

Rowlands Castle 5.5miles via Stansted Forest, South Holt Farm, Finchdean Ascent 510'

A fairly flat walk from Rowlands Castle alongside Stansted Forest to Forestside and back through South Holt Farm.



Meet on the green in Rowlands Castle opposite the hardware shop (SU733107). You may be able to park around the green or at the railway station.

Go through the LH arch of the bridge past The Castle pub, then cross the road to go through a gap in the wall. Almost immediately turn L over a bridge and follow the path ahead to a gate into a field. The path goes parallel to the fence, then through a kissing gate (KG), then another KG. Keep straight ahead to the next KG, turn L to a KG into a strip of woodland. Follow the path to a KG out of the wood, and turn R along the edge of the field to a KG on to a narrow path. Follow this straight ahead to a wider track and up to a road.

Turn L past the church, then after a few metres go R into Forest Piece. Bear L along the edge of the woodland, then turn L through a gate to a path across a field to Forestside. Go a short distance L along the road, then cross to a path by a farm. At the end of this path turn L and follow the track downhill to a crossing track by a thatched cottage. Turn R and follow the track uphill to South Holt Farm. Turn L past the farmhouse and follow the road downhill. Just after Adam's Copse take the path on the R and follow it down under the railway. It comes out over a stile by the George pub.

Turn L along the pavement for a few metres, then cross the road to go up White Hill. The traffic can come down here rather fast – single file in a group. When the road turns sharp R take a path L through a gate and go across the field to another gate. Follow the lane ahead until it turns R – take a path to your L past a house. Look out for this turning it, can be easily missed. Come out onto a road, follow this to the main road and turn L back to the starting point.