Berry's Green to Pratts Bottom

Via Knockholt Church

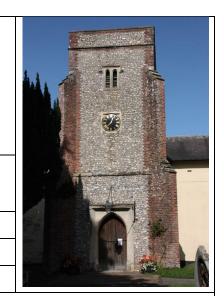
A walk taking an indirect route through attractive and varied landscapes in the border areas between Bromley and Kent.

Please read the Bromley Pub Walks <u>introductory notes</u> for explanation about information provided in these walking guides.

Approx. Distance: 5.8 miles

Approx. Time: 2.25 hours

Please note that there are shorter routes available between Berry's Green and Pratts Bottom.



Gradients:

• The route passes through undulating terrain and includes some sections with steep gradients

Type(s) of path(s):

Grass, woodland paths or gravel paths, plus some tarmac

Stiles / Gates:

This route has numerous stiles and some kissing gates. Some of the stiles are high

Road Walking: (roads without footway)

- This route contains some sections involving walking along roads without footways:
- A

- Berry's Green Rd, approx. 500 yds.Newbarn Lane, approx. 200 yds.
- Newbarr Larie, approx. 200 yus
- Thrift Lane, approx. 200 yds.
- Washneys Lane, approx. 200 yds.
- Lambardes Close / Norsted Lane, approx. 200 yds.

Livestock or crops:

This route includes paths through fields containing crops or livestock, including horses

OS Grid References:

Berry's Green: TQ 418595Pratts Bottom: TQ 472623

Maps:

- OS 1:25 000, No. 147
- Parts of the route are covered by Bromley Council walking guides, which include maps: 'Berry's Green' and 'Green St Green'



Connections to other Bromley Pub Walks

- From Berry's Green:
 - 14 to Downe
 - 16 to Biggin Hill [Black Horse]
 - 17 to Biggin Hill [Aperfield]
 - 18/18a to Cudham
- From Pratts Bottom:
 - 10 to Farnborough
 - 12 to Downe
 - 19 to Cudham
 - 20 to Green St Green
 - 24 to Chelsfield Village
 - 25 to Knockholt Stn.
 - 51 to Halstead
 - 53 to Knockholt Pound
- Sections of this route include paths also form part of other Bromley Pub walks routes:
 - 10 Pratts Bottom to Farnborough
 - 12 Pratts Bottom to Downe
 - 19 to Cudham
 - 20 Pratts Bottom to Green St Green
 - 32 Knockholt Stn. to Cudham
 - 53 Pratts Bottom to Knockholt Pound
 - 54 Downe to Knockholt Pound
- In two places, this route also goes within about 200/400 yds. of the following route, and connection is possible via public footpaths:
 - 55 Biggin Hill [Aperfield] to Knockholt Pound

Pubs:

- Berry's Green:
 - Old Jail, Jail Lane, Biggin Hill. TN16 3AX
- Pratts Bottom:
 - Bull's Head, Rushmore Hill, Pratts Bottom. BR6 7NQ

Public Transport:

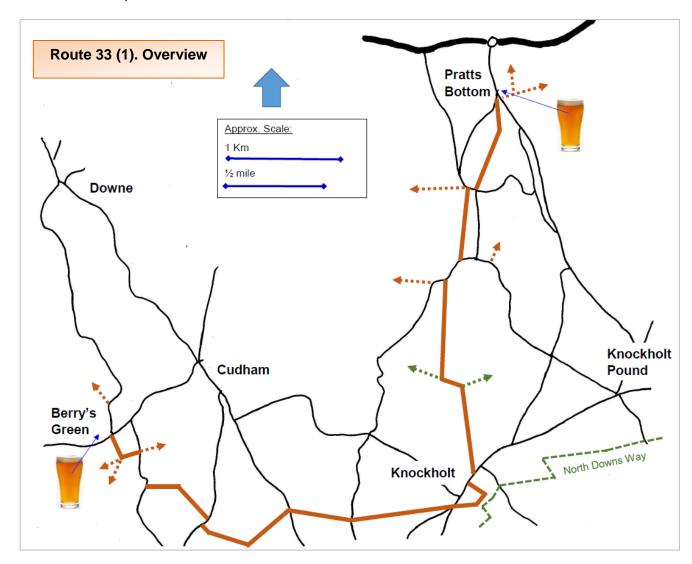
- Berry's Green:
 - R8 Orpington to Biggin Hill
 - Note that additional public transport options are available in Biggin Hill, approx. 1.8 miles via Route 16
- Pratts Bottom:
 - R5 Orpington circular: Orpington > Green St Green > Pratts Bottom > Halstead > Knockholt
 Cudham > Green St Green > Orpington
 - R10 Orpington circular (as above, but in the opposite direction)
 - Note that a rail travel option is available at Knockholt Stn, approx. 1.6 miles via Route 25

Notes:

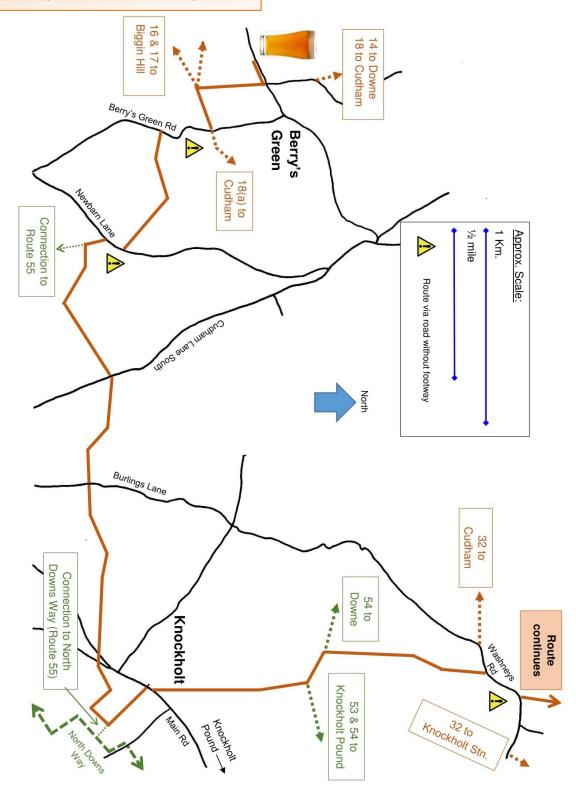
- Please note that that there are shorter routes available between Berry's Green and Pratts Bottom,
 this longer, but indirect, route is included because it passes through attractive varied landscapes
- Several of the woodland areas on this route have masses of bluebells and primroses in spring
- At Knockholt, and near Newbarn Lane, this route passes with about 200 / 400 yds. of Route 55 (Biggin Hill [Aperfield] to Knockholt Pound) and connection to that route is possible via public footpaths

Sketch Maps:

- There are 4 sketch maps for Route 33:
 - 1. Overview of route
 - 2. Berry's Green to Washneys Rd
 - 3. Washneys Rd to Pratts Bottom
 - 4. Detail of path diversion at Port Hill



Route 33 (2). Berry's Green to Washney's Rd



The Route:

Starting at Old Jail, Berry's Green

- Take the permissive path which is almost opposite to the entrance/exit to the car park (the 2nd entrance, furthest from the pub), as this avoids walking along the road. Just beyond the bus stop turn sharp right and follow the fenced path through fields and horse pastures until you reach a junction of paths adjacent to a stile onto the golf course
- For Routes 16 to Biggin Hill [Black Horse] and 17 to Biggin Hill [Aperfield] go via paths across the golf course
- Turn left here, away from the golf course, and follow the path until reaching Berry's Green Rd
- Route 18a (the alternative route) to Cudham goes straight ahead here, through the mobile home site

Berry's Green Rd

 Turn right and walk along Berry's Green Rd (no footway) for approx. 500 yds. taking suitable care as there are sharp blind bends



 Turn left into a gravel track (signposted to Newbarn Lane). This path then takes a winding undulating course through woodland, then via a stile onto a fenced path through an open field, to a gate and stile with steps down onto Newbarn Lane

Newbarn Lane

 Turn right into Newbarn Lane and walk along the road (no footway) for approx. 200 yds. then take the narrow path on the left (just after the access drive to a house)



- This undulating path follows the fence for a short distance until reaching the junction with a farm track, where the route turns left
- For the optional connection to Route 55, continue to walk straight ahead for about 400yds to join Route 55 at the kissing gate and stile
- The public footpath runs via a narrow path between hedgerows. At the time of survey (April 2021) this path was very overgrown. If the farm gate is open, a much easier walking route is possible downhill through the field, following the hedgerow, until meeting the (overgrown) path at the next gate. Follow the path through into the next field
- NB. This point is the bottom of a dry valley. You now have a climb of approx. 65m up to Cudham Lane South!
- The path continues straight ahead up the hill, initially following the hedgerow through the field and then into woodland
- At a T junction in the woods, take the path to the left, which continues to climb up the hill, until
 eventually meeting a track which becomes Thrift Lane (no footway) and joins Cudham Lane South
- Cudham Lane South marks the boundary between Bromley and Kent

Cudham Lane South

- Go directly across Cudham Lane South onto a path via a stile. After the gate into a large open field go diagonally right across the field to the far corner to another stile
- The path continues towards the left through 2 further fields, then via a stile onto a track leading to Burlings Lane
- Cross Burlings Lane and follow the path through horse pastures via stiles
- The path then follows an undulating and winding course through the edge of woodland, gradually climbing until reaching a meadow, just before joining Main Rd at the junction with Brasted Lane

Main Rd / Brasted Lane

- The route can be shortened by approx. half a mile by turning left and walking along Main Rd until reaching the church. However, approx. 100yds of this route has no footway
- Go straight across Main Rd onto the grassed area and then straight across Brasted Lane into a path in the hedgerow

- The path goes towards the left, following the hedge / fence, then diagonally across a small field towards a copse where the route goes sharp left, before joining a large arable field
- Note that there are multiple well-walked paths in this vicinity, therefore the use of the OS may be of assistance
- The public footpath now requires us to go round 'two and a half sides of a square' around the large field (see sketch map No 2)
- For an optional connection to Route 55, turn right at a T junction, joining the North Downs Way signage after about 200yds
- The path leaves the large field via the remains of a former stile in the hedgerow, then crosses a small field to re-join Main Rd, adjacent to the former Crown Inn (closed approx. 2009).

Main Rd

- Cross the road, turn right and walk along the footway to the church. Walk through the churchyard to the gate on the far side
- Go through the gate, then diagonally right towards the buildings, to a stile in the far right corner
- After the stile continue straight on along the track following the wall, then via a stile into fields, now following the hedgerow
- On a clear day there are good views over central London and Canary Wharf
- Upon entering a very large open field, go slightly left across the field, heading downhill towards the trees running along the far boundary
- Within the wooded area, down a slope, is a (surprisingly well-concealed) stile into the next field
- Once you have located the stile, go over into an open field
- Turn right after the stile for Routes 53 & 54 to Knockholt Pound
- Turn left after the stile and walk down to the next stile in the bottom left corner of the field, leading onto a gravel track
- Cross the track and take yet another stile straight ahead, onto path which climbs very steeply through a small wooded area (slope can be slippery when wet). At the edge of the wood the path enters a large open field
- The stile on the left is for Route 54 to Downe
- Keeping the fence on your left, continue to the far end of the field, to a stile adjacent to the farm gate
- Go over the stile onto a track in a forestry yard and continue straight ahead, taking the stile into woodland (recently cleared at the time of survey). The path follows a winding route through the woods until reaching another open field
- Turn right and follow the field hedge/fence boundary to the gate onto Washneys Rd

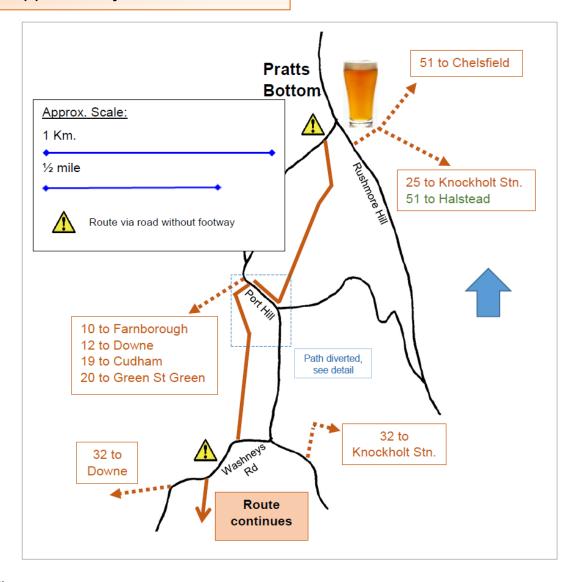
Washneys Rd

 Turn right into Washneys Rd (no footway) and walk with care for approx. 200 yards until reaching a path on the left, (signposted to Pratts Bottom) accessed via a chain gate



- Route 32 to Knockholt Stn, continues along Washneys Rd
- Washneys Rd is the boundary between Kent and Greater London. The remainder of this walk is in Bromley
- Follow the well-defined path, mostly between hedges, and then through woodland until reaching
 Port Hill
- <u>Important Note:</u> The public footpath has been (legally) diverted in this vicinity, and now follows a
 route different to that shown on the OS Map. (See sketch map on page 8)
- The diverted path eventually reaches a steel gate onto Port Hill.

Route 33 (3). Washney's Rd to Pratts Bottom



Port Hill

- Turn left on Port Hill for Routes 10 to Farnborough, 12 to Downe, 19 to Cudham and 20 to Green
 St Green
- Go straight across Port Hill and through another gate into an open field. Turn right, and then walk uphill, parallel to the hedge. NB this is a new public footpath, although it is not signposted as such. Continue walking until reaching a 3rd steel gate onto the bridleway
- Turn left onto the bridleway and follow it as it gently descends towards Pratts Bottom. Note that vehicles use the track towards the end of the bridleway (Lambardes Close / Norsted Lane)

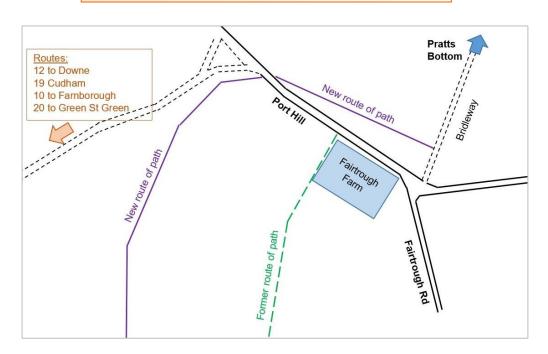


The track eventually emerges via Norsted Lane on the village green, opposite the Bulls Head pub

Starting at Pratts Bottom

- The route starts on the green opposite the Bulls Head
- Take Norsted Lane then left into the bridleway (signposted to Knockholt)

4. Sketch of path diversion at Port Hill



The Bromley Pub Walk guides

have been prepared and published by Bromley CAMRA to encourage members and others to enjoy walking in the rural areas of Bromley and to visit the many pubs and clubs on the routes.

If you have any comments about the Bromley Pub Walk guides please send an email to:

walking@bromley.camra.org.uk

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