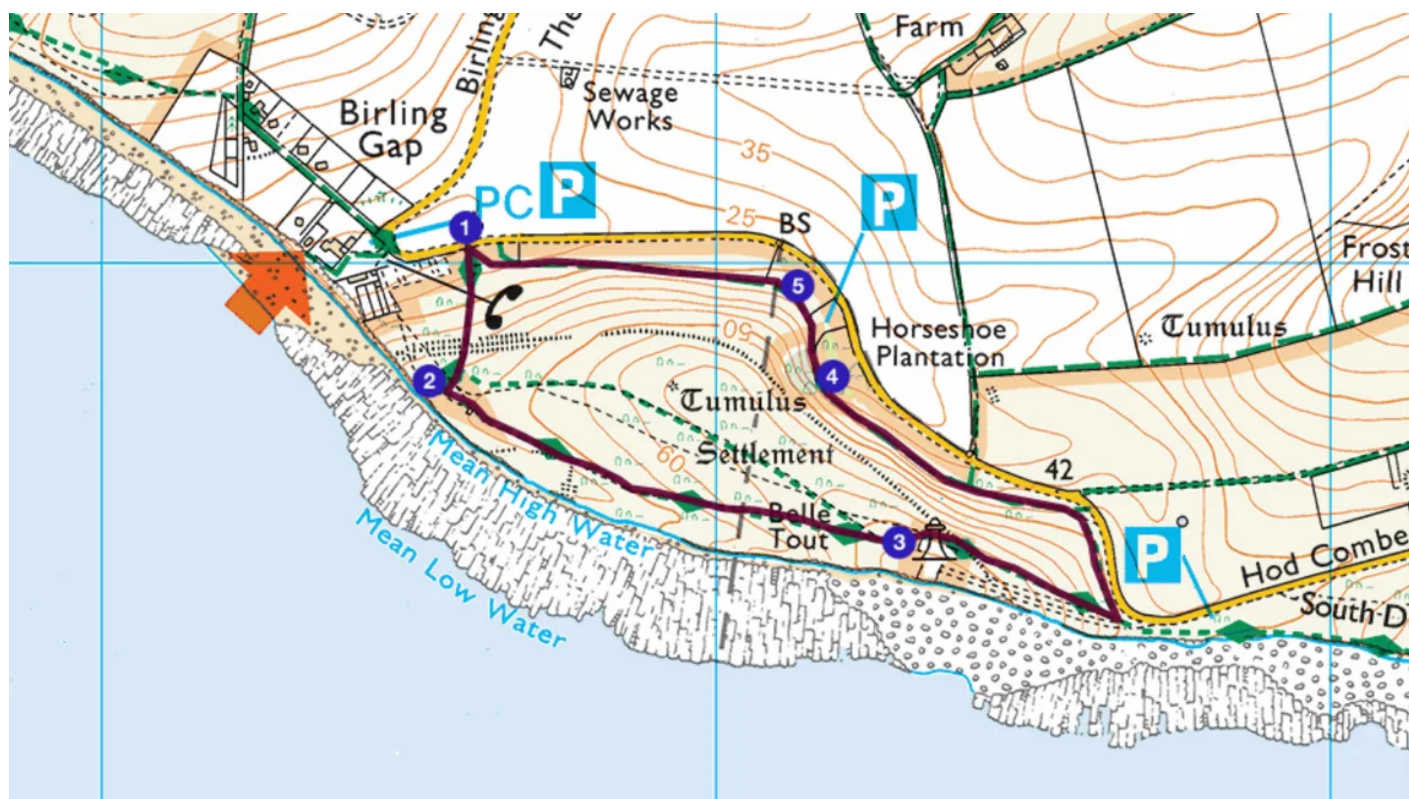


SUSSEX

Bounding up to Belle Tout at Birling Gap

Take a wander up to Mad Jack Fuller's folly on this relaxing circular walk and enjoy some sweeping sea and downland views, as well as wonderful flora and the Beachy Head lighthouse.



Information

Address: Birling Gap bus stop (westbound), East Dean, near Eastbourne, BN20 0AB

OS map: Explorer 123

Activity: Walking

Easy: Some slopes, steps and uneven terrain. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome.

Full trail: Miles: 2 (km: 3.2)

Duration: 1 hour

Terrain

Some slopes, steps and uneven terrain. There is a fairly steep hill to walk up to reach the top of the coastal downland. At certain times of year there will be stock grazing so electric fences with access gates may be found across the route.

Total steps: 5

Start point: Birling Gap car park by the coastguard station, grid ref: TV554960

1. From the bus stop follow the fingerpost with a yellow arrow saying 'South Downs Way'. Walk up the path and through the gate with the National Trust 'The Lookout' sign and follow this path up the hill to another fingerpost. Follow this fingerpost and take the path bearing left along the clifftop or through the scrub.
2. At the top, head towards the lighthouse either along the clifftop path or through the scrub.
3. Follow the path to the left of the lighthouse. Continue to follow the old access track down the hill. This will afford wonderful views towards Beachy Head and the candy-striped lighthouse. At the bottom of the path turn left to head back towards Birling Gap.
4. Continue walking along the track around the base of the hill. This will take you through a small dappled woodland known as the Horseshoe Plantation, much loved by dragonflies and migrating birds.
5. Continue along the track and this will take you back to the car park from where you started.

End point: Birling Gap car park by the coastguard station, grid ref: TV554960