

Map 9

Open Access at Malling Hill

Making the most of open access



Open access land offers walkers an exciting opportunity to explore some of the spectacular South Downs landscape from a much closer perspective than ever before!

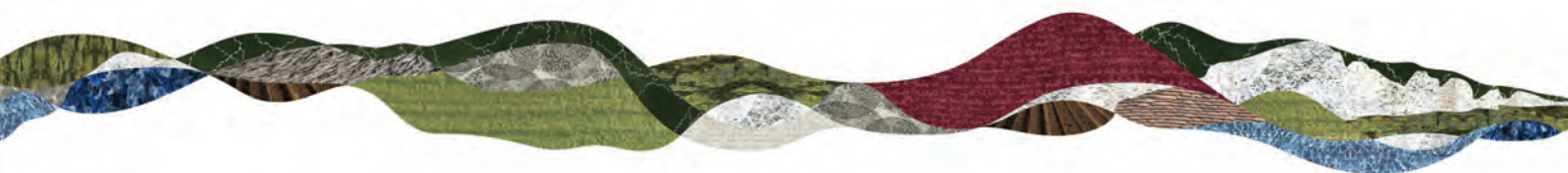
This map will help you get more from a visit to the **Malling Hill** whilst enjoying it in harmony with the site's wildlife and its management. There is a detailed map on the overleaf that shows the site, a circular self-guided walk and additional information that will help you better enjoy what it has to offer. Please read the information on the back of this leaflet and most importantly, enjoy your visit!

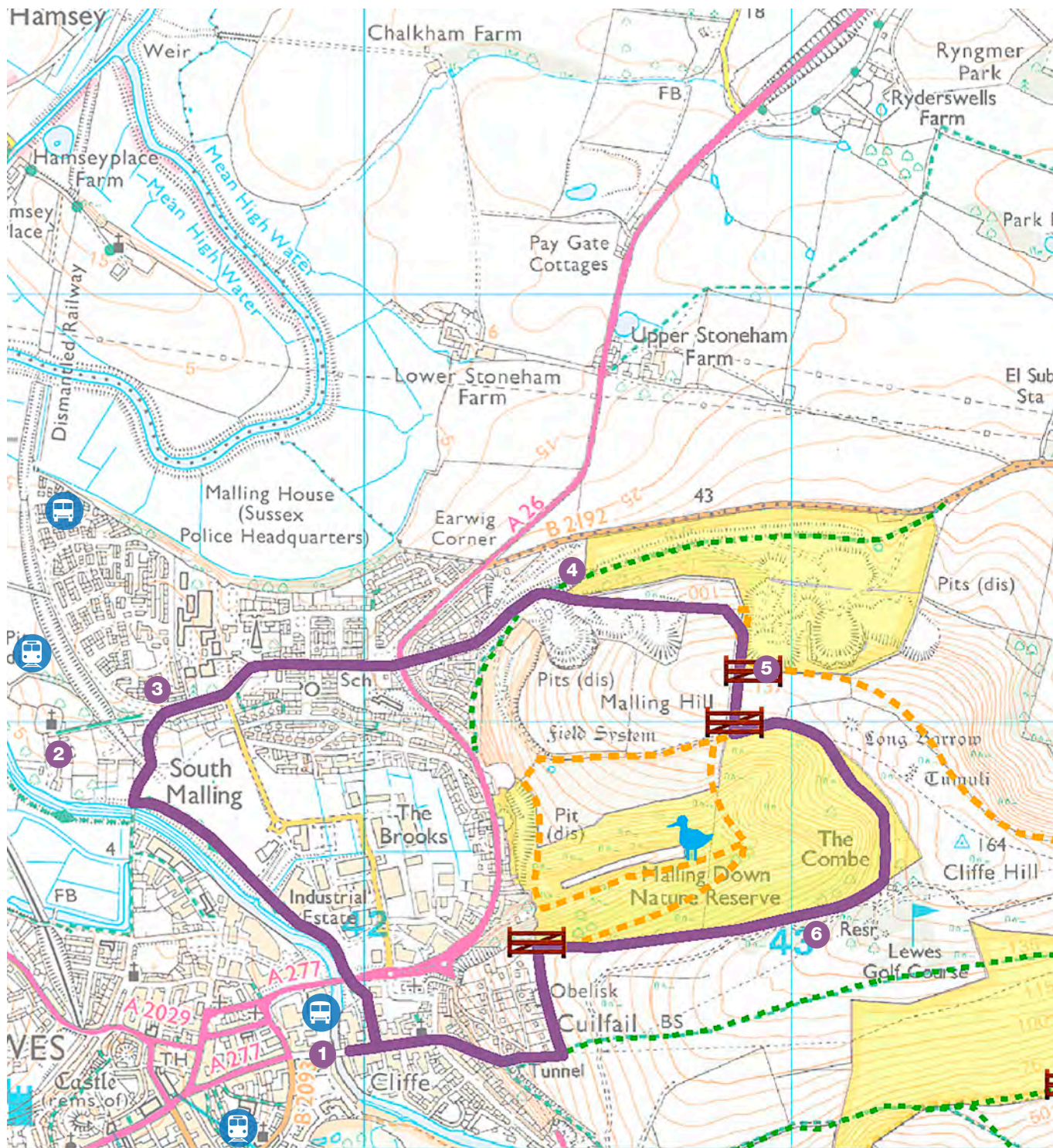
Mount Caburn, Cliffe Hill and Malling Hill form an outlier from the main ridge of the South Downs and are situated immediately east of Lewes. There are good views of the Weald, the town of Lewes and the downland to its west and southwards down the Ouse Valley. Malling Hill is managed by the Sussex Wildlife Trust as a nature reserve.



South Downs Society
Protecting the Beauty of the Downs

**SOUTH DOWNS
NATIONAL PARK**





Open Access

- Bridleway
- ⋯ Public Footpath
- South Downs Way
- ⋯ Well used path in Access Land
- Open Access
- Currently inaccessible Access Land
- ⌵ Gate
- ⌵ Stile

Public Interest

- 🦋 Nature Reserve
- P Parking
- PC Public Convenience
- ☎ Phone
- i Information Centre
- 🏠 Building of Historic Interest
- ☕ Public house/s
- 🚶 Walk Route
- ⛪ Church

- Bus Bus Stop
- Rail Railway Station



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Route instructions



This is a good short but steep circular walk beginning and ending in Lewes, enjoying natural downland with wild flowers and butterflies in season and passing the Martyrs Memorial Obelisk.

Distance: 6.5 km/4 miles

Time: 1½ to 2 hrs

Total ascent: 164m/538 ft

Highest point: 142m/467 ft

Map: OS Explorer 122

Start: The hump-backed bridge taking High Street over River Ouse TQ 419102

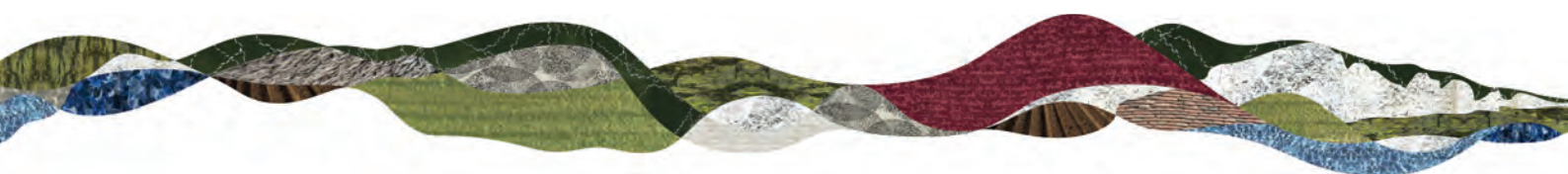
Stiles: 0

How to get there: 200 metres from the bus station or 500 metres from the railway station.

Public toilets: Court Road BN7 2PG Close to the bridge.

Refreshments: Various in Lewes.

- 1** From the hump-backed bridge proceed eastwards down Cliffe High Street for about 150 yards (137m) where you turn left under a building into North Court. Follow this metalled path as it bends round Harvey's Brewery and under Phoenix Causeway and then alongside the river to Willeys Bridge. Turn right and go under the old railway bridge and then turn left on an uphill path to the road junction at the top.
- 2** If you wish to visit the Malling Deanery Conservation Area and St Michael's Church on the site of an 8th century monastery with connections to John Evelyn and John Harvard you should turn left here for a few hundred yards and retrace your steps afterwards.
- 3** From the top of the path mentioned in 1 cross the road and follow the pavement on the north side of Church Lane past the Mayhew Way junction, Police Headquarters and two estate roads to come to the cross roads with the busy A 26. Use the pedestrian crossing to access Mill Road which is opposite Church Lane and carry on uphill until the metalled road finishes. Then go straight on the bridleway and pass a disused quarry until you come to the entrance gate to the Malling Down Nature Reserve, managed by the Sussex Wildlife Trust.
- 4** Just before the gate turn sharp right climbing steps to a kissing gate to enter the access land. Go through this and then up a few further steps to another grassy area. From here you may enjoy a view over Mount Harry and the Weald. Follow the largely flat path which is indistinct at times past another old quarry on the right and then slightly uphill to a kissing gate in a belt of shrubs. Go through this and turn right to follow the steep path on the edge of a further quarry. As you reach the top of the quarry look for a kissing gate in the right hand corner of the field by a water trough on the skyline. From here a wide panorama may be enjoyed over the Weald to Ashdown Forest on the horizon to the north.
- 5** Go through the kissing gate out of the access land and downhill to another kissing gate in the south-west corner of the field. Go through this back into the access land and turn left along a grassy path following gently around the head of The Combe. Keep on this path until it turns to the right into a tree belt and starts going downhill close to a fence. Look for a kissing gate through this fence and out of the access land and on to the northern edge of the golf course.
- 6** Go downhill alongside the hedge to the corner of the golf course and then turn left following the fence line to pass by a large obelisk on the right, which is not directly accessible from the path, and which commemorates the 17 protestant martyrs who were burnt at the stake in Lewes in the 1550's. Continue to the end of the hedge and admire the view of Lewes and the dry valley towards Falmer and Brighton. Then turn right and down a steep path with some steps to join Chapel Hill which is the access road to the golf course. Go down this hill to the junction at the bottom and cross into Cliffe High Street opposite. Then proceed along Cliffe High Street back to the starting point at the river bridge.



Open access

Open access land gives you the right to explore interesting features within that parcel of land – you can choose your own route and you don't have to stick to the path!



What you can do:

- Walk
- Sightsee
- Picnic
- Bird watch
- Run
- Fly a kite

Please remember that with these rights come responsibilities. You have the legal right to explore access land but please remember that most of the areas are privately owned; they are also the home and place of work for many people. A number of sites are also nationally important because of some of the plants and animals found there. If rights of way (like footpaths or bridleways) cross the land, the legal rights still apply.

Access Land is good for dog walkers too but the South Downs landscape is also important for ground nesting birds and many important conservation grazing projects. Unless otherwise stated, dogs must be kept on a fixed lead (2 metres or less) when livestock are present and on all access land sites between March 1st and July 31st.

What you can't do:

- Cycle or horse ride (unless on an appropriate right of way)
- Drive a vehicle (unless on an appropriate right of way)
- Camp
- Light a fire
- Hang-glide or paraglide
- Use a metal detector

Please follow the Countryside Code at all times:

- Be safe plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people.

For more information about Malling Down go to www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk and search for Malling Down

*Walk devised and surveyed by volunteers from the **South Downs Society***

Getting there via public transport



Malling Hill is easily reached from Lewes bus and railway stations.

Please visit www.traveline.info or call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33

Find out more about visiting the South Downs
www.southdowns.gov.uk/gettingaround