

MOTTS MILL BLUEBELL WALK

This 3½ mile walk is especially lovely when bluebells are in bloom in May. A short walk of several easy ups and downs and few stiles. There is variety and many good views.

Distance: 3½ miles (5.6 kilometres)

Map reference: O.S. Explorer 135, 514350

The walk starts from [lay-bys](#) each side of the B2188 at the junction with the Lady's Mile 1¾ miles south west of Groombridge.

From the wayside parking at the cross roads walk right down the lane marked "Motts Mill", ignoring the turning off to the left, near the start.

Where the lane turns left at the bottom go on a few more paces to look for a stile on your right and follow the path down to a footbridge.

Now go half right to the edge of a wood opposite and follow it round the corner and up the hill until you come to a field gate leading into Rocks Wood and enter. There is a notice here, inviting entry. This is a "permissive" path where the owner gives his consent for the public to walk through his wood.

The path is straight forward. Where it meets a wider track keep forward and so out onto a narrow road. Turn left and follow the road steeply downhill to the bottom.

When you are round the corner look to the right for a wooden garage and path with footpath fingerpost leading into the bluebell wood alongside a stream. This is your path.

Quite soon you will notice on your left a footpath sign pointing up the bank on your left. This leads to the field above, but ignore it and continue a little further on to another footpath post with arrows indicating the Sussex Border path also pointing up to this same spot.

The second path is much easier than the first more direct path and easier to walk.

As you approach the top, look for a short path off to your right which may be overgrown and rough. This brings you into a field. Turn left and walk on about 25 yards then turn right up a narrow path between crops to a lane at the top. Good views towards Rotherfield across well wooded countryside.

Turn right and follow the lane to Sherlock's Farm, which you keep on your left. As you enter the field, go round to the left.

Now you follow a worn track with fence and hedge on your right, then fields of crops almost to an arch under the railway line, but now look to your right for another footpath going sharp back, up across the field of crop. This will bring you to a stile leading into a long narrow field.

Go ahead until well past bushes etc, then go over to the right, to follow a narrow path alongside a bluebell copse on the bank to your right. At the end of the field go through the gate into the wood you left earlier.

Now follow the woodland path right through the wood keeping left at the footpath posts. You will soon recognise the entry point you used earlier. This time go uphill to the right, along the narrow road.

At the top of the hill on the right close by a small parking area is a footpath with a stone footpath marker. Turn off here.

The path goes straight up the slope between what was once two separate fields. At top is the lane that leads to Sherlock's Farm.

This time turn left. Soon you arrive at the turning which at the beginning of the walk you were told to ignore. Keep round to the right for the cross roads and lay-bys.

