

Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

Walk Title	Ashford to Wye	Walk No.	390
Area	Mid Kent Downs	Type	Linear
Date	Thursday, 01 December, 2022		
Distance	Just over 10 miles (16 km)		
Timing	About four hours walking time + travel + lunch stop. Expect to be back at St Pancras by 17.15.		
Meeting up & travel	Upstairs at St Pancras in front of platforms 11-13 at 9.25 to catch 9.34 arriving at Ashford at 10.14. Leader, Jan, will meet you outside main entrance to Ashford station. Return train from Wye at 16.15, which we will catch easily. Best fares I could find are St Pancras to Ashford off peak day return costing £27.50 with Senior Railcard, plus £3 single from Wye to Ashford. Unfortunately you cannot use your Freedom Pass on these high speed services.		
Route	From Ashford station we reach the Stour river almost immediately and join the Stour Valley Way which we follow for a couple of miles then head north through attractive parkland and woods to complete the triple crossing (by bridges!) of the high speed railway, A20 and M20 before reaching the North Downs Way which at this point is also the Pilgrims Way. We now head east through the North Downs but without climbing far up them, to Boughton Lees, our lunch stop, where there is a very nice pub serving food, situated on an attractive village green. After lunch it is a relatively short walk of 2 miles or so to Wye.		
Lunch	Lunch is available at the Flying Horse pub on the village green at Boughton Lees.		
Dropping out	Not possible.		
Suitability	Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker. There are no particular difficulties and hardly any climbing. Terrain: mainly flat with a little roll later on but easy. Possible obstacles: None known. We will be at Wye well before it gets dark. Comfortable waterproof walking shoes/ boots. Waterproof jacket. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain. Wear, or carry, an extra layer.		
Facilities	There are toilets at Ashford station and at the pub.		
Walk source	Leader's creation.		
Map & other references	OS Explorer 137		
Leader & contact details	<p><u>Walk Leader</u>: Jan Filochowski</p> <p><u>Beforehand</u> phone: 07879698902 (leave message if necessary) e-mail: jan@filochowski.net</p> <p><u>On the day</u> mobile: 07879698902</p>		