



High Weald AONB Unit

- Facts and Figures -

Item	Statistic	Source
Date of designation	October 1983	Countryside Agency
High Weald AONB area	1,461 square kilometres 146,170.7 hectares (ha) 564 square miles	Natural England
Length of coastline in AONB	9.7km	Ordnance Survey Landline Data
Administration	4 County Councils 11 District or Borough Councils 99 Parishes (All wholly or partly within AONB)	Ordnance Survey (Administrative Boundaries) Natural England (AONB Boundaries)
Highest point	Crowborough Beacon 240m (787ft)	Ordnance Survey (1:25,000)
AONB lithology	37% clay 24% sandstone 37% silty sandstone	Summarised from British Geological Survey data
Total woodland area	35,905ha (24.6% of AONB)	National Inventory of Woods and Trees NIWT (Forestry Commission 2002)
Percentage of England's woodlands in the High Weald	3.4%	(As above)
Total ancient woodland area	25,773ha (17.6% of AONB)	Calculated in GIS, (Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventory 2007)
Percentage of total woodland that's coppice	8.8% of AONB (4.4% GOSE Region)	National Inventory of Woods and Trees NIWT (Forestry Commission 2002)
Percentage of total woodland that's ancient	69.6% (65–75%)	Indicative figure only
Area of plantations on ancient woodland sites in High Weald (PAWS)	8,023ha (5.4% of AONB) 31% of ancient woodland in High Weald is plantation	Calculated in GIS, (Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventory 2007)
Number of unimproved grasslands	305 (655ha)	Weald Meadows Initiative database (High Weald AONB Unit)
Length of historic routeways	785km	High Weald AONB Unit (2008)
Surviving field boundaries	36% (approx.)	High Weald AONB Unit – % of current

Item	Statistic	Source
		field boundaries which have been there since Epoch 1 map (c.1850)
Area of heathland in AONB	1930.5ha 1.3% of AONB 65.5% of which is on Ashdown Forest	High Weald AONB Unit & Ashdown Forest Conservators
Number of farms	3,170 farm holdings	Defra June Agricultural Census (2007)
Farmed area (crops and grassland)	67.5% of AONB	Defra June Agricultural Census (2007)
Agricultural grassland (temporary, permanent & rough grazing)	39.2% of AONB	Defra June Agricultural Census (2007)
Area of woodland on farms	12,369ha	Defra June Agricultural Census (2007)
Area of farms under agri-environment schemes	56,700ha	Natural England (Winter 2007)
Population*	124,880	Census (2001)
Population density*	0.85 people per hectare	Census (2001)
Length of footpaths	2,163km	Local Authorities
Length of bridleways	332km	Local Authorities
Largest town	Battle (over 6,000 people)	Census (2001)
Known tourist accommodation providers in the AONB	462	High Weald AONB Unit Database (May 2008)
Agricultural workforce	4,500	Defra June Agricultural Census (2007)
Protected areas	Ashdown Forest SAC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) (European)
“	Hastings Cliffs SAC	JNCC (European)
“	Ashdown Forest SPA	JNCC (European)
“	SSSI 50 (5,535ha)	Natural England (National)
“	LWS/SNCI 202(10,663ha)	The Wildlife Trusts (Local)
Scheduled ancient monuments (SAMS)	111	Local Authorities
Listed buildings	4,875 (I, II*, II)	English Heritage (2008)
Historic parks and gardens	61	English Heritage/Parks & Gardens Register (2008)
Historic farmsteads	3,703 (farmsteads & outfarms)	High Weald Unit (February 2008)

*Summarised for wards wholly or partly within the High Weald