

# BUTCHER'S WOOD - SHORT WALK



45 MINS -  
1 HOUR



3KM  
CIRCULAR ROUTE



FAMILY FRIENDLY

A circular walk from Hassocks train station around Butcher's Wood and Lag Wood through ancient Oak Woodland, Hazel Coppice and a beautiful meadow. Butcher's Wood is a Woodland Trust site, Lag Wood is privately owned but has permissible routes. Please follow the countryside code leave no trace of your visit (including cleaning up after your dog if you have one).



Credit: James Ratchford/ WTML

## THIS WALK WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY LOST WOODS VOLUNTEER JAMES

### WHAT I LOVED ABOUT THIS WALK

The variety of habitat between the beautiful ancient woodland, it's edge leading to the meadow and the old coppiced Hornbeams. You can see and hear insects and birds. I also loved the dramatic views of the South Downs.

### TOP TIPS

Bring wellies in periods of wet weather. Accessibility for wheelchairs is not good, but buggies with good wheels may be okay in the drier months.

There are some lovely cafes in Hassocks town and a good sandwich shop to stock up in before the walk. There is nowhere to pick up food once on the walk, so best to bring something before.

Project partners



# START AND END POINT (CIRCULAR WALK)



what3words location: ///payout.imprinted.dads

## GETTING THERE



Public transport is available via Hassocks train station.

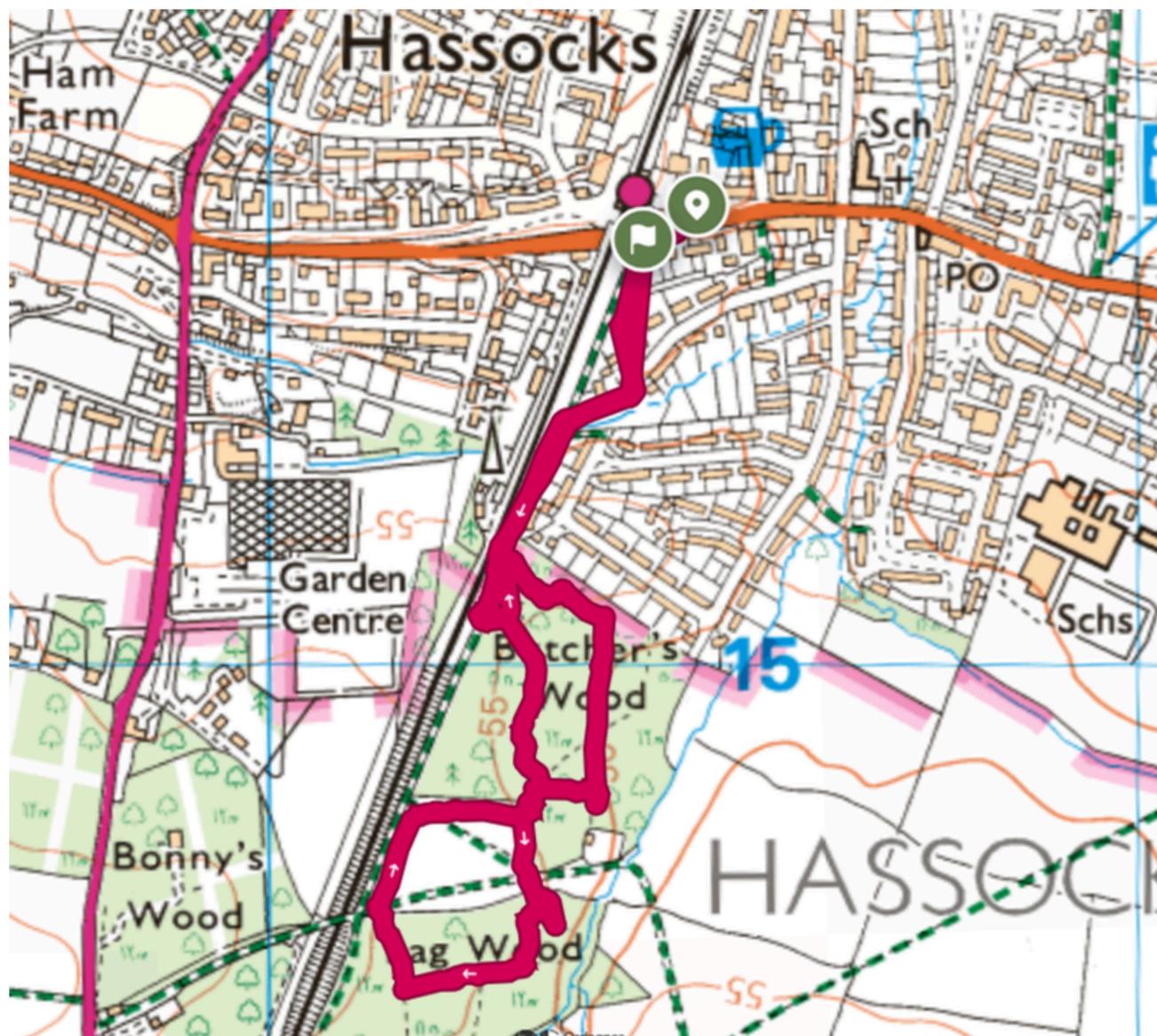
Bus routes via Compass travel and Metrobus.

There are a number of places to park on the street or in public car parks in Hassocks.

## FACILITIES

- There are toilets, pubs and cafes in Hassocks town (the start and end point but none on route).

## MAP



# ROUTE DESCRIPTION

1. Start at Hassocks train station. Exit the station on the platform 2 side.

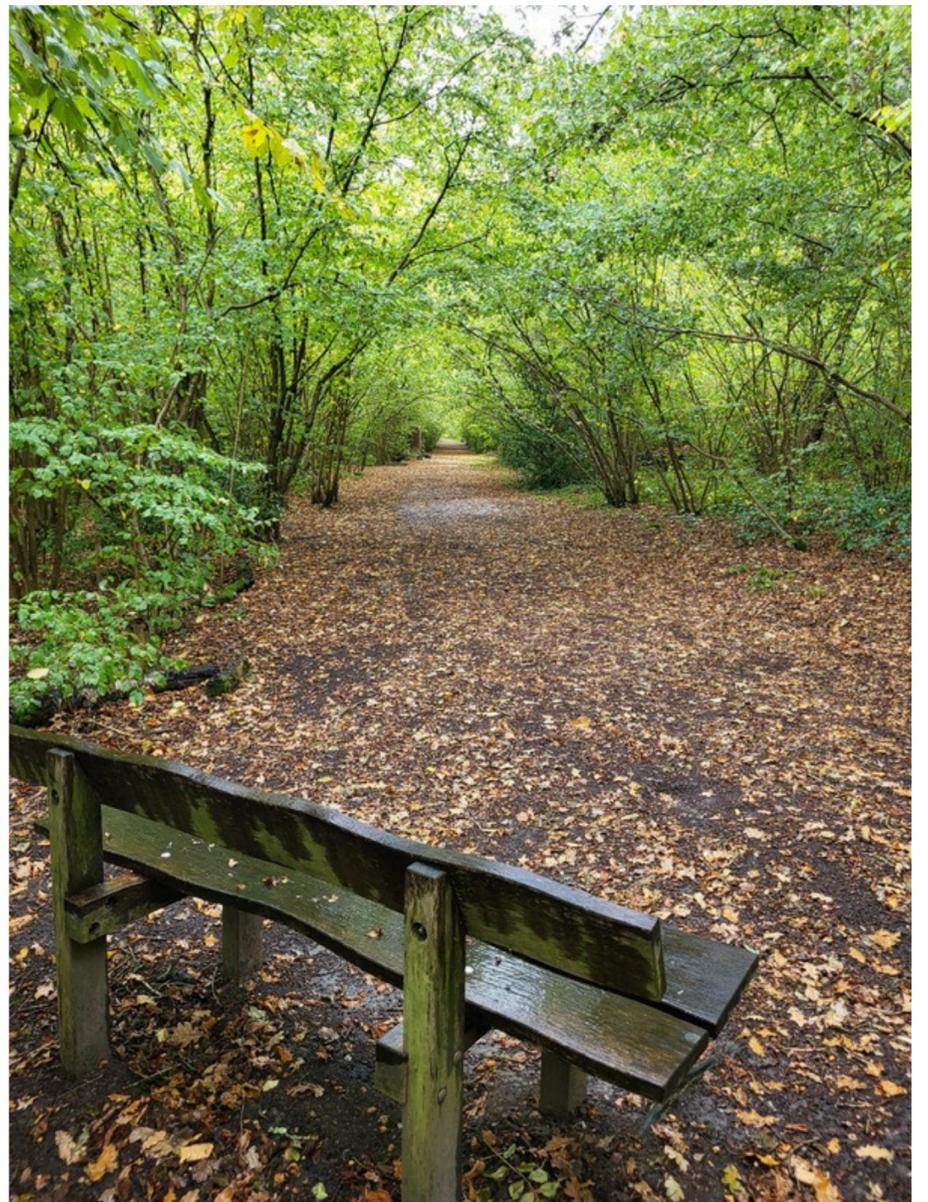
Walk towards the town centre on the right hand side of the road until you reach a South downs sign. Follow the sign and the walkway down to the road.



2. Walk down the road towards the bridge. Immediately before the bridge is a sign saying “South Downs Butchers Wood” and a public footpath sign. A flight of steps leads to a footpath which runs parallel to the railway, reaching Butchers Wood on the left in 500 metres.

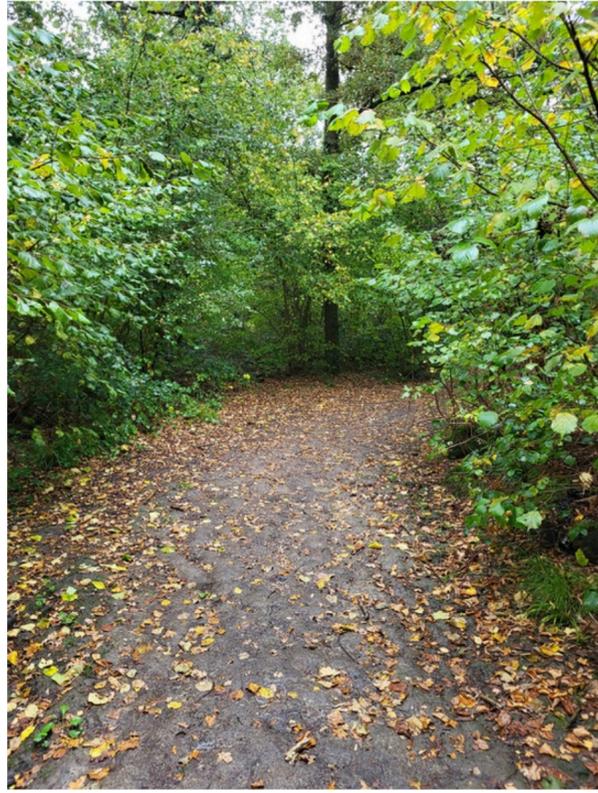


3. Go through the gate into the woods. Follow the path round to the left and take a couple more lefts until it starts to bear right. When you come to a T, go left again and follow that to a bench. It's a great place in the oak and Hazel for lunch or a cuppa.



4. After a break, take the wider path that goes straight. There's some great funghi on the deadwood down here in the Autumn.

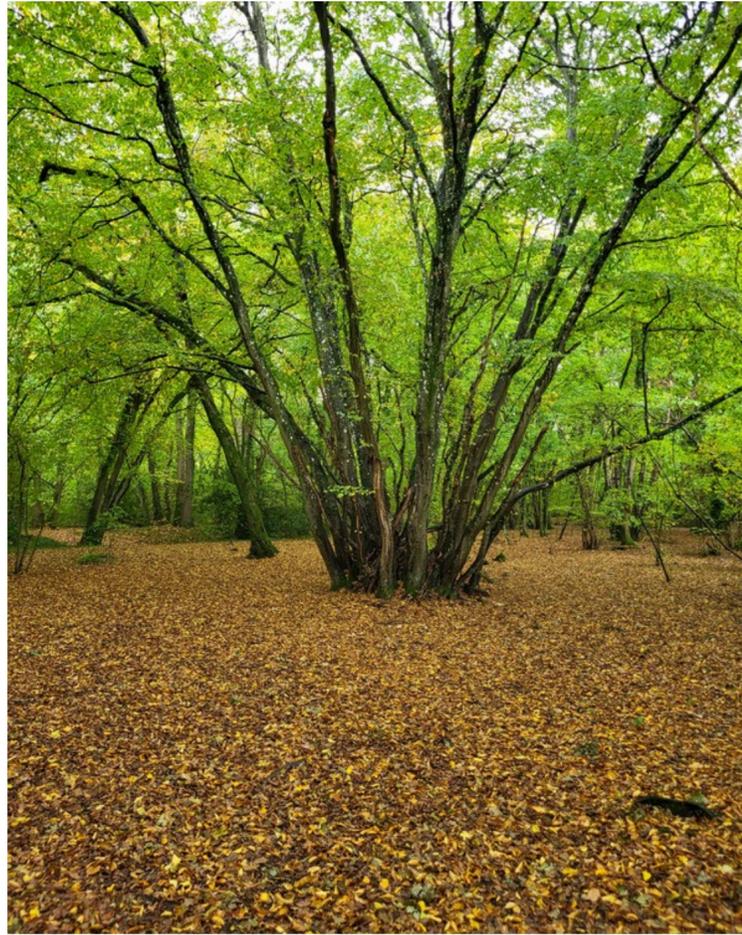
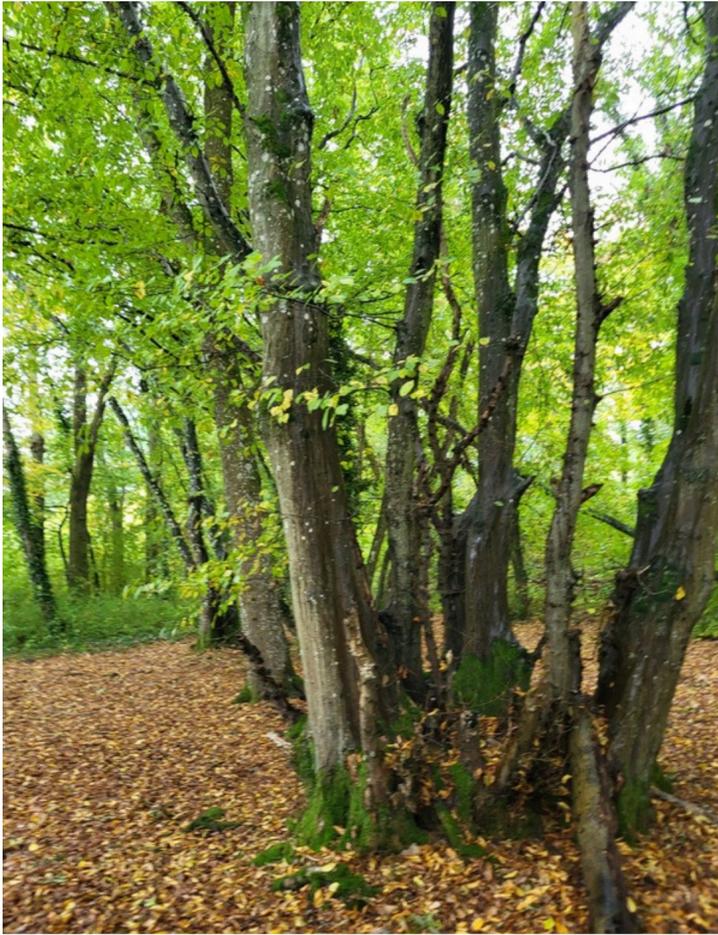
There's so many great little paths to follow and so many plants, trees and animals in here, so go and explore. But when you're ready, come back to the path and follow it straight on toward the gate to the Woodbine Cottage. Don't go into the cottage, but turn right just before. Follow that path until you get to a cross of paths and take the left path.



5. Go through the gate and into the meadow. Continue left and follow the edge of the meadow to Lag Wood on the other side.



6. Go into Lag Wood. There are some amazing old coppiced Hornbeam's here. The one to your right is classified as an Ancient Tree along with several others in Lag Wood on the Ancient Tree Inventory. Follow straightish slightly right towards the ditch and cross.



7. The path gets smaller, follow it over the roots and turn right. Continue straight until the path ends and turn right.

This path will take you out of Lag Wood back to the meadow. Walk on the left of the meadow to the other side.

The edge of the meadow is a great place to watch woodland birds find insects and berries.

When you get to the other side, turn right along the meadow edge until you get back to the gate on the edge of Butcher's Wood.

8. Go back into the woods. There is a very small path to the left which takes you to a lovely little bench to enjoy the woodland on. Feel free to follow that, but this walk will take the path on the fork next to that left.

Follow this path through the heart of the woods until you get to a T and turn left to pass back through the gate through which you first entered Butcher's Wood.

Turn right out of the gate and follow the way along the tracks back to where we started.



The Lost Woods of the Low Weald and Downs project is made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Thanks to National Lottery players, the project is bringing local people together to learn about, explore and care for woods across the Low Weald and Downs. Together, we can reconnect with our ancient woodlands and revive, restore, and protect them for future generations.

Find out more and get involved [www.lostwoods.org.uk](http://www.lostwoods.org.uk)