

# Yalding-Nettlestead Walk Summary

**Distance:** 6 miles (9.5 km) allow 2.5hrs

**Start/finish:** Yalding - The Anchor Inn

**Ground conditions:** The walk covers a variety of terrain of open fields, hills, woodland and road. There are several stiles, two crossings over the railway line, some of the route is along roads- which are generally quiet, but care must be taken.

**Views:** There are some good views of the valley near Roydon Hall

**Refreshments:** There are various pubs and tea shops at Yalding. Including Teapot Island (01622 814541) and the Anchor Inn (01622 814359)

**Toilets:** No public toilets.

**Grid Ref:** The Anchor Inn TQ 687, 503

**Ordnance Survey map:** Explorer 148

## Travel Info

### Parking

Parking is available on the roadside by the canal for free or is available at the Lees. There is charge for parking at the Lees

### Bus

Buses go regularly from the Maidstone and Tonbridge direction to Yalding station.

### Train

The train stations in Wateringbury and Yalding are very close to the walk, and you can easily start or finish your walk in either of these locations

### By road

From the theA228, take the B2015, followed by B2162 to Yalding

FOR MORE INFO ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT GO TO [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info) OR CALL **0871 200 22 33**



The River Medway near Nettlestead

**Medway Valley Countryside Partnership (MVCP)** is a not for profit organisation that works to enhance and protect the local countryside in the boroughs of Maidstone and Tonbridge. MVCP encourage people to explore and enjoy this unique part of Kent.

These leaflets have been produced by the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership as part of their Riverside Communities Project.

To find out more about the Partnership and the Riverside Communities Project visit [www.medwayvalley.org](http://www.medwayvalley.org) or call **01622 683695**

This leaflet is available in alternative formats.

The information on this leaflet is for guidance only and condition may vary. For any problems concerning the paths, please tell us on Kent Report Line **0845 345 0210**



With kind support from the Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation and the Ernest Cook Trust

Yalding-Nettlestead River Walk

An interesting walk starting from Yalding's Teapot museum and taking you past orchards and hop fields, through the countryside to Nettlestead and back along the river.



Hampstead Locks



Supported by  
**The National Lottery**  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



# Yalding-Nettlestead Walk



The walk described is a circular walk, from Yalding past Roydon Hall and on to Nettlestead, it can be done as a complete walk or can easily link in with the train service between Wateringbury and Yalding, giving you the option of shorter or varied routes.

The complete circular walk is about 6 miles.

From Yalding through Nettlestead and on to Wateringbury is about a 4-mile walk, with the option of getting the train back to Yalding.

From Yalding to Wateringbury is about 2 miles, and you can catch the train back.

The train journey takes about 5 minutes.

The walk takes you through land used for gamekeeping and other livestock. Dogs must be kept on leads.

## Directions & photo guide continued

**10** On leaving the woods, turn left and follow the edge of the woods for a short distance, then head up the slope to meet a gravel track.

Follow the gravel track until it bends sharp right. At this point leave the track and head across the field, aiming for the large arch at the opposite corner of the field.

At the corner of the field turn right on to the road, follow the road (for about half a mile) until you reach a T junction.

At the T-junction turn right. Follow this road for about one mile. Take care on these roads.

**11** At the next T-junction you meet a busier road, turn to your right and walk along the pavement until you are opposite the church.

Cross over the road, taking care, go through the church yard, heading to the right of the Church to a line of yews.

**12** Go through an arch into a field planted with a mixture of trees. Keep the fence on the right, taking you past Nettlestead Place.

Over a stile and cross over the railway line, joining up with the River Medway and the Medway Valley Walk.

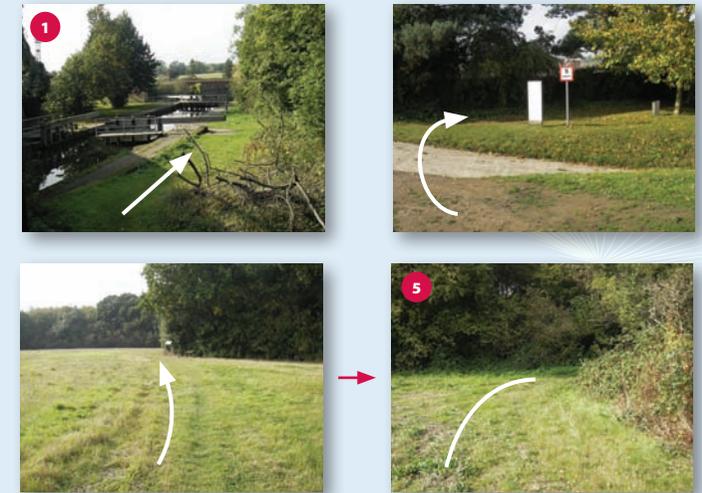
**13** To head back to Yalding turn right on to the Medway Valley Walk and follow the path with the river on your left until you are back at the Hempstead Marina and locks. Retrace your steps by crossing over the locks, back over the bridge and along the canal back to the pub and tea shop.

*Alternatively when you reach The River Medway you can head left along the Medway Valley Walk until you reach Bow bridge at Wateringbury. Cross the road for the station, and catch the train back to Yalding.*

### Yalding to Wateringbury (2-mile walk)

Follow the directions around Hampstead Lock and around the back of the slipway. When the path forks take the right-hand path and continue to follow this path through coppiced hazel, arable land and scrub until you reach Bow Bridge at Wateringbury, where you can get the train back to Yalding.

# Photo guide



## Directions

Starting at the Anchor Inn and Teapot museum at Yalding walk along the footpath with the canal on your left, towards the marina, pass the Yalding cafe and on to the bridge.

**1** At the bridge, cross the road (take care as it can be busy) to go through metal gates, and down steps down to Hampstead lock. There are two sets of gates in the railings, take the first and walk over the lock gates.

Walk around slipway to follow footpath through trees and along red brick wall by the river.

The path forks, take the left-hand fork, sign-posted Greensand Way.

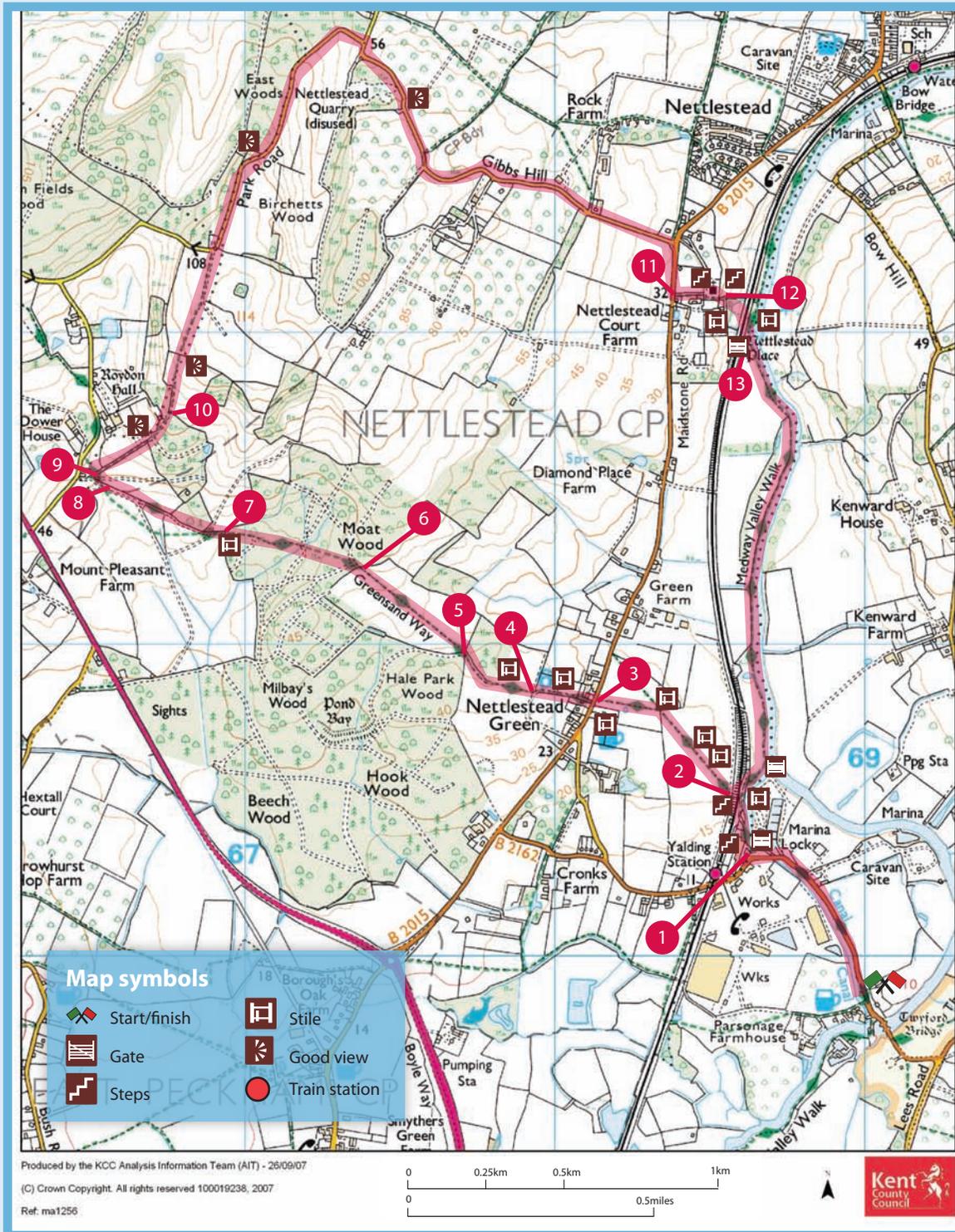
Follow the path over the railway line (take care) and up some steps

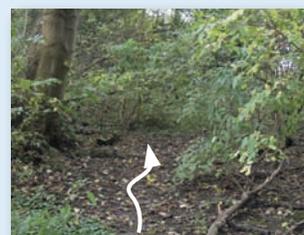
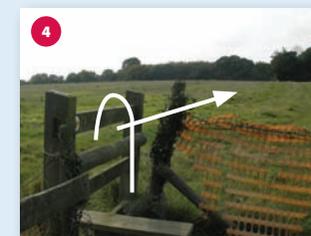
**2** Over stile and into field, head diagonally across the field to your right to meet another stile.

Over the stile and head diagonally over the field to the right hand-corner and over the stile.

Turn left to follow the edge of the field towards the houses.

Over the stile and cross the road. Take care it can be busy.





**3** Follow the footpath sign that directs you between the houses, taking the path to the left of no. 1 (looks like you are going into their garden).

Go over stile and into small field. There are often donkeys and geese in the field.

Keep to the left-hand side of the field, heading up the field to the stile in the corner.

**4** Carry on over the stile and in the same direction over the next field.

Head across field until you reach the corner of a wood

**5** Follow the edge of the wood the path bends to right and will take you through a small section of wood.

The path continues through the centre of the next field.

**6** Head into the woods, follow the path through the woods for approximately half a mile.

**7** At the edge of the woods go over a stile and follow path along the fenceline, over a gravel track and through brambles.

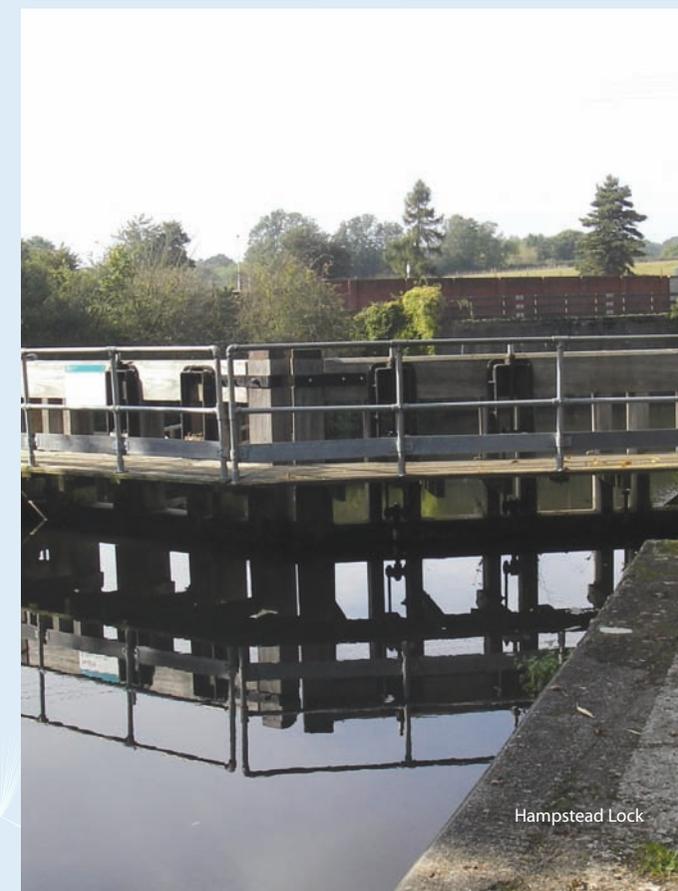
**8** The path opens out and you will reach another gravel track. Turn right onto this for a few metres.

As the gravel track bends to the left, bear right over the grass towards the edge of the wood.

**9** At the edge of the woods turn sharp right to follow the path through cleared brambles and past Roydon Hall.

The path takes you into woods.

*Continue overleaf*



Hampstead Lock