



Eridge Rocks



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Kent
HIGH WEALD
protect / explore / enjoy



Cover photo Eridge Lakes

Broadwater Forest

Explore Kent
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EK

SUSSEX

CIRCULAR



15
MILES



ONE OF A
SERIES OF FOUR
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
CIRCULAR WALKS

SUSSEX CIRCULAR

15
MILES

The sandrock outcrops, which are a distinctive feature of the High Weald, are highlights of this walk to the south of Tunbridge Wells. The sandstone, from which sandrock is made, was formed over 130 million years ago when rivers deposited beds of sand and clay across a vast plain. The earliest deposits were compacted to form sandstone which rose up into a broad dome and subsequently eroded away over millions of years, leaving the outcrops.

The outcrops are visible at Eridge Rocks, Harrison's Rocks and High Rocks – all points of interest on this circular walk which passes through Frant, Eridge Green and Groombridge.



Harrison's Rocks

INTERESTING FEATURES

Starting at **THE GROVE**, the walk heads east to Hawkenbury, passing Camden Park; a haven for urban wildlife dating back to the 19th Century.

Beyond Hawkenbury the path leads between the Nevill Golf Course and Tunbridge Wells Cemetery, a local wildlife site notable for its rare species of grassland fungi.

FRANT is an ancient village whose name is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word for "place of the fern", or Fernthe. Excavations unearthed artefacts dating back to 100BC which indicated a settlement was here.

The first documented evidence of this comes from 1120 when a chapel was gifted to Gilbert de Clare.

Frant developed when the Wealden iron industry was at its height in the 16th century and the west side cottages date from this period. St Alban's Church was rebuilt in 1821 and the Abergavenny Arms dates from 1480.



Groombridge Place



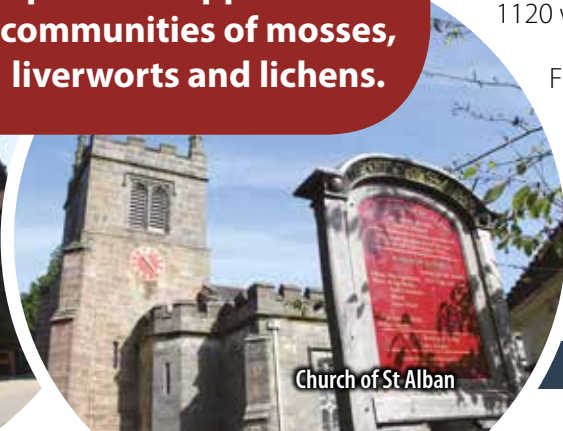
Frant Green

ERIDGE PARK is reputedly the oldest deer park in England and has been the home of the Earls and Marquesses of Abergavenny since 1448. The current house was built in 1938 on the site of a house where Queen Elizabeth I stayed for 6 days in 1573. The Park has a long association with iron smelting as Celtic and Roman bloomeries have been found. Eridge furnace and forge flourished in the late 16th century, powered by water contained within the lakes which have since been landscaped.

The unique habitat
that the rocks
provide support rare
communities of mosses,
liverworts and lichens.



High Rocks Hotel



Church of St Alban

SUSSEX CIRCULAR

15 MILES



- Start/Finish
- 13 miles (21km)
- Take the train
- Gate
- Stile

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