

Edenbridge to Chartwell check	Chartwell to Westerham checked	Shorter ending last checked	Edenbridge Town start last checked	Hurst Green start last checked
13 January 2025	17 May 2021	13 January 2025	13 January 2025	17 May 2021
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## Edenbridge to Westerham

<b>Length:</b>	- <b>Main walk</b>	17.8km (11 miles)
	- <b>With shorter ending</b>	11.6km (7.2 miles)
	- <b>Short cut to Emmetts Garden</b>	saves 2.8km (1.7 miles)
	- <b>Starting from Edenbridge Town</b>	adds 1.8km (1.1 miles)
	- <b>Starting from Hurst Green</b>	adds 1km (0.6 miles)

<b>Toughness:</b>	- <b>Main walk:</b> 8 out of 10: quite a few hills, some rather steep
	- <b>Shorter ending:</b> 4 out of 10: gentle gradients apart from a couple of short steep sections.

**Maps:** OS Landranger 187 & 188; Explorer 147.

### Features

When you see a view from a ridge, you do not usually know much about the countryside you are looking at. But on this walk, you start in the Eden valley and climb slowly and gently across fields up towards the Greensand Ridge, with increasingly pretty views. By the time you climb up onto the escarpment, in a series of delightful stages, the view has become a familiar friend.

In the Second World War, Winston Churchill is supposed to have looked at this very view and said: "This is what we are fighting for." Certainly, **Chartwell**, his house, which is passed on this walk and which is now owned by the National Trust, was his refuge and great love, though he had little enough opportunity to visit it during his time as wartime Prime Minister. The **shorter ending to from Chartwell to Westerham** (see **Walk Options**), is ideal if you want to visit this property.

The walk also takes in **Emmetts Garden**, another National Trust attraction, and offers a short cut to this in the afternoon if you want to spend more time there. Emmetts has a wonderful display of **bluebells** in late April and early May, but even better wild ones – some of the loveliest ones in southern England – are to be seen throughout the walk, particularly in the afternoon around **Ide Hill**, at the start of the optional **Hurst Green start**, and just beyond Mariner's Hill on the **Shorter Ending from Chartwell to Westerham**.

If that is not enough, in the pretty town of Westerham at the end of the walk you can also visit **Quebec House** (National Trust), a historic house associated with Wolfe, the youthful general who conquered the Canadian city for the British Empire.

## Walk options

- **Short cut to Emmetts Garden:** Starting in paragraph 120 on page 9, this short cut through the woods **saves 2.8km (1.7 miles)** and some big hill climbs on the afternoon of the main walk, though it misses some of the best scenery. It might be useful if you want to get to tea earlier - the gardens are otherwise 3.7km (2.3 miles) away from that point in the walk, rather than 900 metres via this short cut - or if you want to spend more time in the garden.
- **Starting from Edenbridge Town station:** Edenbridge has two stations on two different railway lines. This option starts from the other one and soon joins the main walk. It **adds 1.8km (1.1 miles)** to the walk length, so the distances to all lunch and tea options need to be increased by that amount. *For directions for this option see paragraph 12 on page 4.*
- **Starting from Hurst Green:** This attractive route starts at Hurst Green station and has some fine bluebell woods in its early stages. It later skirts along the bottom of the Greensand escarpment, then climbs up it, with panoramic views, to join the main walk route at Crockham Hill. It is **1km (0.6) miles** longer than the main Edenbridge start, so the distances to all lunch and tea options given overleaf need to be lengthened by that amount. *To do this option start with the directions in paragraph 173 on page 12.*
- **Shorter Ending from Chartwell to Westerham:** This option starts in paragraph 64 of the walk directions on page 6, and takes you directly in 4.8km (3 miles) to Westerham, making a total walk of **11.6km (7.2 miles)** from Edenbridge station, **13.4km (8.3 miles)** from Edenbridge Town station, and **12.6km (7.8 miles)** from Hurst Green - particularly useful if you want more time to visit Chartwell or Quebec House in Westerham. *If doing this option and starting from either Edenbridge station you only need pages 1-8 of these directions.*

## Transport

The main walk starts from **Edenbridge** station. There is no longer a direct service to this station from London: you need change at **Redhill** - usually reached by a Thameslink train from **St Pancras, Farringdon** and **London Bridge**, though there also services from **Victoria** - or at **Tonbridge** - reached by a train from **London Bridge** or **Charing Cross**. Journey times are 55 minutes via Redhill and 1 hour 5 minutes via Tonbridge.

A quicker journey is from **London Bridge** to **Edenbridge Town**, for which there is an hourly direct train taking 38 minutes (at least Monday to Saturday: on Sundays a change at Oxted is needed and journey times are longer). This is an alternative start for this walk, but arguably a less scenic one, and adds 1.8km (1.1 miles) to its length.

**Hurst Green**, another alternative start, is the stop after Oxted and has two trains an hour from Victoria taking 44 minutes and one an hour from London Bridge taking 31 minutes.

For all the starts, catch the first train from London after **10am** to get to lunch at Crookham Hill or Chartwell in time, or the first train after **9am** if aiming for lunch at the Cock Inn in Ide Hill.

Buy a **day return to "Edenbridge Stations"**. This will cover your outward journey to any of the walk starting points and should also be OK for the journey from Bromley South to Victoria on the return (see next paragraph), since trains from Bromley South go to Sevenoaks, which is on the way to Tonbridge, which is one of the two possible routes to Edenbridge. It is also valid for returning from Oxted to London if you take the bus to there from Westerham (see below), and for starting from Hurst Green. *(In the latter case, you could just buy a Hurst Green return if you were absolutely sure of getting the bus from Westerham to Oxted, but it would not be a huge saving.)*

**Returning from Westerham** you can get the **246 bus to Bromley South station** (about 40 minutes), from where there are fast trains (taking about 20 minutes) to Victoria. This is a Transport for London service, running at least hourly (and often twice an hour) till late, and has standard TfL bus fares. You can pay with an Oyster card, contactless or use TFL travelcards or passes.

The 246 also calls at **Hayes** station about 15 minutes before Bromley South: from here there are up to four trains an hour to London Bridge (journey time 36 minutes) and Charing Cross. On Sundays when the house is open, the 246 also serves **Chartwell** hourly until around 5pm.

On Mondays to Saturdays there are also **594/595 buses** from Westerham to **Oxted** railway station, leaving approximately every two hours. There is usually a bus around 5pm, but check the latest times on journey planners. On Mondays to Fridays there is currently (January 2025) a later bus at 7.15pm. There is also a four times a day bus Mondays to Fridays, the **236**, that goes to Oxted one way and **Edenbridge** the other: again one departure is about 5pm. A day return to "Edenbridge Stations" or to Hurst Green will be valid for your return train travel back from Oxted to London.

In addition, there is a bus, the number **1**, to **Sevenoaks** Mondays to Fridays, but the last bus is currently 4.30pm. An Edenbridge Stations ticket (*or one just to Edenbridge, but probably not one just to Edenbridge Town*) would also be valid via Sevenoaks.

## Lunch and tea places

The **Royal Oak** in Crockham Hill (01732 866 335), 4.7km (2.9 miles) into the walk, is a small pub (booking very much advised) that serves lunch from 12pm to 1.45pm ("last reservations") Thursday to Saturday and to 3.45pm on Sundays. It is open for drinks all afternoon at the weekend and until 2.30pm (and from 6pm) Thursday to Friday, but closed completely Monday to Wednesdays. In January 2025 it was also advertising a bar snack option of a bacon roll or fish finger sandwich that was available outside normal meal times.

**Chartwell**, 6.8km (4.2 miles) into the walk, has a National Trust-run self-service tea room and restaurant, which can be reached without going into the house. It does two or three hot food options (not in the most massive portions) every lunchtime from 12 to 2.30pm. It is open for tea until 5pm. It is open year around, apart from Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

**The Cock Inn** in Ide Hill (01732 750 310), 11.9km (7.4 miles) into the walk, serves food till 12-3pm and 5-8pm Monday to Saturday and 12-4pm on Sunday. It has some outside tables, looking onto the village green.

**Emmetts Garden**, 13.7km (8.5 miles) into the walk, or 10.9km (6.8 miles) via the short cut in paragraph 120 of the walk directions, has a National Trust tea room. It is open till 4.30pm daily from mid March to the end of October and till 4pm in November and December.

In **Westerham** the **Tudor Rose Tearooms** are only open until 4pm Monday to Friday and 4.30pm weekends, but on the left-hand edge of the green there is a **Costa Coffee** open till 5pm daily. Between the two is the **Grasshopper on the Green** pub. Westerham village centre also has other pubs, including the **Kings Arms**.

A excellent **picnic** place with fine views is indicated in paragraph 67 and 82 of the walk directions, though there are various other very scenic spots just after Crockham Hill and around Ide Hill.

## WALK DIRECTIONS

To start from **Edenbridge Town** station, go to paragraph 12 on page 4.

To start from **Hurst Green** station, go to paragraph 173 on page 12.

### **Edenbridge to Batchelor's Farm** **(1.8km/1.1 miles)**

- 1** Cross the footbridge to platform two if arriving from Tonbridge, or simply leave the platform you are on if coming from Redhill, and go down the station approach road to the main road.
- 2** Turn left on the main road and in 40 metres, just before a side road and a large white house, turn left along a

signposted but easily missed footpath between wooden fences.

- 3** In 300 metres this brings you into a field. Go right uphill across this on a fenced path.
- 4** In 150 metres pass through a kissing gate and turn left on a road. (Some cars come down this road rather fast, so take care.) Initially there are houses to the left, but in 200 metres you leave them behind.
- 5** In another 250 metres ignore a signposted footpath to the left opposite a rubbery-leaved garden hedge. But in 100 metres more, at the end of the garden of a house to the right (Hilders Cottage), turn right up a gravel

driveway, passing through a gate to the left of double wooden fieldgates, following a footpath sign.

- 6 In 100 metres, at the end of the driveway, go on through a gate to emerge in 20 metres more in a field. Go downhill on the left-hand side of this.
- 7 In 80 metres ignore a (rather hidden) stile to the left, and keep straight on along the field edge.
- 8 In another 70 metres cross a decaying stile. Keep on along the left-hand edge of the next field, over a hill.
- 9 In 150 metres go through the left-hand of the two fieldgates ahead (ignoring another one to the left) and on down a wooded strip between fences.
- 10 In 200 metres pass through a gate into a field and keep on along its left-hand edge.
- 11 In 120 metres pass through another fieldgate. Ignore a path to the left and go straight on into a field through a fieldgate. *Continue with paragraph 41 on page 5.*

### **Edenbridge Town to Batchelor's Farm (3.6km/2.2 miles)**

- 12 Coming off the London platform at Edenbridge Town, go through the subway to leave the station on the other side. Head west along Station Approach for 250 metres, up to its junction with Station Road.
- 13 Turn right and go up to the traffic lights. Cross over the B2026 here and enter **Stangrove Park**.
- 14 Bear left across the grass, passing to the left of a clump of trees (concealing Stangrove Pond). Beyond the pond, pass a playground on your left and carry on along a tarmac path.
- 15 In 200 metres you come out onto a residential street (Pine Grove). Bear left to reach a T-junction with a busier road in 100 metres.
- 16 Turn right and follow this road, with houses to your right and a hedgerow and field to your left.
- 17 In 450 metres, at the end of a row of cottages, turn left onto an unsurfaced lane, signposted as a public footpath.
- 18 In 120 metres, at the end of a wood, take the second of two paths off to the

right, with a yellow VGW waymarker indicating that you have joined the **Vanguard Way** (which was rerouted in 2019/20, so not as shown on older OS maps).

- 19 Follow the path across a small field and then gently downhill through scrubland. In 150 metres bear left at a VGW marker and pass through a kissing gate into a belt of trees.
- 20 In 20 metres, after passing some concrete barriers, the path curves right
- 21 In 30 metres more it emerges onto an abandoned golf course. Turn half-left to go diagonally across a former fairway, aiming for a footpath post 100 metres away in front of a belt of trees.
- 22 At the post bear right onto a short path through the trees to a post in front of the next fairway.
- 23 Turn half left to go diagonally across this fairway towards a red and yellow sign on a post 150 metres away.
- 24 When you get to the sign, you will find there is a pond beyond it. Skirt around to the right of this.
- 25 Ignore a gap to the right about halfway around the pond, but more or less on the opposite side of the pond to the sign, turn right through a gap in the scrub/trees towards a Vanguard Way marker post 20 metres away.
- 26 Once at the post, turn left towards a post 60 metres away in the middle of a former fairway.
- 27 Beyond this post, cross a ditch on a plank bridge and carry straight on towards another post 60 metres away at the edge of a wood.
- 28 Go into the wood on a narrow path.
- 29 In 50 metres you emerge into a grassy area. Curve left around its edge and then across its middle.
- 30 In 120 metres pass into another wood on a narrow path, marked by a footpath post at its start.
- 31 In 100 metres go straight on at a footpath post, ignoring a now overgrown footpath signposted to the left.
- 32 In 30 metres more, leave the wood to go straight ahead across one last fairway.
- 33 On the far side, pass through a kissing gate to leave the golf course. Follow a

path across some rough grassland and into a small wood.

- 34** In 100 metres pass to the left of the corner of a fenced builder's yard to continue straight on with a fence to your right.
- 35** In 100 metres go over a stile. Turn right and then left to join a driveway leading out to a minor road.
- 36** Turn left onto the road.
- 37** In 150 metres turn right at a road junction into Hilders Lane, which crosses a bridge over the Redhill-Tonbridge railway line. *(If you look down to the right, you will see where the Oxted-Uckfield line briefly emerges from the middle of a short tunnel to go under the other line, an unusual piece of engineering).*
- 38** In another 60 metres, just after Hilders Lane has curved sharply to the right, turn left into a cul-de-sac. Follow this lane for 300 metres, past Yew Tree Farm and then another house on the left.
- 39** Just after this house, turn right off the road onto a track signposted as a bridleway. Go over a stile to the right of a metal fieldgate and follow this track along a belt of trees.
- 40** After 500 metres the way ahead is blocked by brambles and there are metal fieldgates on both sides. Go through the left-hand gate into a large field. *Continue with the directions in the next section.*

### **Batchelor's Farm to Crockham Hill (2.9km/1.8 mi)**

- 41** Turn right along the field edge. In 35 metres, just **before** the fieldgate, turn left along the far edge of the field and carry on with a hedge to your right.
- 42** In 250 metres cross a stile to the right of a fieldgate into the next field.
- 43** In 150 metres go through a kissing gate and 50 metres more cross a stile to the right of a fieldgate to emerge onto a road.
- 44** Turn left on the road, and in 40 metres turn right over a stile into a large field. Walk ahead for 250 metres to converge with the right-hand edge of a wood and carry on along it.
- 45** In 450 metres more, at the far end of this field, cross a stile and go on up a

broad grassy strip, with fenced compounds to the right, on the left-hand edge of another large field.

- 46** In 150 metres turn left through a car-wide gap in the field boundary.
- 47** In 40 metres, just before you emerge into another field, turn right onto a path into a wood.
- 48** In 60 metres emerge into a field corner and keep straight ahead, with a line of low trees to your left, ignoring a double fieldgate to your left.
- 49** In 150 metres, at the top of the rise and 50 metres before the end of the field, turn left onto a fenced path on the left-hand edge of a field.
- 50** In 120 metres cross a decaying stile into a wooden strip and carry straight on across it to cross another stile into a field in 20 metres.
- 51** Turn right down the edge of the field. In 50 metres pass through a kissing gate in a field corner and carry on slightly downhill on the right-hand edge of a narrow field.
- 52** In 170 metres go through a metal gate and turn right on a gravel drive. Go over a stile to the right of a gate and then right on a road.
- 53** In 200 metres you pass a house to the left called Blackthorne Cottage. In another 80 metres, where the lane turns sharp right, go straight on through a wooden gate to the right of a metal car-blocking barrier, and on up a gravel track.
- 54** In 100 metres, where the track turns left through a fieldgate, keep straight on uphill on a fenced grass strip on the left-hand side of a field.
- 55** In another 350 metres you come out into a residential cul-de-sac. Here keep straight on along on a tarmac path to merge with a road in 40 metres.
- 56** In 200 metres you come out onto the main road in the centre of the village of **Crockham Hill**. Turn right on the main road for a possible pub stop, the **Royal Oak** in 70 metres. Otherwise, cross the main road with care and turn **left** uphill on it.

### **Crockham Hill to Froghole (0.9 km/0.6 miles)**

- 57** In 70 metres turn right down a road to "Village Hall, School, Church".

- 58** In 170 metres, where the lane curves left up to the church, keep straight on through a kissing gate to the right of a metal fieldgate. Curve slightly left across the field following faint grassy path.
- 59** In 100 metres pass through a gate and veer slightly to the left across the next field, climbing up over a hump. You are aiming for a kissing gate in 200 metres or so on the far side of the field but it is hidden by the hump and some trees: it is in fact about 50 metres to the right of a metal fieldgate visible when you are two thirds of the way across the field (or 100 metres uphill from an old rusted one lower down).
- 60** Beyond the kissing gate cross a footbridge over a stream and keep straight on uphill on the left-hand edge of a field.
- 61** In 130 metres at the top of the field, pass through a metal gate and keep on up a fenced path, which in 30 metres leads to some steps.
- 62** In 100 metres, at the top of the steps, go right on a tarmac road.
- 63** In 150 metres, opposite the drive to The Coach House right, there is a track to the left.

### **Froghole to Chartwell** **(1.2km/0.7 miles)**

- 64** From this point there are **two possible routes** to Chartwell, both around the same length.
- **The recommended main walk route** is to climb up Mariner's Hill for a fine view (and a nice picnic spot). For this option go to paragraph 65.
  - For a **less strenuous**, though perfectly pleasant route - also for the **shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham**, which later goes over Mariner's Hill anyway - refer to paragraph 70.
- 65** Turn left off the road up the track, crossing a stile to the left of a gate in 10 metres.
- 66** In 300 metres the track veers right and levels off a bit, still between fences.
- 67** In 100 metres, at a footpath junction by three large trees, turn right following a National Trust marker down some steps and turn left along a path

with a field and fence to the right and a hedge to the left, with fine views to the right. This is **Mariner's Hill**. A bench here and another in 130 metres make a nice **picnic** spot.

- 68** 70 metres after the second bench follow the path into the wood. In 30 metres more, at a T-junction, turn right down a car-wide bridleway.
- 69** In 200 metres, at a crosspath marked by a footpath post, you have a choice.
- **To miss out lunch at Chartwell**, *turn right* at this crosspath. Follow the path downhill for 120 metres to merge with (turn right on) a road. In 30 metres turn left up a driveway to Chartwell Farm, a signposted footpath. *Continue with paragraph 109 on page 8.*
  - **For lunch at Chartwell** *keep straight ahead* at the crosspath. In 100 metres turn left on a road. In 80 metres you can see Chartwell house behind its high brick wall to the right, but carry on past this and instead turn right up a driveway in 180 metres, 80 metres **after** the brick wall ends. *Though this is marked No Entry and a sign says Chartwell car park is 250 metres up the road, these signs are for drivers: this way in is OK for pedestrians.* Following the driveway round to the left, you find the self-service restaurant (not to be confused with the tea kiosk) to your left in about 100 metres. **After lunch** *continue with paragraph 106 on page 8, or to do the shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham see paragraph 75.*
- 70** Keep straight on along the road at the junction in paragraph 64.
- 71** In 250 metres you pass through a gate and in another 200 metres you come to a T-junction with a road, where you go left, uphill.
- 72** In 100 metres there is a driveway to Chartwell Farm to the right, a signposted footpath.
- If you are on the **main walk** and **do NOT want to stop at Chartwell**, turn right up this driveway and go to paragraph 109 on page 8.
- 73** Otherwise stay on the road. In 30 metres there is a permissive path slanting up into the woods to your left.

- If you want the **shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham** and **do NOT want to stop at Chartwell**, go up this path. In 120 metres turn left at a crosspaths marked by a footpath post and refer to paragraph 81 below.

**74 For lunch at Chartwell**, stay on the road. In 250 metres you can see Chartwell house behind its high brick wall to the right, but carry on past this, and instead turn right up a driveway in 180 metres, 100 metres after the brick wall ends. *Though this is marked No Entry, this sign is for drivers: this way in is OK for pedestrians.* Follow the driveway round to the left to find the self-service restaurant to your left in 120 metres (beyond the tea kiosk).

**After lunch**, to resume the **main walk** go to paragraph 106 on page 8.

To do the **shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham**, refer to the directions in the next section.

### **Shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham (4.8km/3 miles)**

- 75** Facing the valley from the front of the self-service restaurant at Chartwell, turn left (the opposite way from the way you arrived) along the top edge of the car park.
- 76** In 170 metres, at the end of the car park, follow a path up gravel and wood steps to come to the car entrance to Chartwell. Exit this and cross a road.
- 77** On the far side carry on through wooden barriers up a path into the wood (the Greensand Way), initially on steps.
- 78** In 80 metres, at a footpath post, turn left off the Greensand Way following green and white National Trust arrows ("Limpsfield Walk", "Mariner's Hill Loop") onto a car-wide path that follows a shelf through the wood.
- 79** In 300 metres there is a bench on the left and magnificent **aerial view of Chartwell**.
- 80** In 200 metres more the path descends a short way to a crosspaths marked by a footpath post. Turn right here, uphill (the other two options are downhill).
- 81** In 200 metres turn left at a Limpsfield Walk marker post, a green National Trust arrow. In 30 metres this path

takes you out onto **Mariner's Hill** with wonderful views to the south.

- 82** Follow the path along the top edge of the field, with a wire fence on your left. Along the way you pass two wooden benches - good **picnic** spots. In 200 metres, 10 metres after the second bench, turn right up a flight of steps, then turn left to a path junction, where you go right along a path with a fenced-off field to the left.
- 83** You soon pass another bench, then in 80 metres more a memorial stone recording the donation of the land to the NT in 1904.
- 84** Just beyond the memorial pass through a gate and continue ahead across a field for 60 metres to leave it via another gate.
- 85** Go downhill for 20 metres and follow the path round to the right, past yet another bench at a viewpoint, looking west. *(There are **bluebells** here in late April and early May).*
- 86** In 100 metres turn left down a flight of steps to come to a private road at the point where it joins a main road at a bend. *(In late April and early May keep straight on rather than turning left down the steps for more bluebells).*
- 87** Cross the main road carefully and carry on up a footpath on its far side.
- 88** In 150 metres, after a short climb, you come to a junction with two paths off to the right. Turn right and immediately fork left onto the narrower of the two paths, going uphill through the trees of **Crockhamhill Common**.
- 89** In 80 metres fork left to carry on uphill, heading north west.
- 90** In 170 metres turn left at a T-junction with a major path, marked with a footpath post, into the parking area in front of an isolated house, The Warren.
- 91** Veer right across the parking area onto the **rightmost** of two paths into the wood. *(**Not** the more obvious one going half right, but a more overgrown path to your immediate right, going directly away from the house. This is marked by a footpath post at its start, but in January 2025 this was concealed by vegetation.)*
- 92** In 100 metres continue ahead at a crosspaths. In 60 metres turn right at a T-junction, then 40 metres further

on, turn left at a path junction to resume your northerly direction.

- 93** Follow this path gently downhill through a wood with lots of tall straight conifers. In 250 metres there is a newly planted area and the path descends a bit more steeply (later, a lot more...).
- 94** In 250 metres more you come to a kissing gate at the edge of the wood, with the **Darent Valley** (the source of the river of that name) stretching ahead of you.
- 95** Pass through the kissing gate and veer left onto a grassy path along the left-hand edge of the valley.
- 96** In 600 metres, where the wood to your left ends, go over a stile to the left of a metal fieldgate and carry on down a track.
- 97** In 50 metres more turn right onto another track towards a wooded hill on the other side of the valley.
- 98** In 150 metres follow the track as it turns left through a gap (a fieldgate missing) into the next field.
- 99** In 750 metres, just before a kissing gate, turn right down a track. In 40 metres pass through a (permanently open?) metal fieldgate and cross a river
- 100** Carry on up the track into a valley with a steep grassy slope to your left. In 60 metres **ignore** a faint track to the left which curves around a wood edge, but in 40 metres more veer left diagonally up the slope on a grassy path.
- 101** At the top of the slope veer left onto grassy path across the mostly flat top of the hill.
- 102** In 180 metres fork left at a footpath post. **Westerham** now comes increasingly into view ahead of you.
- 103** In 200 metres pass through a kissing gate and carry on downhill towards the village.
- 104** In 250 metres, at the bottom of the slope, go through a kissing gate onto an alleyway (Water Lane). This goes across the river and gently uphill.
- 105** In 200 metres you emerge in the centre of Westerham.

The stop for the **246 bus** to **Bromley** is immediately to your left on the main road. The stop for buses to **Sevenoaks** and **Edenbridge** is on the

opposite side of the road. (*You may see 246 buses pass this stop too, but they are just going down the hill to turn around.*)

Buses for **Oxted** go from a stop 100 metres beyond the Bromley one, on the same side of the road, outside the Kings Arms.

**Quebec House** is 300 metres down the hill on the right, at the junction of the A25 and B2026.

On the far side of the green, from left to right, is **Costa Coffee**, the **Grasshopper on the Green** pub, and **Tudor Rose Tea Rooms**. Turn left on the road to come to other pubs in the village centre, including the **George & Dragon** and **Kings Arms**.

### **Chartwell to Ide Hill** **(5.1km/3.2 miles)**

- 106** From the self-service restaurant at Chartwell, retrace your steps up the driveway and turn left down the road.
- 107** In 250 metres ignore a bridleway to the right (the one you came down if you did the Mariner's Hill route).
- 108** In 180 metres turn left up a driveway to Chartwell Farm, a signposted footpath.
- 109** In 200 metres ignore a private tarmac drive to the left and keep on downhill, passing a house to the right.
- 110** In 70 metres more veer left on the gravel drive passing converted oast houses in another 50 metres and 100 metres.
- 111** Beyond the last oast house, go through a wooden gate and continue along what is now a concrete drive.
- 112** In 80 metres, 10 metres after the concrete ends, go through a fieldgate (a broken stile to its right). Carry on down the earth track beyond, initially under trees, but later between fields (noting the fine **bluebell** wood to the right in late April and early May)
- 113** In 450 metres pass through a metal fieldgate and keep straight on, still on between fields and slightly downhill.
- 114** In 150 metres go through a kissing gate to the right of a metal gate and turn left onto a road.
- 115** Keep straight on along the road for 650 metres, as it climbs up to Toy's Hill.



- 116** At the top of the hill, a tarmac drive merges from the left, and there is an old well with a pitched roof over it on your right, and a fine view of the Weald.
- 117** In 100 metres more keep left of a green triangle to come to a crossroads in 30 metres.
- 118** Go straight across the crossroads down Scords Lane. Keep on this road as it descends into a dip and rises again.
- 119** In 500 metres ignore a gravel driveway to Scords Farm right. In 40 metres you pass a house called Little Chart on the right, and in 20 metres more, another called Little Scords.
- 120** In another 60 metres, where the driveway/track curves right to the wooden gate of a house, fork left uphill into Scords Wood (a National Trust sign). In 5 metres a path forks right and you have a choice of routes:
- For a **short cut through the woods to Emmetts Garden**, saving 2.8km (1.7 miles) but missing some wonderful scenery, *ignore the fork to the right and carry on up the main bridleway*. The path climbs steeply for 100 metres to a crosspaths: [\*] beyond this it climbs more gently for 200 metres, then descends for 300 metres into a large dip and curves right to climb up the far side of it. In another 150 metres or so, at very top of the dip, 50 metres after the path finally levels out, *turn right* at a major crosspaths marked by a footpath post, following a yellow arrow. In 70 metres pass through a gate, and in another 50 metres you come to the tearoom at Emmetts. After your visit turn around and go back up the path you came in on (ie the one that goes up into the woods from the end of the tea room). Continue with paragraph 147 on page 10.
  - **To continue with the main walk route**, take the fork to the right, leaving the main bridleway, and refer to the next paragraph.
- 121** Follow this path for 100 metres to a T-junction with a car-wide path (the Greensand Way). Here turn right, downhill.
- 122** In 180 metres, at a footpath post, ignore the National Trust Red Walk arrow to the left, and follow the Greensand Way straight ahead down into an area of young trees. In 70 metres, you emerge through a squeeze gate into an open field, with the church of Ide Hill visible on the hill opposite.
- 123** Beyond the squeezegate turn left along the field edge.
- 124** In 80 metres, at the corner of the wood, by couple of redundant gateposts, fork right downhill, following a footpath arrow, heading for a gap between a couple of small woods at the bottom of the hill.
- 125** In 100 metres go through a gate to the right of a metal fieldgate in the gap, and keep straight on (with **wild garlic** woods to the right in late April or early May, and a **bluebell** wood to the left), heading for the far right-hand corner of the field.
- 126** In 200 metres cross a footbridge over a stream (with a gate at either end) into the next field. Keep straight on uphill, at first on the left-hand edge of the field, but later merging with a track up the right-hand edge, with a hedgerow to the right.
- 127** In 250 metres (ie, after following the track along the hedgerow for 100 metres) pass through a kissing gate next to a fieldgate (currently missing) and keep on up the right-hand edge of the next field.
- 128** In 100 metres follow the track as it veers slightly right out of the top corner of the field, but in 5 metres more **turn right through a black kissing gate** onto a footpath that goes gently downhill, with a wire fence and field to the right.
- 129** In 150 metres the path enters a wood. In 40 metres, it crosses a stream and veers right, and then in 20 metres goes left across a minor ditch and steeply uphill. There are wonderful bluebells on the whole next section in late April and early May.
- 130** In 120 metres ignore a major fork left uphill, but keep on the more level right fork, which nevertheless soon starts to climb again.
- 131** In 170 metres you come to four-way junction with a footpath post, where you have a choice:
- **For more bluebells** in late April or early May, also keep straight on. But you need to return to this point to continue the walk.

- **Otherwise, to continue the main walk**, turn **sharply left** uphill at the junction, ignoring a left turn uphill through the wood. Continue with the directions in the next paragraph.

- 132** The path curves right uphill, at first through scrub, and then in 60 metres through a grassy area with two benches. Beyond the benches carry on along a path under trees.
- 133** In 60 metres more you emerge from the trees and follow a path fenced off from a field to the left.
- 134** In 100 metres, at the end of the field, the path veer right to a tarmac lane, with the churchyard beyond. Here go left.
- 135** In 100 metres more you emerge onto the green of the village of **Ide Hill**. Turn diagonally across it towards the pub, **The Cock Inn**, a possible late lunch or early tea stop.

### **Ide Hill to Emmetts Garden (1.8km/1.1 miles)**

- 136** When you get close to the pub you can see that it is situated on a minor road that veers left off the road on the far side of the green (signposted just after the pub as Camberwell Lane). Follow this road, passing houses on your left
- 137** In 100 metres the road curves left. In another 130 metres pass to the right of the green island in the middle of the road.
- 138** In 40 metres more, where the road ends in a cul-du-sac, take a footpath straight ahead between two sets of double houses (numbers 16 and 17), and to the right of a telegraph pole.
- 139** In 35 metres pass through a kissing gate, and go straight ahead across a field, heading for a house which can soon be seen through a gap in the trees (in winter anyway: barely visible in summer).
- 140** In 250 metres pass through a kissing gate and turn left down a concrete track, and then left again in 3 metres onto a tarmac lane.
- 141** Keep on along this lane for 400 metres to a T-junction with a much busier road, where you go right. **Care is needed here**, as the road is narrow and there is some fast traffic along it.

- 142** In 100 metres, just beyond a bungalow, turn left off the road up a gravel tarmac drive, a signposted footpath.
- 143** In 400 metres pass through a wooden gate to the left of a fieldgate and keep on up the drive.
- 144** 120 metres after this point veer left with the drive. You are now in **Emmetts Garden**, a National Trust property, but on a public right of way. *If you are not an NT member and want to divert off the path to visit the garden, you should pay the entry fee at the cafe. The gardens are open till 5pm from mid March to the end of October.*
- 145** Otherwise, keep on up the driveway, and in 150 metres at the top of the hill you come to picnic tables on the left, and just beyond on the right the **National Trust tea room**.

### **Emmetts Garden to Westerham (4.1km/2.5 miles)**

- 146** Go straight on, ignoring a left fork, passing to the left of the tea room on a gravel path and on up a footpath that climbs uphill into the woods (there is a concrete footpath marker in the ground here).
- 147** In 40 metres pass through a gate and keep straight on, ignoring a path forking left.
- 148** In 70 metres more go straight on at a major crosspaths.
- 149** In 300 metres you come to a road, with the entrance to Ide Hill House ahead. Turn left along the road, **taking care** as some cars come fast along here.
- 150** In 80 metres, where the wooden fence to your right ends, turn right up a footpath marked with an NT arrow on a post. **Immediately take the right fork** (not so obvious in summer) which more or less follows the fence to your right.
- 151** In 200 metres this comes to a gravel track (initially not very obvious), with a fieldgate marked Private Property 50 metres to your right. Go left on this track.
- 152** In 300 metres you come to a tarmac lane, with houses beyond. Turn left on this.
- 153** In 80 metres you come to road by a sign for the village of **Brasted Chart**,

- where you go right. Again **take care** as this road has some fast traffic.
- 154** In 60 metres, 30 metres past the end of the houses, go left up a footpath—**not the track**, but a fainter path forking off right from it along an old tree boundary and wire fence (signposted, but the sign is hidden).
- 155** In 100 metres ignore a path to the left marked by a not very visible footpath post, and in 10 metres turn right with the path, still with the wire fence to your right.
- 156** In 300 metres you come to a field. Pass through a gate into this and head diagonally down across it, with a view of the North Downs in the distance to your right.
- 157** In 120 metres, just before a large tree on a field corner, turn left through a gate, and carry on down a wooded path, with a wire fence left.
- 158** In 100 metres cross a track leading to a house left and go down through a gate into a field. Go straight on diagonally down across this, aiming for some houses on the hill.
- 159** In 250 metres pass through a gate, cross a footbridge, and carry on up a fenced path.
- 160** In 80 metres go through a kissing gate and on up steps.
- 161** In 200 metres go right uphill on a lane. In 40 metres you pass a "Private Burial Ground" on your right, and then some houses.
- 162** 30 metres beyond the houses ignore a signposted footpath to the right, but in 120 metres more turn left up an easily missed footpath.
- **If you miss this footpath**, staying on the road for 600 metres will bring you to the major road T-junction in paragraph 167 opposite.
- 163** Keep straight on, ignoring minor side paths, until in 300 metres you come to a path T-junction **with a sharp gully beyond**. Here go right.
- 164** In 25 metres turn left down a staircase of tree roots, and then in 5 metres turn right down wooden steps (with a handrail) into the gully.
- 165** In 60 metres on the right you pass a cave on the right (an old quarry) where **bats** live. Keep on past it along the path, going gently downhill.
- 166** In 150 metres, after passing another bat cave, you come to a road and go left.
- 167** In another 170 metres, at a T-junction with a major road, turn right (the right-hand side has a verge and later a pavement).
- 168** In 130 metres, 60 metres after the pavement starts, turn left off the road up a signposted footpath, between fences.
- 169** In 100 metres there is a field on the left, and in 200 metres you pass through a squeeze stile onto an open hillside.
- 170** Go forward 50 metres to a footpath post and then turn right at it on a faint grassy path (the leftmost of two diverging paths), aiming somewhat to the left of the church spire of **Westerham**, the very top of which is just about visible ahead (it gets more obvious as you walk).
- 171** Keep straight on down the hill to pass through a kissing gate in 200 metres, and beyond it keep on downhill on a faint grassy path.
- 172** In 250 metres, at the bottom of the hill, pass through a somewhat hidden wooden kissing gate, and carry on up an enclosed pathway to emerge in 200 metres in the centre of Westerham.
- The stop for the **246 bus to Bromley** is immediately to your left on the main road. The stop for buses to **Sevenoaks** and **Edenbridge** is on the opposite side of the road. (*You may see 246 buses pass this stop too, but they are just going down the hill to turn around.*)
- Buses for **Oxted** go from a stop 100 metres beyond the Bromley one, on the same side of the road, outside the Kings Arms.
- Quebec House** is 300 metres down the hill on the right, at the junction of the A25 and B2026.
- On the far side of the green, from left to right, is **Costa Coffee**, the **Grasshopper on the Green** pub, and **Tudor Rose Tea Rooms**. Turn left on the road to come to other pubs in the village centre, including the **George & Dragon** and **Kings Arms**.

### **Hurst Green to Crockham Hill (5.7km/3.5 miles)**

- 173** Exit platform two at Hurst Green station and turn right. In 25 metres go up steps to the road and turn left to cross Greenhurst Lane.
- 174** Continue along Hurstlands. Ignore the road to the right in 70 metres and in another 120 metres ignore Wolfs Wood to the right.
- 175** In 130 metres cross Home Park and continue up Wolfs Hill. In 30 metres more **turn right along an unmarked tarmac footpath** between wooden fences.
- 176** In 80 metres cross a brick road and continue on along a tarmac footpath.
- 177** After 100 metres this becomes an earth footpath and curves to the right around a playing field.
- 178** In 180 metres, at the end of the playing field, carry on uphill on the footpath between wooden fences.
- 179** In 180 metres cross over a road.
- 180** In 100 metres the path starts to climb, with fine **bluebell** woods to the right in late April and early May.
- 181** In 200 metres go through a gap and on up a tarmac lane, passing a house on your right.
- 182** In 300 metres, at the end of the lane, go over a crossroads to continue up Pastens Road.
- 183** In 500 metres, where the road ends in front of Arden Lodge, go straight ahead up what looks like a private driveway to Headland, actually a signposted footpath.
- 184** In 40 metres, just before a gate across the drive, turn left through a tall wooden gate, and then right downhill on a path with a wooded bank to your left (with more **bluebells**).
- 185** In 300 metres cross a stile to emerge into the open, with a fine view ahead. Continue down a fenced strip, with a field to your left.
- 186** In 300 metres, at the bottom of the field, go through a metal gate and continue with a ditch to your right and a hedge left.
- 187** In 170 metres you come to a house (Tenchley's Manor). Here turn right to cross a footbridge, and then follow the path ahead for 35 metres and around to the left for 40 metres to cross another footbridge and come to a track. Here turn right.
- 188** Follow the track for 200 metres to a road, where you turn left.
- 189** In 130 metres ignore signposted paths left and right. In another 200 metres curve right with the road past a stone house - Moat Farm Cottages.
- 190** In 100 metres, as the road again bends right around a pond, **leave the road to pass through a well-concealed gap in the hedge** in the corner, just beyond a bungalow on the left. Veer left with the path along the field edge.
- 191** In 180 metres, in the top corner of the field, go left through a kissing gate and turn right along the field edge.
- 192** In 80 metres pass through a kissing gate and turn left and then right again to follow the left-hand edge of the next field.
- 193** In 170 metres pass through a gap to cross a tarmac lane and keep straight on through a kissing gate into the next field.
- 194** Go straight on, passing to the left of an oak tree in 100 metres and on up the left-hand edge of the field.
- 195** In 400 metres cross a stile and keep on along the left-hand edge of the next field.
- 196** In 250 metres cross a stile about 30 metres to the right of the field corner, and then cross a stream into a wood. Go up the steps beyond and curve left with the path (more **bluebells** here).
- 197** In 100 metres you emerge from the wood and cross a stile. Keep uphill along the left-hand edge of the field.
- 198** In 120 metres cross a stile to the left of a wooden fieldgate and a chalet-style house, and turn right on a gravel and tarmac driveway.
- 199** Follow this driveway, with houses to the right and later the left, for 200 metres to a road. Turn right here and in 100 metres you come to the B2026, ignoring Deanery Lane to the right just before you get to it.
- 200** The **Royal Oak**, a possible lunch pub, is 70 metres downhill to the right. But to continue the walk **turn left uphill** on the main road.

*Continue with paragraph 57 on page 5.*