A 3 mile circular pub walk from the Dog and Duck in Outwood, Surrey.

The Dog and Duck is a delightful pub where everyone is made welcome. From walkers to cyclists and children to dogs, you are guaranteed a warm welcome before or after your walk. The walking route crosses meadows and fields to reach Outwood Common, an area of ancient woodland that forms part of the National Trust’s Harewoods Estate. Enjoy lovely views of the North Downs, pretty streams, ancient oak trees and an abundance of wildlife.

Getting there

Outwood is a village in the Surrey weald, about 3 miles south of Nutfield and Bletchingley. The walk starts and finishes at The Dog and Duck which has its own large car park.

Approximate post code RH1 5QU.

Walk Sections

Start to Brickfield Road

Leave the Dog and Duck car park via the vehicle exit and turn left along the grass verge, passing the pub on your left. Immediately after the pub, turn left onto the signed public footpath, crossing a sleeper bridge and passing through a kissing gate to reach the corner of a large meadow. Walk straight ahead (with the pub to your left), keep ahead through the gap in the trees and then continue in the same direction, with a hedgerow on your left and an open field to your right.

At the end of this field you will come to a T-junction marked with a fingerpost. Turn left and follow the line of

Access Notes

1. The walk is fairly flat with just a couple of gentle slopes.
2. Some sections, particularly the woodland bridleways, can get very muddy so good boots are a must or wellingtons with grips in the wetter months.
3. You will need to negotiate some kissing gates, steps and footbridges but there are no stiles on route.
4. Most of the fields are empty meadows and there was no livestock present when we walked but you may be sharing one of the fields with horses so take care with dogs.
5. There are many paths through the woodland common and so navigation on this stretch needs care, the live map on the iFootpath App will be particularly helpful here.

Get the iFootpath App for a smarter walking experience. Hundreds of walking guides in the palm of your hand with live maps that show your progress as you walk. Say goodbye to wrong turns!
trees on your right. In the field corner, continue ahead on the obvious path which leads you over a small stream and becomes a stone path leading you out to a junction with the road, Brickfield Road.

1→2

Brickfield Road to Sleeper Bridge

Cross over the road with care and walk straight ahead to join the public bridleway leading you into Outwood Common. Continue on this main bridleway, ignoring any smaller side paths. Pass a waymarker post with an NT yellow arrow and about 20 metres later you will come to a beautiful secluded pond on your right. There is a bench here should you wish to enjoy the wildlife, look out for the darting dragonflies and damselflies in the summer and the beautiful yellow lilies.

When you are finished at the pond, continue along the main bridleway which leads you to a T-junction. Turn left and after 90 metres (where the bridleway track bears left) fork right through the kissing gate to enter a large open meadow.

Turn right, following the path along the boundary with the hedgerow and trees on your right and the open meadow on your left. Take time to enjoy the expansive views to the left, which stretch for miles on a clear day across the valley and on to the slopes of the North Downs. Stay with the field edge path which begins to lead you steadily downhill and, in the bottom corner of the field, bears right to lead you past an old stile and across a sleeper bridge over a stream.

2→3

Sleeper Bridge to Estate Office

Beyond the bridge, keep straight ahead and you will emerge from the trees to reach the corner of a crop field. Continue ahead on the grass margin, with the tree line on your right and crop field on your left. After 100 metres (and before you reach the end of the crop field) you will come to a fingerpost marking a crossroads of paths. The small bench which sits between two large oak trees at this point is actually the remains of an old stile.

Turn right here and follow the path along the edge of the meadow, staying close to the line of hedgerows and beautiful oak trees running on your left. Outwood Common and the surrounding area is renowned for its majestic ancient oaks, some of which are more than 200 years old.

At the end of this long meadow, dog-leg left and then right to continue on the path across the centre of this next meadow with the line of oak trees now running on your right. At the far side a metal kissing gate leads you back into Outwood Common. Keep ahead and join the tarmac access drive, passing a pair of cottages and then the National Trust Estate Office, on your right.

3→4

Estate Office to Wooden Footbridge

NOTE: This next section of navigation through the common needs concentration. Just 20 metres after the estate office, fork right to leave the tarmac drive and join an unmade path which leads you between two redwood trees and then bears right to run through the centre of the woodland. Keep ahead only until you reach a subtle T-junction with a clump of brambles ahead. Turn left here, pass between the holly bushes and then bear right heading down the slope to reach a small flat concrete and stone bridge over a sunken stream.

Cross this bridge and then keep ahead up the slope (on the left-hand of the two paths) and follow this path which leads you directly to the back of the cricket pavilion. The Outwood Cricket Club was formed in 1889. During World War II, Canadian forces camped in Outwood Common and used the pavilion as their mess and played baseball on the cricket ground.

Turn right for just a few metres and you will emerge out to a circular area of multiple paths with a handful of fallen trees. Turn right here to join the path at about 3 o’clock. This path leads you gently downhill. NOTE: This section can be very muddy – hence the number of small paths running parallel to the main track. At the bottom of the slope the path leads you over another small flat bridge across the gully bottom.

Keep straight up the slope at the far side and bear left on the path which follows the line of the stream and gully down to your left. The path swings left, down some woodland steps to reach a larger wooden footbridge within the gully.
Cross this footbridge, climb the steps at the far side and at the top of the slope turn immediately right along the path. Stay with this path (which has had many large trees felled recently), still following the line of the stream and gully which is now running on your right. You will come to a T-junction with a waymarker, at the woodland edge with a hedgerow and open fields ahead.

Turn left here and follow the path which initially follows the line of open fields on your right. NOTE: This is another particularly muddy section, but you will find a firmer path running parallel to the left should you need it. Either path leads you to a junction with an unmade vehicle track. Turn right along this, passing a wooden vehicle barrier. The grass track bears right to reach a stone vehicle track alongside Slate Cottage. Bear left along this stone vehicle track and then turn left at the crossroads. The track leads you past the 1869 St John the Baptist Church on your right.

Keep ahead to reach a junction with the road. Cross over with care and walk ahead into the side road, Wasp Green Lane, taking care of any traffic. Immediately after House 2, turn right into the access drive for The Standard. Immediately before the entrance gates, turn left onto the grass path which leads you behind another property on your left.

Follow this path meandering ahead with a hedgerow running on your left to reach a metal kissing gate. Pass through this to enter a paddock (which may be holding horses) and walk directly ahead following the field boundary on your left. In the corner go through the gate ahead and continue in the same direction across the second field. In the corner of this second field you will reach a crossroads of paths. Do NOT go through the gates ahead or left, instead turn right to walk the length of this second field, following the hedge on your left.

In the bottom corner pass through the kissing gate ahead and turn immediately right (with the hedge running on your right). You will come to a fingerpost (just before you reach a line of hedgerow ahead), turn left here and follow the line of hedgerow on your right. You should recognise this path from the outward leg. Walk straight ahead, through the gap in the tree line and then out through a kissing gate to reach the road. Turn right along the grass verge and you will come to the Dog and Duck on your right for some well-earned hospitality.

Disclaimer
This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety
For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.
Remember...the best way of following our walking guides is to use the iFootpath App (iOS and Android) where you will have all the information in the palm of your hand and see your exact location on the live map as you travel.