

Freedom Pass Circuit

Section 2: Swanley to Knockholt

Distance: 5.16 mi 8.26 km via Well Hill, 4.69 mi 7.50 km via Chelsfield

Introduction.

This section makes its way generally south from Swanley to Knockholt through mostly open agricultural country. There are two possible routes, very similar in distance. The Well Hill route is possibly a little more scenic, but a lot noisier due to its proximity to the M25. There is one pub on each route: one a little after Well Hill and the other in Chelsfield Village.

There are a few steps and a lot of stiles. Some paths are rather overgrown and some may be muddy after rain.

There are cafes and pubs in Swanley.

Directions.

Leave Swanley station by the north exit (by platform 4). Go straight on along Everest Place, turn left into St Mary's Road, and take the next left into Southern Place.

Carry straight on to the footpath, which takes you over the railway and then turns right and goes alongside it. Shortly after going under the bypass, turn left along the edge of a field.

Turn right at the war memorial.

After a while the road starts going downhill. At Bridleways Cottage, take the track on the right and then the footpath.

On the brow of the hill turn left.

Go straight across the road, into Tylers Green Road.

At the left bend, turn right into Darns Hill.

Via Well Hill:

At the fork, take the left branch.

Keep straight ahead with a breeze-block wall on your left. Then go left then right, aiming to the left of a solitary tree and then keep straight ahead. The path is not at all obvious here. It used to be along the boundary of two fields, which appear to have been merged into one.

At the far end of the field, go through a squeeze gate and turn left.

Aim to the right of a shed, beyond

Via Chelsfield:

At the fork take the right branch.

Keep straight ahead at the next intersection.

When the track bends left, go straight ahead through the kissing gate.

Keep going in the same general direction through several more kissing gates, and then along a track with a wood on the left.

Cross the road, go through a kissing

which is a Daltons Road. Reach the road through another squeeze gate.

Turn right along the road.

At the right bend, take the footpath to the left and cross the field.

On reaching the other side, bear left.

Just after the brow of the hill, turn right.

Keep straight ahead on this path, across another field, then between paddocks, then alongside the motorway.

Go up the steps, across the road, and down the steps on the other side.

Keep alongside the motorway until the path bends right. Keep on the path.

Bear right onto the track. Cross the road, and carry on along the path beside Pentober.

Keep on the track past the Mission Church.

Carry on straight ahead along the path at the next road crossing.

When you come out of the wood, turn left and follow the track down to the road.

Turn sharp left up the road. After a short distance, take the footpath on the right, next to Rockfield.

Go over the first stile and make your way round the left edge of the field.

Go over the next stile, and keep going in the same general direction.

Go over the third stile. Then cross the field diagonally, aiming a little to the left of the white house.

Cross the road with a stile on either side. (There is a pub a couple of minutes along the road to the right.)

Cross the field to the stile over on the left on the opposite side, and go over it.

Head straight down through the middle of the next two fields, going over the stiles at the end of each.

gate, bear slightly right and carry on in the same general direction as before.

After another kissing gate, ignore a kissing gate on the left, but go through one straight ahead.

Cross another road through two more kissing gates.

Keep straight ahead on the path, between fields, through a wood, and across another field.

Bear left along the edge of another wood.

After the corner of the wood, keep straight ahead across another field.

Turn left along the road, and walk into Chelsfield.

In the village, cross the main road and go up the steps opposite.

Cross the cricketfield diagonally, aiming towards a bench on the left-hand side. Carry on along the footpath.

Go over two more stiles, then bear right.

Keep on the track as it takes you past an orchard, and turn left round it.

Shortly after the orchard, go over a stile on the right and head diagonally to the left between a carpark and the main road.

Bear left onto a track, and follow it parallel to the main road all the way to the end, where it joins the main road.

Cross the main road, and take the obscure path just to the right of the metal fence, up onto the golf course.

The path bends left then right, then crosses a fairway.

On the other side, go through a gap in the line of trees, then bear left with the line of trees on your left.

Turn right onto a concrete path.

Then turn right.

Turn right when you meet the road, and walk away from the roundabout.

After a short distance, take the footpath on the left across a field.

Cross the next road, and take the footpath almost opposite slightly offset to the right.

Bear left round the putting green, and then round to the right with a dual carriageway below on the left.

A little further on, turn left onto a concrete path.

Cross over the dual carriageway on a bridge.

Carry straight on down the hill and over the railway line. Knockholt station is on your right.