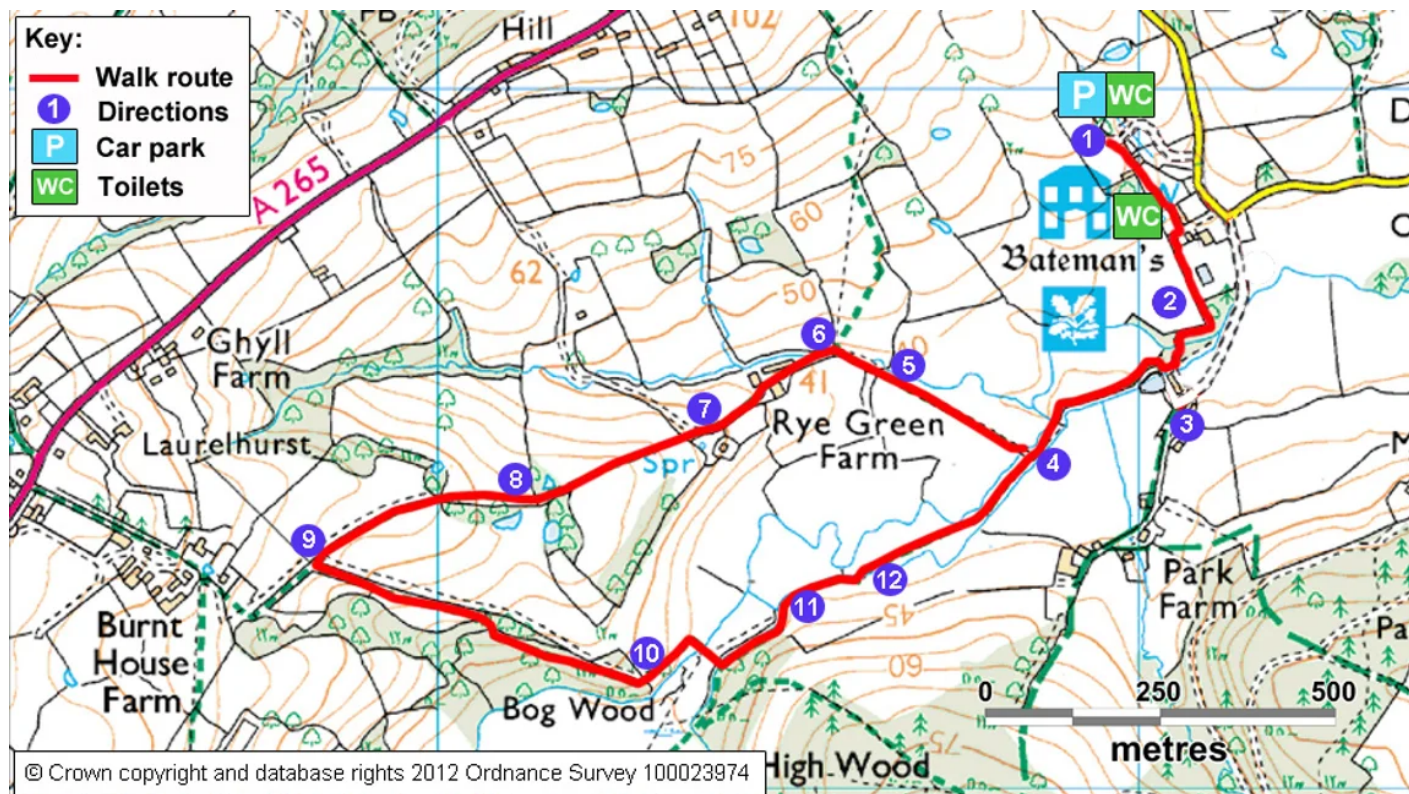


SUSSEX

Kipling's Puck walk around the Bateman's countryside

Bateman's was the home of author and poet Rudyard Kipling. The 300 acres of the countryside estate around the house influenced works such as Puck of Pook's Hill, Rewards and Fairies and many of his poems. In this 2.5-mile walk around the countryside you'll uncover some of the landscape that inspired his work.



Information

Address: Bateman's Lane, Burwash, East Sussex TN19 7DS.

OS map: Landranger 199; Explorer 136

Activity: Walking

Easy: Mostly flat with one climb. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs welcome but please keep them on a short lead as livestock may be in the surrounding fields. There are no dog bins so please take dog litter home. Dogs are not permitted in the house.

Full trail: Miles: 2.5 (km: 4)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 1 hour - 1.5 hours

Terrain

The route follows public footpaths through Bateman's Estate. There's one steady, moderate climb halfway through the walk and several stiles along the route.

Total steps: 12

Start point: Bateman's car park, grid ref: TQ671238

1. Go to the visitor reception to enter the property. Admission charges apply for non-National Trust members.
2. Follow the visitor route down through the orchard towards the Mulberry Tea-room and then follow signs to the mill.
3. At the mill go through the gate to the right, at the edge of the millpond. Follow the footpath to the right and then bear left along the river.
4. Go through the gate and after 55yd (50m) turn right over the footbridge.
5. Follow the path through the field, passing the old oak and ditch. It's a sinuous and curving ditch that marks the line of a former water course and by its side is a large veteran oak that is probably around 250 years old. The ditch also marks the manorial boundary between the customary lands of Brightling Prebend and the manor of Burwash. Go through the gateway and turn immediately left.
6. Go through another gate and follow the path.
7. You will arrive at a tarmac road with a house on your left. Cross the road and follow the path through the field. Follow the path through the woods and go through the gate. You are now outside the Bateman's Estate.
8. Cross the field and go through the gate.
9. Follow the path through the field; Climb the stile and turn immediately left down the hill with the hedge on your left. Go through the kissing gate and follow the path around to the left through the woods.
10. Go through the kissing gate and carry on straight ahead. The River Dudwell is to your right. Up the hill to your left as you come through the gate is a deserted trackway that

used to run down towards the old Burwash Forge. Around 110yd (100m) on the right, cross the river and turn left.

11. Pass through the gate and go straight ahead. After around 164yd (150m) turn left across a bridge and turn immediately right.
12. Go through a kissing gate. After about 110yd (100m) you will find yourself at the footbridge you crossed at Step 4. From here, retrace your steps and return to the car park.

End point: Bateman's car park, grid ref: TQ671238
