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## Buxted Circular

**Start and finish:** Buxted station

**Length:** 16.3km (10.1 miles).

**Time:** 5 hours. For the whole outing, including trains, sights and meals, allow at least 8 hours.

**Transport:** Trains go from London Bridge and Victoria to Buxted, journey time just over an hour.

**OS Landranger Map:** 199

**OS Explorer Map:** 135

Buxted, map reference TQ497233, is in **Sussex**, 16 km east of Haywards Heath.

**Toughness:** 3 out of 10.

**Walk Notes:** The lunch pub at Poundgate tends to get very busy on Sundays. If walking with a larger group it is best to avoid Sundays during winter, when dining outside is not an option.

**Saturday Walkers' Club:** Take the train nearest to 10.25 am from London Bridge or Victoria station to Buxted.

**WALK DIRECTIONS**

Exit the station car park to *turn left up the main road. In 160 metres turn left along Church Road, your direction 20 degrees. After 130 metres you pass by St Mary the Virgin Church on your right hand side. In a further 270 metres [2] ignore a footpath forking down to the left, to follow the lane round to the right.*

In 600 metres ignore a footpath over a stile to your left, to then pass by a row of single storey houses on your left and a footpath off to your right. After 150 metres *cross over a stile (left of a metal fieldgate), to veer right and down a wooded field boundary.*

After 140 metres cross a stile, and go over a cross paths to continue down a footpath through a wood, to then cross a stream after 70 metres, to continue up through the wood.

In 160 metres you *come out onto a car wide track, with the entrance to Willow Cottage on your left-hand side. [3] 10 metres beyond, turn left along a footpath through a wood, your direction 30 degrees.*

In 150 metres cross a stile to go along the upper right hand side of a small field, your direction 70 degrees, and in 60 metres cross a stile. In a further 50 metres cross a stile to veer left across a field (passing by two oak trees along the way), your direction 60 degrees. In 120 metres go over a stile, to enter a wood, (with a fence on the right side of the path). After 110 metres go over a stile to veer slightly right across a field, (aiming for a not too visible stile in the hedgerow on the far side), your direction 70 degrees. After 120 metres cross over a car wide track, followed by a stile, to cross the next field, towards a stile, (with a white clapboard house beyond and just to the left of the stile)

After 100 metres *cross the stile to turn right up the right-hand side of a garden. After 50 metres go through a wooden gate, and turn left down a lane. In 80 metres you pass by a footpath to your right, to continue down the lane, in a northerly direction.*

In 350 metres (having passed by some large corrugated barns off to your left), follow the track round to the right.

**[4]** *In 40 metres and immediately before a stream, turn left along a footpath, alongside the edge of the stream. After 30 metres ignore a footbridge (leading to tennis courts) off to your right and after a further 35 metres, go over a railed footbridge and a stile into a field to continue ahead across it, aiming to the right of a small group of trees. In 100 metres, (half way across the field), by the group of trees and a footpath post, ignore a turn to the right, to veer left towards a metal fieldgate, (10 metres to the right of a small wood).*

In 120 metres go through the metal fieldgate to continue in the same direction (300 degrees), up across this next field, aiming for a gap, (with a somewhat overgrown pillbox immediately to its right). After 230 metres go through the gap in the hedgerow, (passing by the pillbox on your right hand side), into the next field, to go along a small fenced-in section on your left for 30 metres, to then veer left, 315 degrees, up across the field towards a stile. After 130 metres cross the stile and railway with care, followed by a second stile.

Continue up the right hand side of the next field, aiming for its right hand corner. After 280 metres cross a stile into the next field, to continue up its right hand side.

In 90 metres exit the field through a wooden fieldgate to *come out onto a lane, and turn right. After 300 metres,*

(where the lane curves to the right), **[5]** continue ahead along a car wide track to go through a wooden gate, (left of a wooden fieldgate), with Sleeches farmhouse off to your right. In 80 metres go through another wooden gate, to continue up a car wide fenced in bridleway, which may be muddy.

After 550 metres the bridleway enters a wood. In a further 380 metres you emerge from the wood, to *turn left along a road*, your initial direction 290 degrees.

**[6]** After 250 metres turn right along a car wide tarmac bridleway track, your direction north. In 370 metres ignore a 2 plank bridge on your left, (immediately before the entrance to Grovehurst) to follow the car wide driveway. After 60 metres follow the main drive round to the left (with a pond on your left), to pass between a brick outbuilding on your left and a house on your right. In a further 100 metres the car wide track continues between fields.

After 160 metres you go through a metal gate (right of a metal fieldgate), into a field to follow the car wide track for 60 metres, to then veer left down across the field, aiming for a metal fieldgate in its lower far corner, your direction 340 degrees. After 280 metres *at the lower field corner, go through a metal gate* (right of a metal fieldgate), and turn right along a car wide track through a wood.

In 350 metres at a fork (just before a road), *fork left for 40 metres to then turn left up the road.* **[7]** After 420 metres, immediately after a lamppost on your left, *turn left up a car wide shingle footpath.* **[!]** In 50 metres turn right (this is easy-to-miss, as it is unmarked) over some planks and then along a very narrow path through a wooded area for 15 metres to emerge onto a golf course, to cross a fairway to the left of a tee and *in a further 35 metres turn left* along a (golf caddy) service road. After 90

*metres at the end of the service road, veer right* up through some trees, *following occasional footpath posts*, your direction 320 degrees.

In 160 metres you emerge from the trees to cross the end of a fairway. After 80 metres, turn left to go along the lower side of the next fairway, with a wooded boundary on your left-hand side. In 100 metres follow the footpath up and round to the right, now with a fence on your left and passing by a putting green on your right.

In 50 metres turn left along an enclosed footpath, (initially with a 2.5 metre brick wall on your left). In 270 metres you emerge onto a main road. Cross this road with care and turn left to reach **The Crow and Gate** after 70 metres. **[8]**

*Coming out of the pub, turn right* along the main road for 30 metres, to then *cross the road* with care onto a small green with stile beyond. *Cross over the stile* into a field, to go along a fenced-in footpath on the left-hand side.

After 90 metres cross a stile and continue ahead, (past a house on your right hand side), for 50 metres to then *go through a metal fieldgate into a field and turn right*, along its upper right hand side. In 100 metres at the right hand field corner, cross a stile (right of a metal fieldgate), to continue along the right hand side of the next field.

*After 120 metres turn left down along a fenced in footpath.* After 80 metres cross over a stile into a wood. In 280 metres go over a stile to emerge from the wood into a field, and turn left to go down its left-hand side. After 250 metres at the left-hand corner of the field, cross a stile (left of a metal fieldgate) into a wood.

In 300 metres you *pass by a house on your right hand side*, and *in a further 80 metres*, (just before some houses

ahead), *fork right* (marked by a footpath signpost), down through the wood.

*In 70 metres go down some steps, to cross a concrete car wide track and turn left along a footpath (bordered by a fence on your left) for 30 metres, to then go through a wooden gate, to continue along a fenced-in footpath along the upper left hand side of a field. After 250 metres ignore the left turn [9] for the Vanguard Way. In a further 380 metres, at the left-hand field corner cross a stile into a wood.*

*In 650 metres you come out onto a lane to turn left. In 130 metres where the lane veers to the right, turn left through a kissing gate into a field, to go down its left-hand side. After 200 metres at the left-hand field corner go through a kissing gate into the next field to continue down across it. In 230 metres at the field bottom, go through a kissing gate into a wood, to cross over a footbridge after 20 metres.*

*In 160 metres you go through a gate [10], to turn right down a lane for 15 metres, to then turn left up a lane.*

*In 50 metres (with Holy Trinity Church, High Hurstwood off to your left), turn right through a kissing gate, to go up the right hand side of a field. In 150 metres go through a kissing gate to continue through a wood. In 170 metres turn left through a kissing gate and in 60 metres go through a kissing gate to turn left up a lane.*

*In 80 metres turn right along a car wide track. After 330 metres at a T-junction, turn left down a car wide track. After 350 metres follow the car wide track round and down to the right, to continue past some farm buildings. In 180 metres you reach a stile, (to the left of a driveway entrance). [11].*

There are now two alternatives. **(i)** Continue along the Vanguard Way, or **(ii)**

an alternative route to the west, to link up again after 2km.

**(i)** Go over a stile to go down a fenced in footpath.

*After 100 metres cross over a footbridge to turn half right, to slice the corner of this field, aiming for a metal gate (next to an oak tree), your direction south. In 70 metres go over the stile and a plank footbridge into the next field. Turn half left up across this field, aiming 70 metres to the left side of a building on the far side behind some trees, your direction 160 degrees.*

*In 250 metres (on the far side of the field and 70 metres to the left of a building), cross a dilapidated stile to the right of a metal fieldgate (both hidden from view until the last moment by an earth bank) to turn right along a lane.*

*After 110 metres turn left over a stile, and turn half right down across a field. In 100 metres at the bottom corner of the field cross over a stile, to continue down the left hand side of the next field.*

*In 400 metres cross over a footbridge to go up through a wood for 80 metres, to then go under a railway arch and over a stile. After 20 metres you emerge from the wood and turn right along an indistinct path, along the right hand lower side of the field, with the railway 20 metres or so down to your right.*

*After 280 metres, at the right hand corner of the field, cross over a stile to go along a fenced in footpath. In 80 metres cross a stile into the next field, passing by a car wide bridge [12] over the railway on your right hand side. Rejoin the walk directions at the asterisk [\*] below.*

**(ii)** *Immediately before the driveway entrance, turn right through a gap (marked by a footpath post on the left), your initial directions 260 degrees, to pass by a breeze block farm building*

and grain hopper off to your right, to go down a footpath with a wooden pole fence on its left.

In 45 metres go through a squeeze stile and cross a plank footbridge into the corner of a field, to continue along its left-hand side, your direction 230 degrees. After 230 metres at the left-hand field corner go through a wooded field boundary for 15 metres, to emerge into the next field.

Veer left for 45 metres to go through a wooden kissing gate into the next field to veer slightly right across it, your direction 230 degrees. In 180 metres go through a wooden kissing-gate into the corner of the next field, to go initially along a fenced in wood on your left for 40 metres, to then continue across the field, your direction 240 degrees. In a further 170 metres go through a wooden kissing-gate to then go through a wooded field boundary for 25 metres to emerge through a wooden kissing gate into a field to go down its left-hand side.

In 180 metres at the bottom left-hand corner of the field, turn left by a wooden mini-pylon electricity pole, to cross a footbridge over a stream after 15 metres, to go along the left-hand side of a small field, (with the stream beyond).

In 45 metres go through a wooden kissing-gate to cross the next small field. After 60 metres cross a stile into a wood, and in 70 metres emerge from the wood (past a redundant stile) onto an enclosed footpath, to then come out onto a lane after 60 metres.

Turn left along the lane to then after 20 metres cross the bridge over the stream, to then immediately turn right over a stile into the corner of a field to go along its right-hand side (with the stream off to your right).

In 130 metres cross over the stream into the corner of the next narrow long field, and turn left along the left-hand

edge of the field (with stream beyond), and in 50 metres at the field corner follow the field edge round to the right, (bordered by a wood and the stream beyond). In 300 metres pass by a wooden footpath signpost on your left-hand side, to veer slightly right towards the footbridge field exit, your direction 160 degrees.

In 150 metres cross the footbridge into the next field to veer slightly left up across the field, towards a car wide bridge, your direction 130 degrees. In 230 metres cross the car wide bridge over the railway to then go over a stile into a field and turn right, (with the railway down to your right hand side).

**[\*]** Veer left along the footpath, towards a house with a barn on its right hand side.

In 370 metres go over a stile to the left of a car wide track between the house and the barn, to then come out onto the car wide track which you follow up and round to the left. After 240 metres at a T-junction with a lane, turn right.

In 400 metres *at a T-junction with the main road, turn right* for Buxted station, passing by **The Buxted Inn** on your right. (For The White Hart go under the railway bridge for 200 metres.)

## Lunch and Tea places:

**The Buxted Inn** *Buxted, TN22 4LA, (01825 733510)* Food served: Mon – Sat noon - 2.30pm & 6.30pm – 9pm Sun 12pm to 5pm.

**The Crow and Gate Poundgate, TN6 3TA, (0892 603461)** Food served noon – 10pm daily (9.30pm Sunday). Located 8.6km from the start of the walk.

**The White Hart** *Buxted, TN22 4DP (01825 733192)*