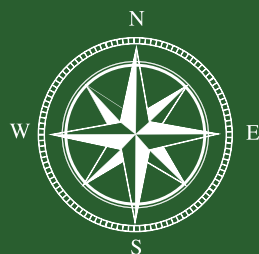
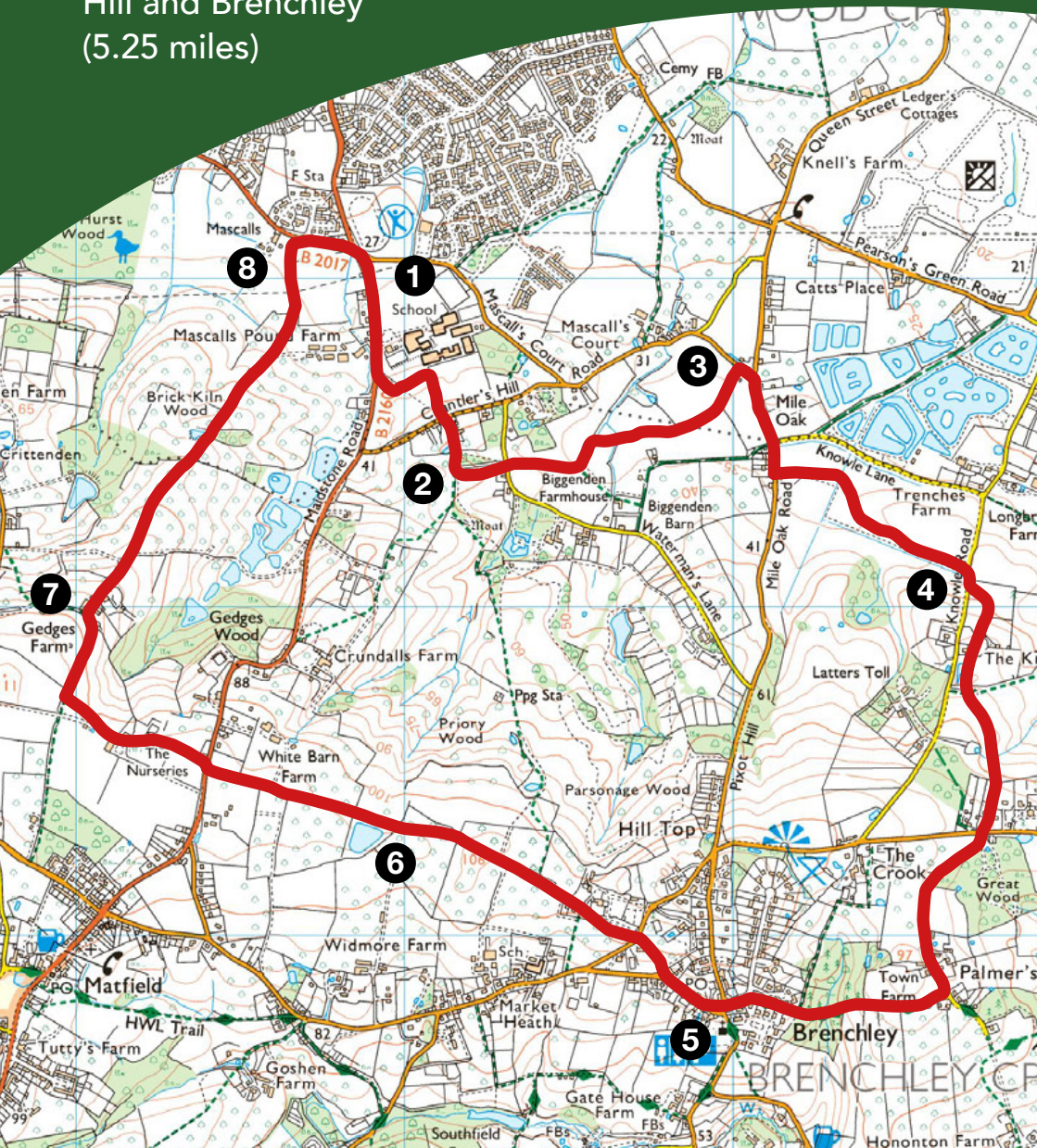


Paddock Wood Walk No.2



To the High Ground of Castle
Hill and Brenchley
(5.25 miles)



Walk No.2 - To the High Ground of Castle Hill and Brenchley (5.25 miles)

This walk offers an extension to walk No.1 by taking the route further east towards Longbrooks and Castle Hill. It returns via the lovely village of Brenchley and crosses the high ground to Gedges Hill which offers good views of the Medway Valley.

1. Start at the entrance to Mascalls School grounds at the Maidstone Road/Mascalls Court Road junction, and follow the asphalt path through to the main school entrance. Go out of the entrance, turn left and, in a few yards, go up a few steps to a stile in a field. Walk uphill to Chantlers Hill and cross the road to an enclosed path marked by a finger-post.
2. On reaching the orchard, turn left and follow the headland path round to Watermans Lane. Cross the lane and, going slightly right, go over the stile and walk downhill to a way-marker at the hedgerow ahead. Turn right across the field, and enter an enclosed path over a stile. At the far end, turn left, and walk along a wide farm track leading to Mile Oak Road.
3. Here turn right. After a few yards go left through a gate alongside White Cottage (look for the sign-stone) then over a stile into an open field. Cross this and turn right at a ditch and follow this to a culvert. Turn left here, and follow another ditch uphill to Knowle Road. Turn right at the top.
4. Walk up the road past The Knowle, turn left onto a track at Knowle Lodge then right just past a dilapidated farm building on the right. The path then goes forward over a bridge, and up to an enclosed path leading onto Crook Road. Cross the road with care, and walk down Palmers Green Lane. At the first opening on the right past Town Farm, go over a stile and follow the fence line down hill, then sharply up to a stile leading onto a tree lined path. This emerges at the village green in Brenchley.
5. All Saints Church should be visited on the left before continuing along the main street which offers public facilities, two excellent hostelries, and the most attractive timbered buildings on the right housing the Post Office and Parish Rooms. Continue along the road, and bear right at the first turning. At the top, go half-left and up a few steps into an orchard. Go forward following the hedge on the right, then shortly over the stile on the right leading to a track alongside Brenchley Manor. Walk past two houses on the left into an orchard. From here, the path follows almost a straight line across the brow of the hill overlooking the golf course, Paddock Wood and the Medway Valley to the right.
6. On reaching a hedge in front, go shortly left then right past a reservoir built to provide irrigation for the golf course. Walk on to join a surfaced drive leading to the main road at Gedges Hill. Take great care in crossing the road, and walk down the drive. On reaching the converted square oast, bear right and walk up to a T-junction with another path. Turn right and, on reaching Gedges Farm, turn right again at the driveway.
7. Walk down the driveway between houses, over a very elegant stile in a wrought iron gateway, down to another stile and into an orchard. Walk downhill, keeping the high hedge on your left hand side. On reaching the fence at the bottom, turn right and, after a few yards, go left over a stile into more orchards. After a short distance, a farm track will take you down past a converted oast on the left. Where the track bears right, keep going forward through the line of trees, picking up an enclosed path at the bottom. This path brings you right down to Badsell Road.
8. Take care as you cross Badsell Road to the pavement on the opposite side. Turn right to return to the crossroads and to Paddock Wood.

