

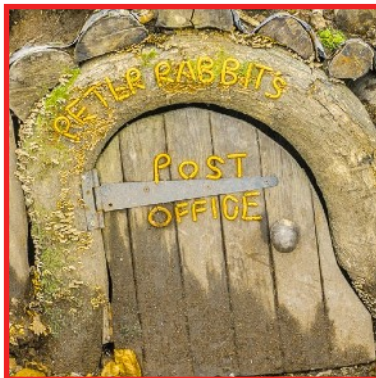
LIMPSFIELD LOOP



Challenging Terrain

**8 km
Circular
2.5 hours**

120618



Access Notes

1. The walking route includes several climbs and descents throughout and follows a mixture of woodland common paths, quiet lanes and field paths.
2. There are many intersecting paths in the woodlands, so the iFootpath App's live GPS map will be the best tool to aid navigation.
3. Some stretches can get very muddy after periods of rain and in winter, so good boots are a must (or wellies with grips in the winter months).
4. You will need to negotiate several kissing gates and bridle gates plus two stiles (both with dog gaps alongside – these are tall enough for most dogs, but one is quite narrow, so broader breeds may need a lift over).
5. Most of the walk is fenced away from pastures, but you will cross a handful of grass fields that may be holding sheep or horses at times.
6. There are a couple of stretches along lanes, these are normally quiet but do take care of any traffic.
7. One stretch of the route crosses a golf course so take care of any stray flying golf balls at this point.

An 8km (5 mile) circular walk near the village of Limpsfield in Surrey (close to the Kent border).

The walk explores several sections of woodland common, including High Chart and Limpsfield Common, set along the slopes of the Greensand Ridge. There are beautiful views along the way as well as several historic buildings. This walk is part of the Explore Surrey collection, published through a collaboration between iFootpath and Surrey County Council.

If you are looking for refreshments, you will pass The Carpenters Arms on Tally Road (just after Waypoint 2). Ordnance Survey Map: Explorer 147 Sevenoaks and Tonbridge. This walk follows public footpaths and bridleways which cross private and public land. Information is included for your interest, but please respect people's privacy, keep dogs under control and remember the Countryside Code.

Getting there

The walk starts and finishes from the National Trust Moorhouse car park on Moorhouse Road. The car park is free of charge and has no height barrier. From Limpsfield, head east on the A25 and then turn right onto Moorhouse Road directly opposite The Grasshopper Inn. Follow the lane around three bends, and beyond the houses you will find the car park on your right.

Approximate post code **TN16 2ES**.

If you are coming by public transport, you can adjust the walk to start on Tally Road (Waypoint 2) in Limpsfield Chart, where there are bus stops. For help with planning your journey by public transport please visit <http://journeys.travelsmartsurrey.info>.

Walk Sections



Start to Yaldon Spring

Leave the car park via the vehicle entrance, cross over the lane with care and go straight ahead on the signed public footpath, leading you through the gateway in the area of woodland known as High Chart. Keep ahead on the track for only 25 paces to reach a waymarker post. Fork right at this point, joining a narrow footpath leading you through the woodland plantation.

Follow the footpath winding through the trees and then

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leading you downhill to reach a crossroads with a sunken footpath, with a waymarker post ahead. Turn right to join the sunken path. At the end of the path you will emerge to a junction with a stone vehicle track (with double metal gates onto the road visible just to your right).

Turn left for just ten paces and then turn right to join the continuation of the public footpath. After around 100 metres you will reach a fork with a waymarker post. Take the left-hand branch, marked with the yellow arrow for the public footpath. At the end of this path you will emerge to a track junction with a bench and National Trust sign for Limpsfield Common directly ahead. Just behind the bench and sign, you will see the pond which marks the site of Yaldon Spring.

1 → 2 Yaldon Spring to Tally Road



Take the path immediately to the left of the National Trust sign, which leads you down a slope and across the pond via a boardwalk. This makes the perfect spot to pause, enjoy the water and understand some history of the site.

You have now left the plantation known as High Chart and entered the area designated as Limpsfield Common. Limpsfield Common was part of the Medieval Manor of Limpsfield. The infertile soils here on the Lower Greensand Hills were used for the production of timber and firewood and for rough grazing. Today the site is used for recreation. There are magnificent beech trees, some around 200 years old, and the woodland is carpeted with bluebells in spring. Yaldon Spring is one of several springs on the northern slope of the Greensand Ridge. The pond is a favourite spot for frogs, so look out for frog spawn and tadpoles in the spring.

At the far side of the pond, keep straight ahead on the path leading you uphill. At the top of the slope, the path levels off and leads you to the next waymarker at a crossroads. Go straight ahead to continue on the public footpath (marked with the yellow arrow). Continue directly ahead, crossing a staggered crossroads and, 100 metres later, you will reach a waymarker

post on your right (with a large noticeboard and car park visible ahead).

Turn left to follow the yellow arrow and, at the next fork, take the right-hand branch (still following the yellow arrow). You will emerge out to a junction with Moorhouse Road. Taking care of traffic, turn left for a few paces and then turn right into the side road, Tally Road.

2 → 3 Tally Road to Spring Cottage

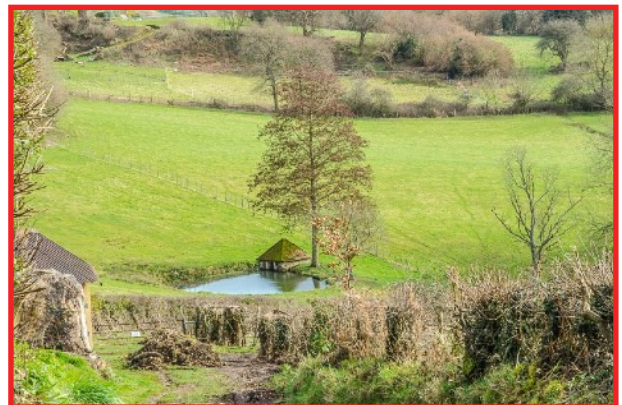


Follow Tally Road ahead, passing the Carpenters Arms on your right to reach a bus shelter on your left, just a few paces later. Immediately before this bus shelter, turn left to follow the signed public footpath leading you across the grass and through the tree belt. You will emerge to a junction with a B-road. Cross over with care and walk ahead into the entrance drive for Champions Place.

Just a few paces along you will reach a fork in the drive. Take the right-hand branch which swings right, leading you to the property called The High. With the property directly in front of you, turn right to join the footpath which leads you downhill with the property wall and fence running on your left. Keep ahead to join the property driveway, heading down a slope to reach a T-junction.

Turn left (heading towards Quince House) and then immediately right to join the footpath leading you down the slope, with the garden wall of Quince House running on your left. The path leads you out to a junction with a tarmac access lane. Turn left to join this access lane, passing Spring Cottage and its raised driveway up to your left.

3 → 4 Spring Cottage to Moat Farm



Follow the access lane leading you steadily downhill, ignoring

the footpath signed off to the right and then passing Caxton House on your left. This lane is leading you diagonally down the steep south-facing slopes of the Greensand Hills. At the bottom of the lane, pass Chartlands Farm on your left and keep directly ahead to reach the metal field gate ahead. You will be able to see a beautiful pond within one of the fields. This is a spring line pond, formed where the Greensand meets the underlying clay.

Go through the metal field gate and follow the grass track between hedgerows, heading downhill and swinging right. At the end of the grass track, turn left over a stile (with tall but narrow dog gate alongside) to enter a grass pasture (which may be holding sheep). With your back to the stile, walk diagonally right up the grass hillside to reach a metal kissing gate in the top boundary.

Go through the kissing gate and walk ahead through the rough meadow, staying directly alongside the hedgerow on your right. At the end of the field, go ahead through the kissing gate into the next meadow, then turn immediately right. Follow the field edge (with the hedgerow on your right), leading you downhill and then swinging left. You will emerge out to a junction with the road, with the Old Lodge and Moat Farm on your right, and a beautiful large pond ahead.

4 → 5 Moat Farm to Tenchleys Manor Pond



Turn right along the lane, passing Moat Farm on your right. Moat Farmhouse has been added to over the centuries. The original building was a hall house dating from the 1400s which was surrounded by a moat (which is now dry and fragmented).

Follow the lane for 450 metres (ignoring a pair of stiles each side along the way) to reach a footbridge on your left (with a public bridleway fingerpost) and a tarmac entrance drive on your right. Turn right to join the driveway which leads you towards the buildings of Tenchleys Manor. The driveway leads you into the complex of buildings, passing a pretty pond on your right. Immediately after this pond, turn left onto the signed footpath.

5 → 6 Tenchleys Manor Pond to Pastens Cottage

Cross the wooden footbridge and follow the grass footpath between fenced paddocks, leading you ahead and then turning right. You will now have fine views of the Greensand Ridge ahead, including Caxton House, which we walked past earlier. Cross the next footbridge and continue on the path between hedgerows.



Pass through the small metal gate ahead to enter the large hillside pasture. Follow the left-hand boundary, leading you fairly steeply uphill. In the top field corner, take a moment to enjoy the views behind you, then cross the stile ahead (with dog gap) to enter the woodland. Follow the woodland path ahead, still climbing and with an old wooden fence on your right.

Further up, the path leads you past garden fences before emerging to a junction with a stone access drive (with a fingerpost on your left). Turn left to join the access drive and pass Pastens Cottage on your left. You will notice a plaque on the cottage, commemorating the nineteenth century Russian writer and exile Sergey Kravchinsky Stephniak.

6 → 7 Pastens Cottage to Golf Course



Just a few paces after Pastens Cottage you will reach a junction of tarmac tracks, with a tall fingerpost on your right. Turn right here, joining the Greensand Way and enjoying the far-reaching views to your left. Follow the tarmac lane ahead and then bending left. Just a few paces after this bend (and just before The Oast Cottage), turn right to join a half-hidden footpath. Pass through (or alongside) the kissing gate and follow the enclosed path.

You will emerge out to the road alongside the Baptist Chapel. Turn right along the road, taking care of any traffic. Continue to the T-junction at the end of Chapel Road. Cross over to the far pavement with care, turn right along this and then turn left into Ridlands Lane. Just ten paces along, fork left to join the signed public bridleway.

A few paces in, you will reach a junction with a waymarker post ahead. Turn left and follow this stone path as it swings right. At the fork, take the left-hand branch and you will reach a waymarker post which sits at the edge of a golf course fairway. NOTE: The next stretch of the walk crosses the golf course, so please show respect for the golfers by allowing them to play their shots before you proceed and watch out for any stray flying

golf balls.

7 ➔ 8 Golf Course to End



Go straight ahead across the first fairway, keep ahead on the path through the trees and then continue across the second fairway to reach a tall wooden fingerpost. Turn right to join the signed footpath which leads you along the edge of the golf course, with a hedgerow running on your left. Continue straight ahead on the track which now leads you through an area of woodland, Ridlands Grove.

Where the woodland track bends right (alongside the post box of a miniature woodland abode!), turn left through a small metal gate to reach the corner of a field. Walk directly ahead with the fence running on your left. After 150 metres you will reach a metal kissing gate on your left. Do NOT take this, instead turn right at this point, crossing the field and joining a stretch of woodland path. Follow the path as it swings left and then meanders through the trees.

As you emerge from the trees, go straight ahead across the narrow grass field and exit via the metal kissing gate ahead. Follow the woodland path ahead and, after just a few metres, you will reach a waymarker post. This marks a choice of two bridleway paths at a fork. Take the left-hand of the two bridleways, running along the edge of the woodland with the fence on your left. Stay on the path closest to the fence on your left, ignoring a bridle gate on your left along the way.

At the far end of the woodland, pass through the bridle gate ahead, walk ahead across the grass field and exit via the bridle gate at the far side. Follow this next stretch of woodland path ahead for just over 100 metres (passing through the dip and beginning to climb) to reach a path fork. Fork right onto another woodland path which climbs and swings right. Stay with the path through a woodland clearing and then passing a handful of magnificent beech trees on your left. Beyond these trees, take the path which swings left and climbs quite steeply. At the top of the slope keep straight ahead to reach the car park where the walk began.

This walk is part of the Explore Surrey collection, published through a collaboration between iFootpath and Surrey County Council.

Surrey is the ideal place to explore the outdoors on foot. Whether you're an adventurous walker or someone who prefers a short stroll, there's a walk to suit you.

If you would like to know more about Explore Surrey and find more walks please visit

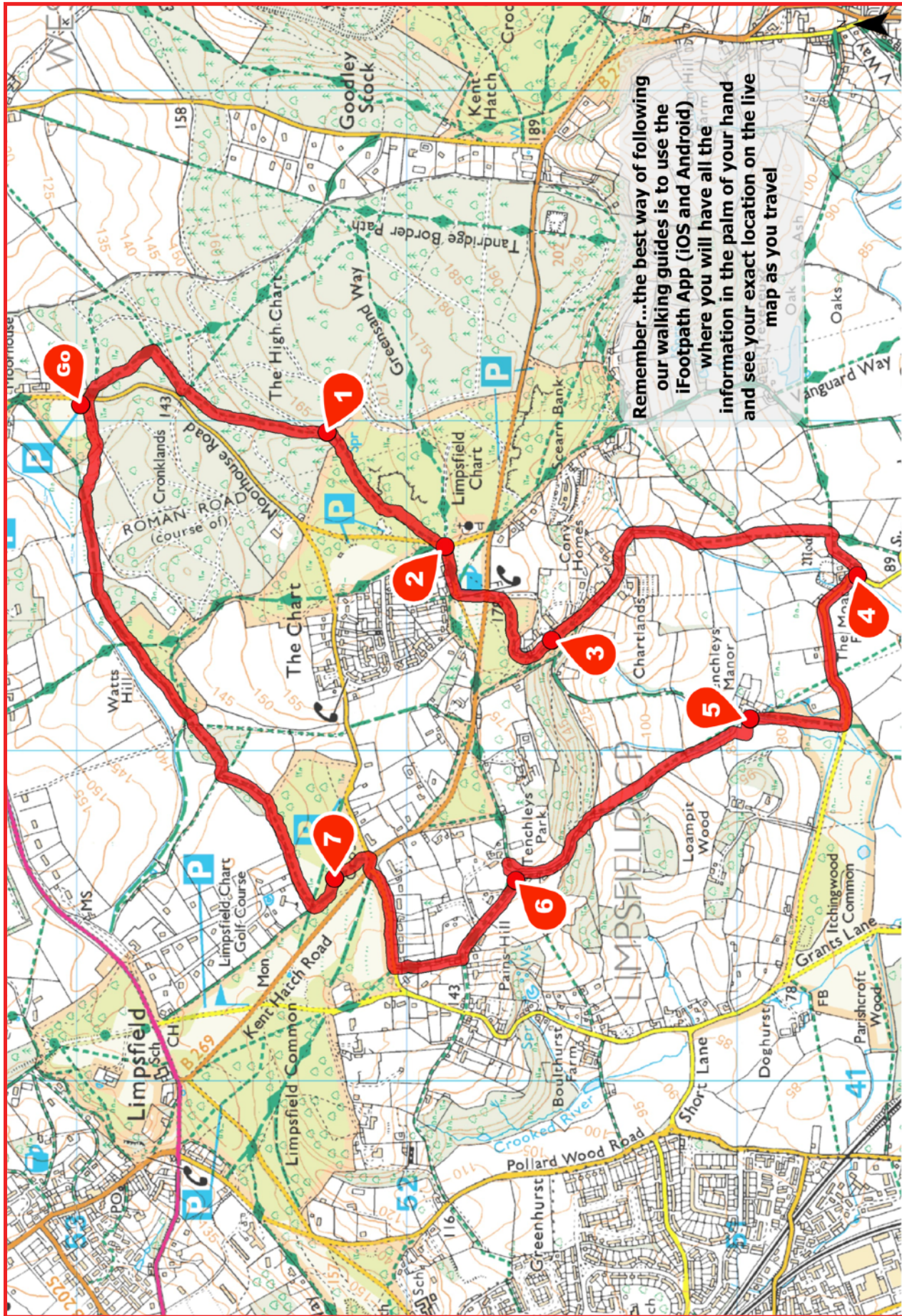
www.surreycc.gov.uk/explore

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

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- R** Rail station
- B** Bus stop
- Walking route
- Go** Start point
- 1** Waypoint