Doleham Lane, turn left and follow the lane for approximately 580 metres (635 yds.) to the main A28. Turn right onto the main road and follow the roadside footway for a short distance before crossing the road at the next footpath signpost. Follow the signposted path along the driveway towards Crowham Manor, before turning left onto the next signposted footpath.
- 3) Follow the track along the field edge, bearing right at the far side of the field as signposted. Continue along the edge of the next field before descending a steep slope to a footbridge. After crossing the stream, follow the waymarked path across the next field, heading to the left of the house. After the next stile, bear left and follow the path, passing directly in front of another house, and then along the driveway to Cottage Lane.
- 4) Turn sharp right onto the lane and follow for approximately 455 metres (500 yds.). Just before reaching the road bridge over Forge Stream, turn right onto the footpath and follow in the direction signposted. Continue, passing the next footpath junction, now following the banks of the stream. After crossing the next footbridge and the following stile, the route crosses the field diagonally, as signposted, with the buildings of Brede Valley Waterworks on your left.
- 5) On reaching the Waterworks access road, turn right and follow the road into Brede village. There are good views across the Brede Valley behind when climbing the hill into Brede. From Brede follow the roadside footway south, heading downhill into the Brede Valley. At the end of the surfaced footway, cross the road – taking care – and continue, using the roadside verge.
- 6) Immediately after crossing the bridge over the river Brede, turn left onto the footpath and follow the bank top path. At the confluence of the River Brede and the Doleham Ditch, turn right and continue along the bank top path, now following the Doleham Ditch. Follow this path for approximately 670 metres (735 yds.) before turning left to cross a footbridge.
- 7) The path continues under the railway line and then along the edge of the next field for a short distance, before bearing left across the field towards the barn. Continue via the field gate to the stile, and then turn right onto North Lane. Follow the lane to its junction with Doleham Hill, turning right to follow the road back to Doleham Station and the start of the walk.



A view of Brede Valley Waterworks