

The 'Hastings Line 2017' Capital-to-Coast Walk Information Pack

This information pack is available online at <https://ralphpalfreywalks.wordpress.com/> (or search for 'palfreywalks'). Paper copies are available for £2.00 on the walks or by applying in person to Ralph Palfrey, 51 Glanville Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 9LN, telephone 020 8460 7215. Updates will be notified on the website.

In 2007 Ralph Palfrey devised a long distance path of about 77 miles from the site of the original Charing Cross (in Trafalgar Square), the official centre point of London, to Hastings seafront. We passed all stations on the connecting railway line.

This second set of walks will be by a series of nine linear station to station stages. These are included in the public walks programme of Environment Bromley (EnBro) for 2017. Each walk will include a picnic / pub lunch stop, and will be repeated on the following Saturday, enabling each whole stage to be covered by two shorter stages over both dates if preferred.

Stage 1, Saturdays 6 & 13 May, 10:30am - Site of Charing Cross (*NOT the station*) to Hither Green station, 8.5 or 9.1* miles, via Waterloo East station, London Bridge station, Thames Path, Southwark Park (lunch stop), Surrey Quays Tube station, New Cross station, St Johns station and Lewisham station. (*Alternatively leave or join at Surrey Quays London Overground station after 4.4 miles; thence 4.1 or 4.7* miles to Hither Green*).

Stage 2, Saturdays 20 & 27 May, 10:30am - Hither Green to Chelsfield station, 10.2 miles, via Grove Park station, Chinbrook Meadows, Elmstead Woods and station, Chislehurst Caves (lunch stop), Chislehurst station, Hawkwood (NT), Petts Wood (NT) and station, and Orpington station. (*Alternatively leave or join at Chislehurst station after 5.4 miles; thence 4.8 miles to Chelsfield*).

Stage 3, Saturdays 3 & 10 June, 10:30am - Chelsfield to Sevenoaks station, 9.3 miles, via Knockholt station, Knockholt Pound (lunch stop), North Downs Way, Dunton Green station and Darent Valley Path. (*Alternatively leave or join at Knockholt Pound (bus service) after 3.9 miles or at Dunton Green station after 6.5 miles; thence 5.4 or 2.5 miles to Sevenoaks*).

Stage 4, Saturdays 17 & 24 June, 10:50am - Sevenoaks to Tonbridge station, 9.2 miles, via Sevenoaks Weald (lunch stop) and Hildenborough station. (*Alternatively leave or join at Hildenborough station after 5.9 miles; thence 3.3 miles to Tonbridge*).

Stage 5, Saturdays 1 & 8 July, 11:00am - Tonbridge to Frant station, 8.4 miles, via High Brooms station, Grosvenor Recreation Ground (lunch stop) and Tunbridge Wells station. (*Alternatively leave or join at High Brooms station after 3.5 miles; thence 4.9 miles to Frant*).

Stage 6, Saturdays 15 & 22 July, 11:15am - Frant to Stonegate station, 8.8 miles, via Wadhurst station, Durgates, Wadhurst (lunch stop). (*Alternatively leave or join at Wadhurst station after 3.3 miles; thence 5.5 miles to Stonegate*).

Stage 7, Saturdays 29 July & 5 August, 11:30am - Stonegate to Robertsbridge station, 7.2 miles, via Etchingham station (lunch stop). (*Alternatively leave or join at Etchingham station after 4.7 miles; thence 2.5 miles to Robertsbridge*).

Stage 8, Saturdays 12 & 19 August, 11:35am - Robertsbridge to Battle station, 7.0 or 7.7* miles, via Mountfield Church (lunch stop) and Whatlington Road. (*Alternatively leave or join by bus at Whatlington after 4.4 miles; thence 2.6 or 3.3* miles to Battle station*).

Stage 9, Saturdays 26 August & 2 September, 11:45am - Battle to Hastings seafront, 8.7 miles, via Crowhurst station, West St Leonards station (lunch stop), St Leonards Warrior Square station and Hastings station. Optional celebratory meal. (*Alternative 5.1 mile easier walk from Crowhurst to Hastings via seafront*).

* mileages including optional diversions.

Information correct (E&OE) at time of publication (April 2017)