Uckfield

On the southern boundary of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



A great place to get out and explore all that the countryside has to offer. A busy little town with many shops, restaurants, its own vintage cinema and a monthly farmers' market held on the first Saturday of the month at Civic Centre car park. Uckfield also has a famous bonfire and carnival society.

Uckfield's Leisure Centre houses a 25m pool with a sloping beach and a flume, perfect for family fun. Visit Hempstead Meadow, an important wetland habitat, which can been seen as the train approaches the Station. The site supports all number of birds, snakes, flora and fauna.

Why not catch a bus and visit the Ashdown Forest Llama Park at Wych Cross, home to Llamas, Alpacas, a herd of Reindeer, knitwear shop and a dedicated museum? See www.llamapark.co.uk for details.

Explore East Sussex County Council's programme of guided walks and environmental projects at www.eastsussex.gov.uk

Uckfield is an Ashdown Forest Access Station. For Bus Links to the Forest see www.wealdenbus.org.uk/forestexplorer.html

WALK: On Ashdown Forest bus routes 261, 29, 54, 31 & 262. See www.wealdenbus.org.uk for details.

CYCLE: To the county Town of Lewes.

Buxted

The place to visit is glorious Buxted Park, 312 acres of East Sussex parkland which dates back to the 12th century. The house itself is 300 years old and is now a fine country hotel, but you are welcome to walk in the grounds.

The Church is all that remains of the original village as the owner of the great house decided he didn't like the view so had the village nocked down and moved.

WALK: Buxted Park.

CYCLE: The Buxted Loop.

Crowborough



rural market town situated n the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty bordering Ashdown Forest. At 787ft above sea level, it is the highest inland town in

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle lived in the town for 23 years. Whilst living at Windlesham Manor, he wrote his most famous adventure story 'The Lost World', a tale of dinosaurs and survival. It was said that a fossilised footprint of an Iguanodon, found in a nearby quarry fired his imagination.

There is a farmers' market on the 4th Saturday of every month at Pine Grove car park.

WALK: See mapmywalk.com for over 200 local walking routes or www.eastsussex.gov.uk

CYCLE: Circular route to Forest Row. Please note cycling is not permitted off road on Ashdown Forest.

Eridge

Set on the High Weald, a fantastic location for a day out in the country for all the family.



operates from Eridge s well as Tunbridge Wells West Station, near the historic Pantiles. You can use these trains as a hrough service to Tunbridge Wells. oa Valley Railway osts a number of nemed events throughout the year: nistoric rallies, nildren's events, restaurant trains,

The Spa Valley Railway

even Santa specials. See www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk for full details. Further along this line lies the historic, romantic Groombridge Place set in acres of beautiful gardens. Combined tickets are available.

Eridge is a mecca for rock climbing enthusiasts and the sandstone crags feature throughout the surrounding countryside, the most well known of these being Harrisons Rocks at nearby Groombridge. There are many organisations locally who offer tuition -Bowles Outdoor Centre, see www.bowles.ac

Eridge also hosts reputedly Britain's best camp site at Forgewood site www.campingunplugged.com with direct access to the Eridge Park Estate, once owned by William the Conqueror's brother Odo, www.eridgepark.co.uk For information and a calendar of events including the famous Eridge Horse Trials. If all this activity is making you hungry Eridge boasts a number of pubs. There are many walking/cycling opportunities around the Station.

Eridge is an Ashdown Forest Access Station. For Bus Links to the Forest see www.wealdenbus.org.uk

WALK: To Harrisons Rocks. See www.eastsussex.co.uk for details or Broadwater Warren, www.walkingclub.org.uk

CYCLE: Route 21 from Greenwich, through Eridge to Paris!

Ashurst

On the border of Kent and Sussex -

peace, quiet, just miles of uninterrupted countryside. The Sussex Border Path is a footpath route nearly 150 miles long around the inland boundary of the county of Sussex.

The county owes its origins to the kingdom of the South Saxons and can claim to have one of the longest inland county boundaries from Emsworth to Rye.

WALK: The Sussex Border Path and follow the river Medway. www.sussexborderpath.co.uk

CYCLE: Along A264 to Villa Golf, site of a Roman Villa via Teasley Mead to Top Hill for fantastic views of the High Weald.

Cowden



Enjoy the beautiful views as you walk to great local pubs, including the Fountain in the village and the Rock Inn at Hoath Corner.

WALK: Cowden Station to Truggers Gill. See www.kentramblers.org.uk/walk70 for details.

CYCLE: www.kent.gov.uk/leisure for details.

Hever

The King of the Castles, family home of Anne Boleyn - so much to see and do!



The castle itself hosts a display of Tudor artefacts including "the best display of Tudor portraits after the National Portrait Gallery". See Anne Boleyn's famous letter to Henry VIII. Wander around the ornate, award winning gardens, hire a boat and set sail on the lake, picnic in the grounds or eat in either of the restaurants. There are two mazes to choose from, but beware, one is a water maze!

The castle hosts a variety of events throughout the season step in Henry's footsteps and watch one of the jousting tournaments. The Open Air theatre is another great attraction for events such as Shakespeare, films and music concerts.

Why not stay the night in one of the Bed & Breakfast rooms featuring four poster beds and roll top baths? www.hevercastle.co.uk

The Castle also hosts triathlon events. See www.castletriathlonseries.co.uk for details.

WALK: Follow the footpath from the station to the castle.

CYCLE: The Tunbridge Wells Loop via Hever.

Edenbridge

The town is served by two railway lines, Edenbridge Town Station on the Uckfield Line and Edenbridge Station on the Tonbridge to Redhill Line.



A bustling country town, full of charm, interesting little shops, and places to eat. The historic High Street houses its own museum dedicated to the area's rich history. The town holds a weekly market, for which permission was granted by Royal Charter in 1227.

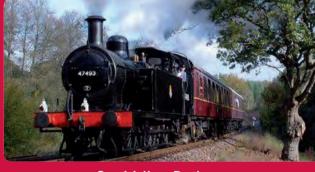
In some of the most beautiful countryside, Edenbridge has many visitor attractions and refreshment stops. For keen walkers there are ten popular circular walks, all starting and finishing in the Edenbridge area. The local Town Council has a leaflet for each walk, which are available from various locations around the town, including Edenbridge Town Station or you can download them from www.edenvalleykent.org/page309/Countryside.html

The 5th of November is certainly a night to remember in this town. See www.edenbridgebonfire.co.uk for details.

WALK: Choose one of many short or long distance from www.edenvalleykent.org or www.kent.gov.uk/leisure

CYCLE: The Edenbridge Circular through Hever and Tonbridge.

Heritage Railways



Spa Valley Railway

Runs from Tunbridge Wells West, High Rocks Halt, Groombridge and then on to Eridge through some beautiful Kent & Sussex countryside. Groombridge Place Gardens are a short walk from the station and there is much to see and do at any of the Stations on the route.

See www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk for news, events, opening times and technical information.

From Sheffield Park Station, Horsted Keynes, Kingscote to East Grinstead Station, there is a museum at Sheffield Park with interesting railway artefacts Sheffield Park Gardens



Lavender Line



illage of Isfield, between Jckfield and Lewes, to orth Halt in the Parish of Little Horstead. Visit ww.lavender-line.co.uk or information on opening mes, events and

Runs for 2 miles from the

East Grinstead

The historic market town of East Grinstead, sometimes known as the capital of the High Weald, is renowned for its architectural heritage.



East Grinstead Museum houses important collections from the Queen Victoria Hospital museum including work by plastic surgeon Sir Archibald McIndoe. His pioneering procedures at the QVH during WW2, treating badly burned airman, who called themselves the

The broad High Street with its wealth of Medieval and Tudor wooden framed buildings is well worth exploring, and there's plenty of opportunities shop and watch the world go by from a friendly cafe or bar. The Bluebell Railway's platform is only a short distance from the mainline station and you can step on board trains that will take you through the Sussex landscape to Sheffield Park.

Local attractions include the glorious sandstone Jacobean Almshouse of Sackville College. This 400 year old gem in the High Street is open to visitors during the summer months from 14:00 - 17:00, Wednesday to Sunday.

Just outside the town is the National Trust's property at Standen, a treasure trove for lovers of Arts and Crafts, furnishings and fabrics, of which this house is famous for.

East Grinstead is an Ashdown Forest Access Station. For bus links to the Forest see www.wealdenbus.org.uk/forestexplorer.html

bus routes 270, 291, 261, www.wealdenbus.org.uk

WALK: The Sussex Border Path or Ashdown Forest -

CYCLE: Route 21, cyclejourneyplanner.westsussex.gov.uk

Dormans



Visit Dry Hill Fort, an Iron Age fortification, also known as ingfield Mark on The Vanguard Way. Wander the pre-historic track ways and enjoy the agnificent views.

he Meridian Line passes through the village of Dormansland.

WALK: The Vanguard Way, www.vanguardway.org.uk

CYCLE: The Sussex Border Path towards historic Hammerwood Park. See www.sussexborderpath.co.uk for details.

Lingfield



A prominent feature at the heart of the village is the cage, which was used as a temporary jail for minor felons in the 1700s and 1800s. It sits on the perfect village pond, which is dominated by a hollow but fully-leafed oak tree, which is thought to be over 400 years old.

Lingfield Park Racecourse is open all year, not just for the racing but many other events including musical theme nights. See www.lingfieldpark.co.uk for details.

The Lingfield Nature Reserve is a short walk from the Station

off Vicarage Road, open every day, where many events take place

throughout the year. WALK: Nature reserve www.lingfieldreserves.org.uk

CYCLE: The Bough Beech Reservoir Loop.

Hurst Green

The origins of the village of Hurst Green can be seen in the historic buildings around the vast village green. Visit one of the many churches, see the beautiful, modern stained glass windows at St John's Church, which were installed after a major fire.

WALK: Hurst Green to Chiddingstone Causeway via Chartwell. See www.walkingclub.co.uk walk 16.

CYCLE: Yew Tree Way. See www.surreycc.gov.uk for details.

Oxted

'The place where oaks grow.'



An interesting town in Tandridge District, which the Greenwich Meridian runs through. Master Park hosts many events throughout the year, including the famous Pram Race.

In the centre of town there is a Leisure Centre, The Everyman Cinema which shows live screenings from the National Theatre, and the Barn Theatre in Bluehouse Lane, which holds a bi-annual arts festival.

Nearby Limpsfield, a short walk from the Railway Station, is an interesting place to visit. The graveyard at St Peter's Church is the last resting place of the composer Frederick Delius and the conductor SirThomas Beecham.

WALK: The North Downs Way. See www.northdownsway.co.uk for details.

CYCLE: Oxted/Lingfield Loop. See surreycc.gov.uk/cycling for details.

Ashdown Forest

6,500 acres of common land to explore.



There are amazing views, open heathland, wooded areas, streams to cross, wildlife to spot, walking trails and a specified cycle route with many pubs, restaurants and tearooms around the Forest to stop and revive yourself. Or why not take a longer break and stay at one of the many B&B's, campsites or self catering units?

See www.ashdownforest.org for the conservators or www.ashdownforest.com for information on the Forest, where to stay, what to do, special events, and news on the guided walks that are held every Wednesday www.ashdownramblers.btck.co.uk Be sure to look out for Winnie the Pooh - he may be hiding somewhere!

WALK: Anywhere and everywhere, the Vanguard Way, the Forest Way. See **www.ashdownforest.com** for walking information.

CYCLE: Please keep to the specified cycle route as off-road cycling is not permitted on the Forest. See www.ashdownforest.com for details.

ASHDOWN FOREST IS NOW ACCESSIBLE BY BUS FROM VARIOUS NEARBY RAILWAY STATIONS -Uckfield Station buses 261, 29 and 54. Eridge Station bus 29 and Spa Valley Railway. East Grinstead Station buses 270, 291, 261 and Bluebell Railway.

Buy a Forest Explorer ticket from the bus operator, this allows you to ride to the Forest, walk to another bus stop, get on with another bus operator and complete your journey. Please see www. wealdenbus.org.uk for further details.

Sussex Community Rail Partnership



THE AIM OF THE PARTNERSHIP IS TO CONNECT COMMUNITIES TO THEIR RAILWAYS, BY HELPING TO ENSURE THE SERVICE PROVIDED MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND ITS VISITORS AND TO:

- Encourage tourism to rural areas • Help preserve rail infrastructure for use by future genera

THE SUSSEX COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP (SCRP) IS WORKING ON SIX LOCAL LINES:

- The Tonbridge to Redhill & Reigate Line
- The Seaford to Brighton Line

• The North Downs Line

www.sussexcrp.org

The Arun Valley Line

Many stations benefit from community station partnerships look out for the SCRP logo at stations. All the information

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The line cuts a swathe as straight as a die through rural Kent and Surrey. Completed in 1842 the line, whilst providing all the facilities the modern traveller would expect to see at any rural station in the 21st century, passes through some of the most historically interesting sites the south of England has to offer.

Tonbridge

Connections to London, Ashford International, Kent and the coast.



An ancient market town sited on the River Medway that boasts its very own castle. The castle and its surrounding parkland hosts a variety of shows, fetes and open air concerts in the summer. The park has an indoor/outdoor swimming pool and many sports facilities. The town has two theatres: the EM Forster and The Oast.

Just a few minutes walk from the station you can be in the middle of open countryside and Haysden Country Park, 165 acres of woodland, meadows and open water. You can walk, cycle, fish and sail, and there is a children's play area. See www.TMBC.gov.uk for events, walks and much more. On the 2nd Sunday of the month a Farmers' Market can be found at Sovereign Way.

Jane Austen connection - did you know that Jane Austen's family lived in Tonbridge for many generations? A guide for a circular walk is available from Tourist Information.

See www.janeaustensoci.freeuk.com for details.

WALK: Special mention - Tudeley Church. The stained glass windows were created by the famous artist Marc Chagall. A footpath runs across the Somerhill Estate from the A21 slip road / Vauxhall Inn round-a-bout. Or bus route 205 from the Station.

CYCLE: From Tonbridge via regional cycle route 12 to Penshurst Place.
See www.kent.gov.uk/leisure for details.

Leigh A beautiful, ancient Kentish village built around

a picture perfect cricket pitch.

The town is served by two railway lines, Edenbridge Station on the Tonbridge to Redhill Line and Edenbridge Town Station on the Uckfield Line.

Edenbridge



CYCLE: Route 12 to either Tonbridge or Penshurst

Penshurst

No it's not in the village of Penshurst, but Chiddingstone.



The Little Brown Jug public house is literally on the Station's doorstep. Follow the footpaths to visit the famous Penshurst Place, historic house & gardens (bus route 231 or 233) wander round the village and take tea in the famous tearooms. In the other direction the romantic Chiddingstone Castle (pictured here), a rich man's folly (it is recommended that you take a taxi from either Tonbridge or Edenbridge Town Station). See www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk for details. Visit the historic National Trust Village of Chiddingstone, often used as a film location.

WALK: Chiddingstone to Penshurst **www.westerhamramblers.org.uk** or Bough Beech Reservoir.

CYCLE: Route 12 from Penshurst. Round Bough Beech Reservoir for magnificent views.

See **www.kent.gov.uk/leisure** for details.

Edenbridge is a popular destination for cyclists and there are a wide range of cycling routes locally that go to a number of attractions such as Hever Castle, Tonbridge Castle and Penshurst Place. With that in mind the town has provided a cycling hub attached to the Leisure Centre with a coffee shop, changing and toilet facilities and secure

The Town hosts many events throughout the year; the annual bonfire, family fun days, music, art and foody events.
For details see edenvalley.org

cycle storage. www.sencio.org.uk/edenbridge/cyclist-pit-stop

Edenbridge has its very own bonfire society – the 5th of November is certainly a night to remember in this town. See www.edenbridgebonfire.co.uk for details.

WALK: Choose one of many short or long distance walks from www.edenvalleykent.org or www.kent.gov.uk/leisure

CYCLE: The Tudor Cycle Trail www.explorekent.org

Godstone



Visit the RSPCA re-homing centre a few minutes walk from the Station and find a new friend to join you on your travels. See www.rspca-friendsofsouthgodstone.org.uk for details.

You are now on the edge of the Surrey Hills Area of Natural Beauty. See **www.visitsurrey.com** for suggestions of things to do in Surrey.

WALK: To the Bay Pond, a nature reserve managed by Surrey Wildlife Trust, **www.surreywildifetrust.org**

CYCLE: To Outwood Windmill.

Nutfield

Visit Priory Farm a destination for all the family. Farm shop, restaurant, children's play area, adventure trail, gift shop, fishing, nature trail and pick-your-own fruit.

WALK: The Greensand Way, the route is well signposted from the village. See **www.surreycc.gov.uk** for details. For walking and cycling, see **www.visitsurrey.com/discover/surrey-hills**

Redhill

Connections to Victoria, London Bridge, Guildford, Reading Horsham Gatwick and the South Coast



Visit the Belfry shopping centre, 50 stores all conveniently under one roof. The Harlequin Theatre has a packed programme of hit shows, films, concerts, comedy and events, with something for everyone. See www.harlequintheatre.co.uk

A popular market adds to the hustle and bustle. Try the street food stalls if you have time as there can be queues. See www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk for details.

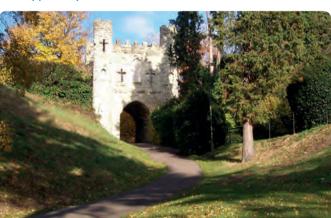
A short walk from the railway station is Mercers Park, a wetland nature reserve and for the more adventurous a RYA centre for watersports. See **www.aquasports.co.uk**

Visit Reigate Fort built to defend London in Victorian times. It is one of 13 Forts built along the North Downs. For open days and more information, see www.nationaltrust.org.uk
Metrobus 460 or 420 from Redhill Station.

WALK: North Downs Way www.northdownsway.co.uk

Reigate

Apparently the most romantic town in Great Britian.



A historic town centre of timbered buildings, bursting with independent shops, restaurants and public houses.

Built around the site of an old castle, Priory Park is the venue for many public events and has a programme of activities for all the family, see www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk for more details.

Visit the Reigate Caves & Tunnels. The Barons Cave is believed to originate from the 11th century. Please check **www.wcms.org.uk** for opening days/times.

WALK: The North Down Ridge that links to The Millennium Trail. See **www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk** for details.

CYCLE: You are now in the rolling Surrey Hills and Reigate is an excellent start point to get out and explore the surrounding countryside. See **www.surreyhills.org** for details.

Information - Please use this guide to inspire your visit.



information, special offers, train times, advance bookings and group save tickets: www.southernrailway.com

For assisted travel phone **0800 138 1016**Please remember to give 24 hours notice if you need assistance.

Thameslink www.thameslinkrailway.com

Great Western Railway 0345 7000 125 www.GWR.com

www.kent.gov.uk for information on visiting Kent
www.surreycc.gov.uk for information on visiting Surrey
www.eastsussex.gov.uk for information on visiting East Sussex
www.westsussex.gov.uk for information on visiting West Sussex

Bus information for onward travel can be found on:

www.arrivabus.co.uk

www.metrobus.co.uk

www.stagecoachbus.co.uk

www.compass-travel.co.uk

Use the website **www.traveline.co.uk** to plan your journey from leaving home to your destination.

www.nationalrail.co.uk, tel: 08457 48 49 50 will help if you are

travelling from outside of the area.

Visit www. sustrans.org.uk for cycling, walking routes and much more.

Thank you to all our partners and friends for your support in producing this leaflet.

All information in this guide believed to be correct at the time of going to print.

