

Walk 21: The Milk Train

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Description: A gorgeous circular pub walk from Leigh to The Greyhound at Charcott, returning via the Penshurst estate.

Length: 5.5 miles / 8.89 km (approximately 2-3 hours, longer if stopping at The Greyhound en-route)

Grade: Leisurely

Good for: Bluebells and cold war history

1. Begin your walk at the Fleur De Lis, Leigh. Please park considerably if arriving by car, alternatively there are regular trains between Tonbridge/Redhill and Leigh. If you are feeling really keen this walk can be added as an extension to [Walk 12 - The Green Mile](#).
2. Cross the road with care and then turn right, following the pavement until you have passed The Forge and Forge Square. Keep going past the hedge and then follow the path up the slope towards the entrance gate to Hall Place.
3. When you reach the top of the path, continue straight on, walking up the driveway belonging to Porcupine House, the large black and white home to your right.
4. Walk past the wall and then continue along the path running between a barbed wire fence and a large hedge. Go through the rusty kissing gate and then follow the path for approximately 400 metres until you reach the woods. You'll pass a second kissing gate on the way.
5. When you reach the trees, turn left through a tall kissing gate and follow the narrow path between the estate and Home Covert wood for 740 metres.

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6. When you reach the chain stile, continue into the field for 50 metres and then just before the large metal gate, turn left and follow the path along the hedge/fence for approximately 400 metres. Continue to the end of this fence and then climb over the stile. Walk on for 25 metres passing through a large metal gate as you enter Price's Farm.

7. Walk straight ahead, following the driveway out of the farm yard and then continue down the track for 180 metres as you head towards Price's Wood.

8. When you reach the wood you will see a yellow footpath marker. At this point, turn right and follow the path for approximately 1km. Keep the wood to your left and the field to your right, keep an eye out for the yellow arrows as these will ensure you don't lose your way.

9. Once you reach a little wooden footbridge, cross over and cut through Blackhoath Wood before crossing a second bridge into another huge field. Continue straight on, following the path uphill.

10. Having reached the top of this path, turn right before the large metal gate and then continue along the edge of the field for 200 metres, passing under the shoe tree.

11. When you reach the end of the field, walk past the gate and then cross the road with care, before turning left at the triangular junction, heading towards Charcott. Continue down the road with care and after 130 metres you will come to a footpath on your left. If you do not plan to stop at The Greyhound then take this path and skip to step 12.

To get to The Greyhound continue straight on for a further 130 metres and then take the first turning on the right. Follow this road round to the left and you will see the pub on your right. It is a popular spot, so check their opening hours and book ahead to avoid disappointment. Upon leaving the Greyhound retrace your steps back to the main road and then turn left. Continue along the road with care for 130 metres until you see the path on your right.

12. Take the footpath across the field. Depending on the season and the weather, this can be very muddy, so factor in wellies if there has been a lot of rain. When you reach the stile, climb over and continue across the next field. There are normally sheep here so keep dogs on a short lead. Climb the stile and then turn left, walking along the road with care for 80 metres. This road is much faster than the previous one, so please be mindful of traffic.

13. Cross the road safely and then walk through the small metal gate and continue down the track leading to Leigh RFC. Continue past the clubhouse and then climb the stile in the right hand corner of the field before descending down the steps and crossing the railway line with care. Always check both directions and listen for oncoming trains before crossing. Having crossed safely, climb the opposite steps and walk straight ahead following the path through the trees and along the right hand side of the field.

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14. When you reach the end of the field, cross over a little bridge and climb the stile before following the path through Redleaf Wood. Follow the path straight on for 400 metres until you reach a small metal gate leading out of the woods and onto Peshurst road. Turn left and walk along this road with care for 750 metres. This road is not especially busy, but cars do pass by frequently and often at high speed. Walk in a single file and always face the oncoming traffic.

15. Just after Cinder Hill cottages take the path on your right and follow the track straight on, walking past the tall conifer trees. After 180 metres you will pass a humongous old oak tree, keep going and then at the end take the path to the right and walk past the derelict building and walk through the small metal gate.

16. Continue past a large pond and then walk down a steep muddy track. When the track forks stay to the left and walk uphill through the bracken until you reach a wide grassy track. Cross over this and follow the path through the brambles before turning left and following another wider track until you reach a large gate.

17. Go through the gate and then continue straight on through this field. After 375 metres the grassy track merges into woodland. Follow this to the next gate and then climb the stile before walking down a muddy track for 60 metres.

18. When you reach the road, turn left and follow this for 275 metres until you reach Leigh station. There are a few bends here, so please be very careful.

19. Cross under the railway bridge and then join the pavement. Follow the pavement to the end of the road and you will come to the Fleur De Lis pub, marking the end of your walk.

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When out walking please remember to follow these guidelines...

Respect other people

Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors

Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways are clear

Leave gates and property as you find them

Stay on footpaths but give way to others where it's narrow

Protect the natural environment

Leave no trace of your visit - take all your litter home with you.

Keep dogs under effective control

Bag and bin your dog poo.

Enjoy the outdoors

Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared.

Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures