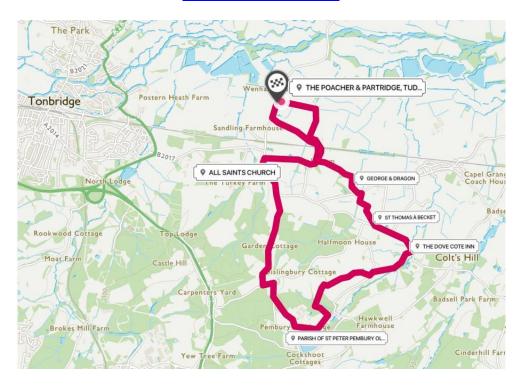
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Description: A long but beautiful circular walk taking in a trio of unique churches and three country pubs. There's a variety of incredible scenery, including woodland, meadows, orchards, and epic views.

Length: 7.2 miles / 11.54 km (approximately 3 hours, longer if stopping at the churches and pubs en-route)

Grade: A little challenging

Good for: Quirky churches and a long pub walk.

Good for: Bluebells and cold war history

- 1. Begin your walk at the Poacher and Partridge, Tudeley. Turn right and follow the road with care for 130 metres before taking the first right into Sherenden Road. When you reach the barn follow the road round to the right and then continue down the lane and walk under the railway bridge. Walk on past the row of white cottages and continue uphill.
- 2. When you reach Bank Farm, turn left and walk through the small metal gate. Continue straight on along this track until you come to a wooden kissing gate leading into a large arable field. Follow the path along the edge of the field for 50 metres, then continue straight as you cut across the crops towards the gap in the hedge.

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- 3. Turn right and then as you round the pond, turn left and follow the path across the field. Follow the path round a second clump of trees and then take the path across the field towards the George and Dragon pub, on Five Oak Green Road.
- 4. Cross the road carefully and then just after the pub you will see a path on your right. Follow this through the woods and then through the rickety gate, leading into a large field. Make sure any dogs are on a lead and then turn left, before walking uphill through the sheep field. When you reach the hedge, turn right and then at the end of the hedge, cut diagonally across the field towards Capel Church.
- 5. When you reach the stile, climb over and this will lead you into the church yard of Capel church, renowned for its 900 year old medieval wall paintings. Upon leaving the church, continue through the church yard, following the path under the famous yew tree and out of the gate onto the Church Lane.
- 6. Turn right and continue along the road until you reach the junction, then turn left onto Alders Road and then follow this with care for 650 metres until you reach the Dovecote pub.
- 7. Upon leaving the Dovecote Inn, turn right and continue along Alders Road. Walk past another row of colourful cottages and then climb the stile on your right. Walk through the field and then just before the fence, turn to the left, heading towards the trees. There are sometimes sheep grazing here, so please make sure any dogs are on their leads.
- 8. When you reach a fork in the path, take the route to your right, leading through a small metal gate and into an apple orchard. Turn right and then follow the path alongside the fence before continuing straight ahead. At the end of the orchard turn left and then go through a small metal gate leading into a field. At this point head diagonally right for approximately 100 metres and then go through another small gate.
- 9. Cross over the road and then walk up the driveway and into another orchard. At this point continue uphill and round to the right following the yellow markers into the trees and past the pond. Continue through the makeshift gate and then continue straight across the top of the field for 70 metres keeping the hedge and the orchard beyond this to your left.
- 10. Walk through the next metal gate and you will emerge into another orchard. When you come to the fence, duck under the branches and continue straight on, there will be an electricity pylon on your right. At the end of this path climb the stile and continue into the next orchard.
- 11. Go through the next gate and then turn right, walking downhill through the meadow. Climb the stile and then cross a small wooden footbridge before turning left and following the path along the edge of the field for 100 metres until you come to another stile leading into a wood.

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- 12. Follow the path as it drops downwards towards a stream. When you reach the stream, cross over and climb up the steps. Shortly after these you will reach a fork in the path. Stay to the right and follow this round through the woods.
- 13. Follow the path round to the left, you'll see an obstacle course over the fence to your right. Keep going until you come to a fork in the path and then take the path on the left. Continue through the woods, ignoring the other routes that branch off bear in mind that it can get very slippery here, so watch your step.
- 14. After 180 metres you will see a small path branching off to the right. Take this one and then continue until you reach three steps. After heavy rain and in winter this area becomes a shallow stream, so wellies are advised during wet weather.
- 15. Climb the three steps and then go through the gate into a large meadow. Walk diagonally right and you will see two stiles up ahead. Climb the stile and then continue straight on, aiming for the large trees on the right. As you get closer to these you will spot the next stile. Climb over this one and then turn diagonally heading for the far right hand corner of the field. The school should still be on your right.
- 16. Cross the little bridge leading over a ditch and then continue diagonally right as you walk through the tufty grass until you come to a boardwalk. Walk along this and then pass through two gates and emerge onto the driveway at the entrance to Kent College.
- 17. Go over the driveway and then turn right, walking uphill and into the churchyard of St Peters, Old Church Pembury.
- 18. Walk clockwise round the church and leave the churchyard via a wooden gate. Turn left onto the driveway and then continue uphill passing the school's all-weather hockey pitches. After 150 metres you will reach a footpath leading into the woods on your right.
- 19. When you reach the lane turn right and walk uphill until you come to a junction with Half Moon Lane. At this point turn left and walk up the road with care for passing a car garage and an unusual square shaped oast house.
- 20. After 170 metres turn right into the driveway of Knowles Bank and follow this for around 500 metres until you come to a path on your left, leading into the woods. Negotiate your way round the path until you emerge from the trees and onto the top of Knowles Bank.
- 21. Follow the fence round, keeping this to your left until you come to a stile. Climb over and then continue straight ahead under the trees and then follow the path into Old Furze field.
- 22. Climb the next stile and then walk downhill keeping to the right of the field until you come to one more stile. Climb this and then continue walking downhill through as the path leads through a pair of dense hedges.

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- 23. Continue along this path until you reach the road and then cross over with care and turn left, following the pavement past <u>Tumeric Gold</u>. Keep going past the restaurant and then when you reach the row of cottages, cross back over the road with care and then turn right, following the permissive path that runs between the hedge and the field.
- 24. When you reach the end of the hedge, cross the road with care and follow the track towards All Saints Church Tudeley, world famous for its stained glass windows.
- 25. Upon leaving the church, continue through the graveyard and exit via the gap in the right-hand corner of the hedge. Follow the path across the middle of the field towards the trees on the opposite side.
- 26. Once you reach the trees, go through two gates and then follow the path until you reach a car park filled with horse boxes. Walk straight on with care and take the path to the right of the large wooden gate.
- 27. Go through the metal gate and then continue until you reach the road. At this point, turn left and follow the road for 520 metres, retracing your steps past Bank Farm and back under the railway bridge you passed under earlier.
- 28. Just as the road bends to the right, take the path to your left and follow this straight on between the field of blackcurrants and crops. Keep walking straight until you reach a gap in the hedge and then follow the path between the hedge and the field.
- 29. When you reach the road turn right and follow this with care for 200 metres until you return to the Poacher and Partridge.

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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