

HOLMER GREEN WALKS

Walk 1: Holmer Green to Hyde Heath, via Little Missenden (west)

Destination: Hyde Heath cricket ground where there are lots of benches for a picnic

Distance: 5.0 km each way (total 10.0 km or 6.25 miles)

Ascent: 60m descent and ascent each way

Return: The same way, so **make sure you memorise where you have come from at each junction**. If you get lost keep walking SOUTH till you find somewhere you recognise – remember: your shadow points roughly north for much of the day

Start: **Holmer Green – Lynford Parade** shops

1. **From the shops**, set off down the hill towards the pond, crossing Earl Howe Road at the crossroads and continue straight on towards the bus shelter along Pond Approach.
2. Keep walking for 400m (crossing over Clementi Avenue and Sheepbarn Dell Road) to the Bat & Ball pub (note its fine flinty construction) on the corner of a T-Junction, and **turn right** into Penfold Lane.
3. Proceed along Penfold Lane for 600m, passing Penfold Cottages on the right and **IGNORING** the public footpath sign opposite on the left. Cross Winters Way and **immediately** take the public bridleway **on the left** (the signpost on the left may be hidden by vegetation) – this is Kingstreet Lane, although there is no street name.

4. Proceed along Kingstreet Lane in all for 2.5km. About halfway along you pass through woodland on each side (Coleman's Wood) where there is normally a superb display of bluebells in the Spring. After the woods the track begins the descent into Little Missenden.
5. The track narrows into a path and eventually begins to bear right, then in another 100m it gently turns left. Shortly after this the path crosses a track with open fields both sides, follow the blue public bridleway arrow opposite and go **straight on**.
6. After approx 100m along this path there is a crossroads of public footpaths with a gate each side. Here **turn right** through the gate and into a field. Follow the path across the field towards some white houses in the distance. (If you miss this footpath you will arrive at the road anyway, where you can turn right instead of Step 7).
7. At the first white house, go through a gate and drop down into the road **turning right**.
8. Keep walking for 300m, passing Highmore Cottages on the right, and look for a medium-height grey brick wall on the left which is the boundary of the churchyard. Just before this wall take the public footpath **on the left**, through a gate.


The church at Little Missenden, St John the Baptist, has a good number of benches in the churchyard if you want to make this your destination. Also a very fine porch with benches either side if it's raining and you need somewhere dry to eat your sandwiches.

9. Walk away from the road keeping to the right-hand field boundary, and make for a concrete bridge that crosses the River Misbourne (stop here to admire how pretty the river is).
10. At the far end of the field go through the gate and up onto the A413. WITH GREAT CARE cross the road and take the path **dead opposite**, through a gap in the hedge.



11. The path climbs up across a field and into the woods. Up and over the railway bridge, and you meet a T-Junction of footpaths. Here **turn left** into Mantles and Farthing Woods.
12. After 350m, at a fork in the path and a post bearing public footpath signs, keep **straight on** (i.e. don't go down to the left). Keep on for another 1km, the foot-

path widening into a track with the field boundary on your right. As you come out of the woods you pass through a gateway, keep straight on.

13. At the road (Hyde Heath Road) **turn right** – there may be a gate, or wide farm gates left open. Proceed along the road for 300m, **IGNORING** a public footpath sign on the left. Cross a lane on the right (Bullbaiters Lane), and almost opposite **on the left** is Hyde Heath Common where there is the cricket ground, and several wooden benches on the far side.
14. There is a pub approx 100m further along the road, and less than 100m further on still, a village shop at a road junction.



15. Return to Holmer Green the same way, or you could take the road at the village shop (Brays Lane / Chalk Lane), follow it down to the A413, opposite to Little Missenden and follow the signposts back to Holmer Green.



Maps

<https://streetmap.co.uk/prf.srf?x=491405&y=198062&z=115&sv=491405,198062&st=4&ar=Y&mapp=prf.srf&searchp=s.srf&dn=705&ax=490500&ay=197500&lm=1>
<https://www.streetmap.co.uk/prf.srf?x=492445&y=199910&z=115&sv=492445,199910&st=4&ar=Y&mapp=prf.srf&searchp=s.srf&dn=705&ax=492445&ay=199910&lm=1>