

Walk 9

Ansty Circular

(7 miles / 11.3km)

Grading = Moderate

Explorer maps OL34

(Crawley & Horsham)

& 135 (Ashdown Forest)



Start/End point:

Ansty Recreation Ground,
Deaks Lane RH17 5AS

1. Leave the car park recreation ground (WAYMARKER 2) and turn right down Deaks Lane. Walk for a minute then opposite 4 Lavender Cottages turn left down a driveway signposted public bridleway.
2. Walk through a wood yard and then the public bridleway turns off to the right through some trees and between deer fencing on either side.
3. Go past a bungalow called Silverdale and continue on the public bridleway. The path goes around the back of the houses and leads out onto the A272 where you will need to turn right and cross over almost immediately to keep following the public bridleway. It is quite a dangerous crossing on a bend so be careful.
4. Follow the bridleway opposite until you reach Bishopstone Lane where you need to turn left and walk slightly uphill. Go past the public footpath on your left, past the cottages on your right and then turn left along a public bridleway, through a gate.
5. The bridleway leads to Cuckfield Road where you need to go directly across to the path on the other side. Follow the bridleway until you come to a field, walk along the left-hand edge with trees to the left.
6. Continue on between a hedgerow on the right and the tree line on the left until you reach Harvest Hill. Cross straight over onto the driveway leading up to Moonhill Farm and turn directly right onto a public bridleway through the trees.
7. Turn off the bridleway through a kissing gate on the left signposted public footpath. Walk along the left-hand side of the agricultural field, and turn right when you reach the copse, follow the edge of the woodland to keep heading north until you reach Upper Ridges Cottage on your right (just before the cottage the waymarked path follows a track to the left of the hedge).

8. Follow the footpath in front of the house and continue towards the bottom right hand corner of the field until you reach a little brook where the path goes left and immediately right. Go over a stream, left uphill through a wooded area and then through a gate into a field, keep to the right-hand side of the field.
9. Go through a metal kissing gate, diagonally left across the field and round the back of the house and then toward a gate in the left-hand corner of the field. Keep to the left-hand edge of the field, go through a kissing gate and diagonally left to gate in corner of field beside a bungalow. Follow the path along the left hand side of the field, beside a fenced off area of woodland.
10. Go past a tumbledown shed on your left and then turn left across the field toward the trees, walk past two large trees to your right and you will see a footpath ahead that leads into the woods.
11. There is a steep gully to your left, walk downhill over a stream and up the other side. Over a stile, keep walking straight ahead, there is a fence on your left.
12. Go over the stile, past the farmhouse and over another stile. Over one more stile and then cross over a lane to carry straight ahead, through a kissing gate and across Copyhold Lane. Follow the public footpath straight ahead between two fences until you reach the A272.
13. Go straight across the main road to pick up the footpath directly opposite and then turn left along the fence behind Warden Park School on the right. Keep walking straight ahead until you reach a track which runs along the south hedge of the cemetery at the Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield.
14. Just before the footpath turns sharp left (and the track continues straight ahead) you need to turn right through a metal gateway and walk directly through the cemetery toward the church spire.

Resting Place (5 miles / 8 km): Turn right in the cemetery toward the war memorial and under the tree you will see the 'Feather Bench' made by artist Christian Funnell. The work was commissioned by Cuckfield Parish Council in 2019 to 'remember the many babies who rest near this

place'. Cuckfield is a good place to stop for a coffee or a pint as there are several good pubs and cafes.

15. Walk past the church and turn left through the lychgate and walk straight on down Church Platt, round the back of the White Hart Pub. Cross over South Street and turn left through a gate to follow the High Weald Landscape Trail.
16. Go through a kissing gate, down a steep path to a stile at the bottom. At the bottom of the hill there is a little stream and a wooden bridge, on the other side there are some steps going uphill.
17. The path continues on, through a kissing gate, then the path turns downhill until you reach a little stream, go over the wooden bridge with a handrail and then uphill toward Deaks Lane.
18. When you reach the road turn left, there is no footpath but it is a relatively quiet road with little traffic. Follow Deaks Lane all the way back to the Ansty Recreation Ground car park (WAYMARKER 2).



**Waymarker 2
Ansty**