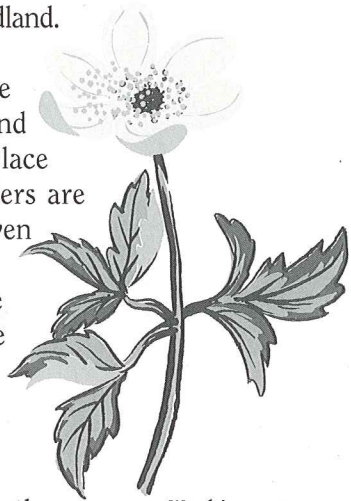


Fairlight Walk

From the quiet rural village of Pett, the walk strikes off across farmland towards Fairlight. The route meanders across fields with livestock, past quietly running streams and through coppiced woodland. The views are magnificent across a valley and out to sea, and it seems as though little has changed in the landscape for hundreds of years. In springtime the copses are a mass of bluebells, a sure sign of ancient woodland.

At Fairlight the path turns back through Knowle Wood and Fairlight Village, along the clifftops to Cliff End where you can walk down to the beach. This is a place steeped in history. Tales of shipwrecks and smugglers are plentiful, and with some careful searching you can even find traces of dinosaur footprints! (They appear as a three-toed, clover-shaped cast). Stone Age people once lived in a forest which is now the beach. As the sea level rose, the forest became submerged, but at low tide you can still see evidence of 5000 year-old branches, roots and trunks emerging from the sand.



Wood Anemone
- These delicate white flowers appear in ancient woodlands in early spring, before the bluebells.

Sweet Chestnut
- The quick growing Chestnut is a popular coppice wood. It is durable and easy to split, making it ideal for fencing.

Once you have finished exploring the beach the path will take you inland again, through rolling farmland, before climbing out of the valley back to Pett.

Here you can reward yourself by sampling the ale made at Pett's own brewery.

**Approximately 8 miles long,
the route takes 3-4 hours to walk.
If you plan to visit the beach,
please check the tide times to avoid
being caught by the incoming tide.**

