

WALK 8

This leaflet describes and illustrates one of ten walks produced by Edenbridge Town Council, with the support of the Hidden Britain Project. The project is an initiative to encourage tourism, and to highlight lesser known areas of the countryside.

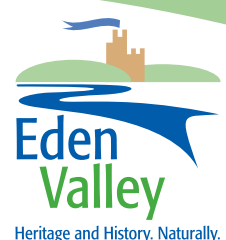
Walk 8 starts in the centre of Edenbridge with its shops, pubs, a variety of places in which to eat, historic buildings (including the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul and the Eden Valley Museum) and the convenient Edenbridge Town station. It goes west to Cernes Farm, before returning to the town centre along the first part of the Eden Valley Walk. It is about 4 miles (6.4 km), takes about 2 hours and can be very muddy in winter. There are 5 stiles.



The Countryside Code

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under control.
- Consider other people.

For more details, see www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk



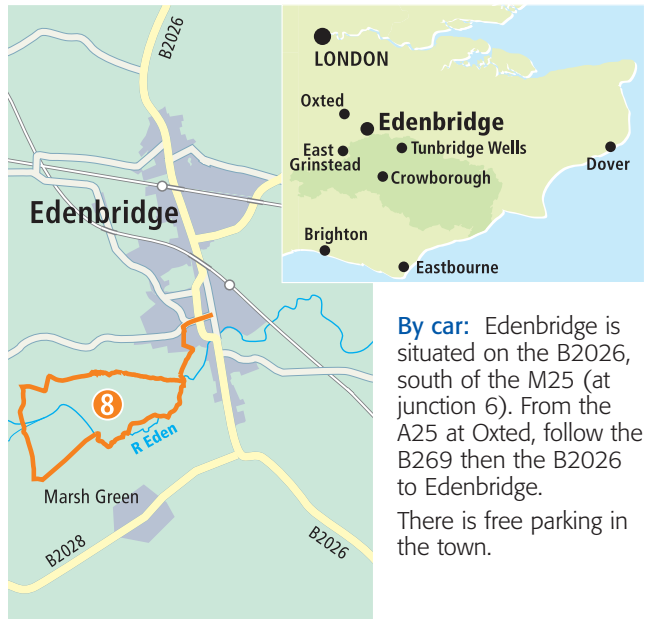
Edenbridge – Haxted – Cernes – Edenbridge

Circular walk • 2 hours • approx 4 miles (6.5 km)
Easy terrain, but can be muddy in winter



Can be combined with Walks 9 & 10 to follow The Eden Valley Walk

Explore Edenbridge



By car: Edenbridge is situated on the B2026, south of the M25 (at junction 6). From the A25 at Oxsted, follow the B269 then the B2026 to Edenbridge. There is free parking in the town.

By train: Edenbridge Town station is on the London to Uckfield line; while Edenbridge station (about 1 mile north of the town centre) is on the Redhill to Tonbridge line.
National Rail Enquiries: 08457 48 49 50

Visit www.edenvalleykent.org



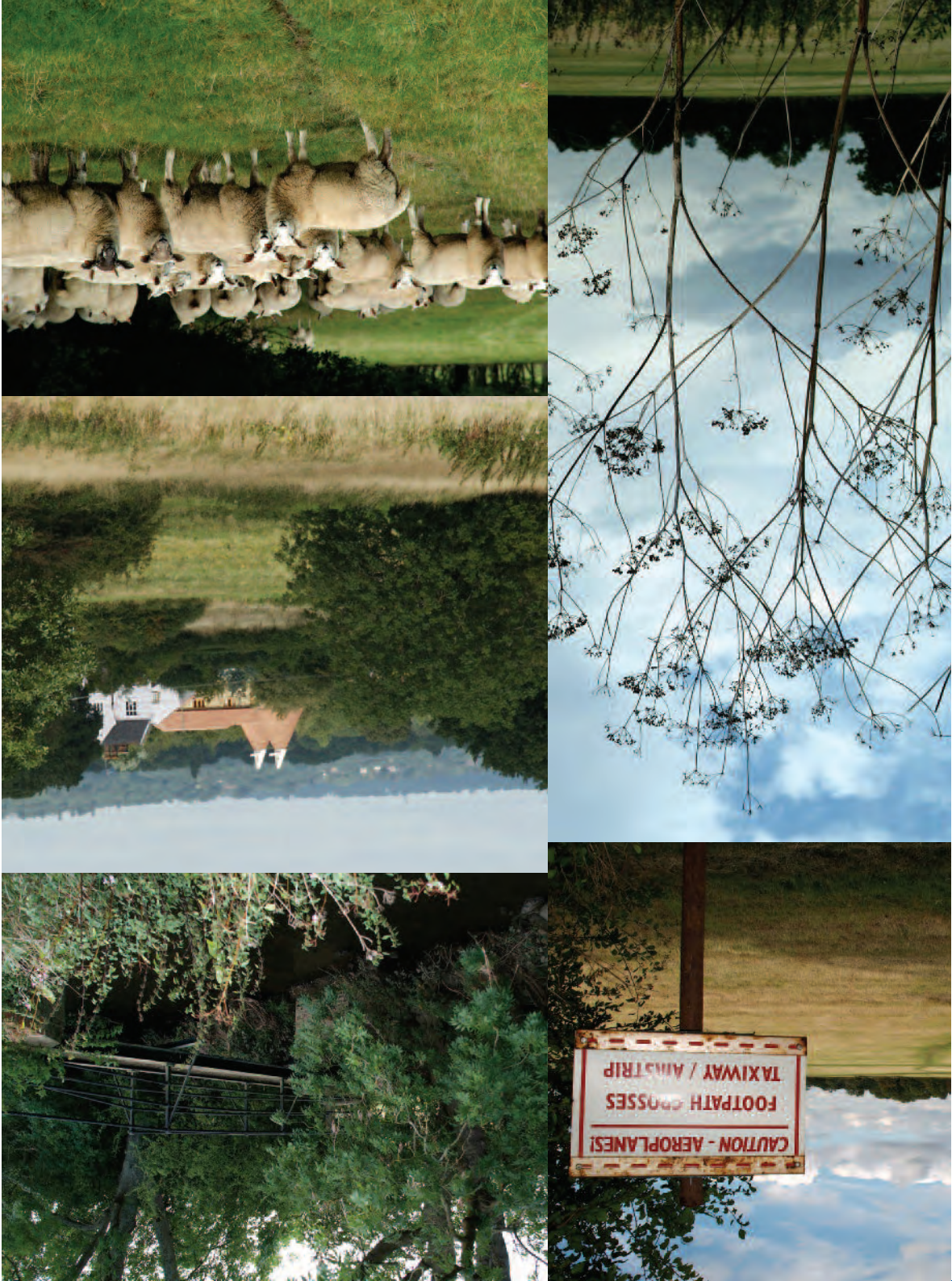
Lying between the Greensand Ridge to the north and the High Weald to the south, Kent's River Eden meanders through Edenbridge and surrounding villages, towards its confluence with the River Medway at Penshurst. On either side of the river lies tranquil farmland, broken by quiet country lanes, whilst the rolling hills and woodland conceal a wealth of historic properties and beautiful gardens.

Throughout the valley there are many Kentish towns and villages waiting to be explored – such as Chiddingstone, Edenbridge, Hever and Penshurst – which are rich in heritage and have many stories to tell. Medieval buildings, coaching inns, courtyards, gardens and historic churches all offer a step back in time.

Exploring beyond the Kentish villages you will discover this is superb walking country, with fine views, miles of footpaths and, for the more adventurous, several long distance routes which cross the area.

The routes used are believed to be public rights of way, unless otherwise stated. However, Edenbridge Town Council accepts no responsibility for any error or subsequent change.

Picture of Edenbridge (above right) © Sevenoaks District Council



Walking can

- Make you feel good.
- Give you more energy.
- Help you sleep better.
- Help you reduce stress.
- Keep your heart 'strong'.
- Reduce blood pressure.
- Help to manage your weight.

If you are free of serious health problems you can start walking more, with confidence. The health benefits of walking and other forms of physical activity will be enhanced by a balanced diet and not smoking.

General guidance

Start gently and build up at your own pace. Wear comfortable shoes or boots, according to the description of the walk and time of year. Wear clothing suitable for the weather conditions. Loose fitting clothing allows you to move more freely – thin layers are better than thick chunky clothing. Let someone know where you are walking, and what time you are likely to return. Do not walk if you are unwell or in pain. It's a good idea to take a bottle of water with you.



1 From High Street go down Lingfield Road (over Mont St Aignan Way) until Coomb Field. Turn left and head for Recreation Ground. From car park, go left past bottom of flood embankment and along edge of playing fields (SR614), keeping dense hedge on left. Also on left is remnant of the Mill Leat. This supplied water from the river to the Tannery and then back to the river via the former water mill in High Street. In far corner, cross metal footbridge, over Kent Brook and turn right on to SR616.



2 Follow Kent Brook, ignoring small footbridge over brook and larger footbridge (which leads back to Lingfield Road SR615). Continue until reaching stile, which has a *Caution Footpath Crosses Taxiway/Airstrip* sign. This area is currently used as an airstrip, so look out for light aircraft! Cross stile and make for gap in hedge on brow of hill. You are now in Surrey (G369A). In lambing season walk round edge of field – there may be an electric fence. Otherwise, head straight



across field towards barns at East Haxted Farm, but before reaching them turn left at the tree line, keeping trees on right.



WALK 8
Edenbridge – Haxted – Cernes – Edenbridge

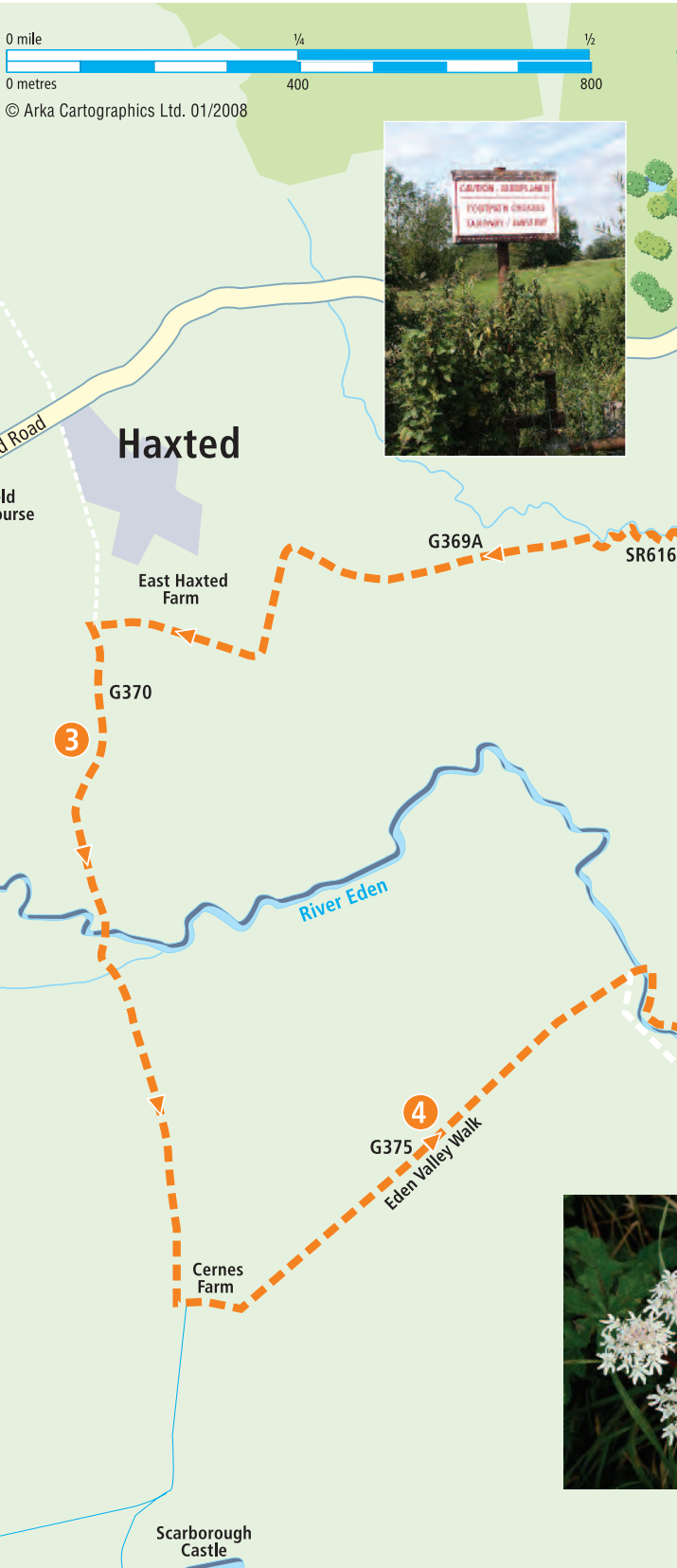
This walk is approx 4 miles, takes about 2 hours and uses SR614, SR616, G369A, G370, G375. Can be very muddy in winter. Parking is available in town car parks. 5 stiles.



3 Follow tree line down to footbridge on right. Cross footbridge, keeping along edge of field with hedge on right. Cross airstrip. At corner turn left along enclosed 'green road' (G370) and where track peters out continue straight ahead across airstrip, keeping hedge on right, down to iron bridge over River Eden. Cross bridge and second bridge over Eden Brook, and follow line of overhead power cables to Cernes Farm. Just past farm turn left at pond and cross stile and small footbridge.



4 This is the start of the Eden Valley Walk. Cross track (which leads on right to Starborough Castle) and walk straight ahead keeping hedge on left. Cross stile in corner of field and small footbridge (G375). Bearing slightly left, head for stile and gate on other side of field. Walk straight ahead down wide 'green road', bounded on both sides by low fencing. Pass large pond on right. Continue through wooden gate and walk straight ahead to bridge over River Eden. (SR637 to Marsh Green on right.) Cross bridge, turn right onto SR614 and follow river bank until reaching a World War II pillbox. Continue, keeping pillbox on right.



5 Cross small bridge over ditch and continue round edge of field with ditch on right. Pass through gap in hedge and continue. Edenbridge is now visible. Bear right onto path through trees which leads back towards river. Block on left, surrounded by overgrown moat, is Devil's Den. Its origins are uncertain, but records date it about 14th century or earlier. It may have been a farmstead and fishing ground, and the sinister name is one frequently given to earthworks of unknown origin. This field is a favourite haunt of lapwings in early autumn.



6 Follow river bank to wooden bridge by pill box, cross, walk straight ahead to iron footbridge and back into Recreation Ground. Follow outward route and return to High Street.



Walks 9 & 10 continue the Eden Valley Walk on to Hever, Chiddingstone, Penshurst and then Leigh.

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