

LOCAL CIRCUIT SB1: ERITH AND BELVEDERE - 6.21 miles

Linked churches:

Slade Green (start and finish)

Erith Christ Church (Direction 9B: Detour 1 - see Appendix)

Erith St John the Baptist (13)

Belvedere St Augustine (29)

Belvedere All Saints (34)

Northumberland Heath (48B: Detour 2 - see Appendix)

Roads and hindrances:

The straight footpath currently OS mapped at the start (north-west from the railway footbridge) now instead zigzags its way through a partially completed development (as described in Directions 2 and 3), but finishes in the same place. The criss-crossings of the A206/A2016 are all protected (lights, underpass, footbridge), and the other roads present no special problems.

Notes taken: May and June 2020

The start and finish is at **Slade Green Church**, Slade Green Road (DA8 2LW).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the exit from Slade Green Church , turn right along the	521 770	
		roadway.		
2	3	At the railway, bend right with the road, into the estate.		
3	5	Where the roadway bends away to the right, instead (as things		
		are currently - May 2020) turn left to embark on crossing the		
		construction works along a protected walkway, which		
		proceeds by further turns, right then left, then right.		
4	7	Go leftwards along a footpath over a bridge.		
5	10	Reach the dead end of a cul-de-sac, and start along it.		
6	11	At the end turn left up a passageway leading to the main road.	517 775	
7	12	At the top turn right alongside the main road.		
8	15	[Map point] Cross to its left-hand side by means of the lights		
		(just before James Watt Way), and continue to the next junction		
		at the roundabout.		
9	19	[To visit Christ Church , now divert instead to Detour 1 in the		
		Appendix.]		
		Main route: Use the lights a little to the left to cross the		0.91
		$\overline{A220/A206}$, before then correcting to the original direction,		
		down a passageway leading in the direction of Erith station.		
10	21	But reaching the roadway at the bottom, turn right, away from		
		the station and under the main road above.		
11		Follow the road left, then right.		

^{* &}quot;Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
12	24	Reaching the main road turn left (West Street, the continuation	513 782	
		of Erith High Street), and follow it all the way to the church at		
		the end.		
13	32	Facing the lych-gate to St John the Baptist's Church , turn left		
		along Jesset Close and past the bollards.		
14	33	At the end use the footbridge on the left to cross the road.		
15	35	Coming down from the footbridge, turn left along Battle Road.		1.71
16		Turn right up Valley Road.		
17	38	At the top go ahead into Franks Park. Take the middle of the		
		three paths. Go ahead on the broad path, ignoring the first fork		
		on the right.		
18		At the next major fork keep right.		
19	42	Entering an open area, pass a ball park on the right and a		
		playground on the left, before going into trees again.		
20	45	Take the right fork.		
21	46	But ignore the next right fork.		
22	50	Leave the trees after some gentle steps downhill, merge left	496 788	
		into the road and walk uphill, crossing to its right-hand side.		
23	52	At the junction continue ahead along Halt Robin Road.		2.45
24	54	[Map point] At the next, slightly angled, junction go as straight		
		across as you can, to start along Upper Abbey Road (avoiding		
		the left fork down to Abbey Crescent).		
25	57	After house no.53 on the right, turn right down an enclosed		
26		path (Footpath 13).		
26	=0	At the bottom turn left.		
27	58	At the end turn right, and go all the way down to the end,		
28		notwithstanding the 'No Entry' sign for traffic.		
29	61	At the end turn left along the main road.		2.00
29	62	At the junction ahead turn left (St Augustine's Road) and		2.93
		immediately pass the entrance to St Augustine's Church , and		
30	66	begin the long climb to Upper Belvedere.		
30	00	Continue the ascent as the road swings left and becomes Heron Way.		
31	74	Cross the road (Lessness Park) at the top of the hill.		
32	/1	[Map point] Go into the playground through the gate on the		
		left and head diagonally across to the gate at the far corner on		
		Woolwich Road.		
33	76	Going out through the gate, use the zebra crossing a few steps		
	'0	to the left to cross Woolwich Road, and turn left on the far side.		
34	79	At the mini-roundabout cross Nuxley Road and turn right		3.62
		along its far side, at the entrance to All Saints' Church .		3.02
35	81	Turn second-left along Cheshunt Road, just after the traffic		
		constriction.		
36	83	At the T-junction at the end turn right.		
37	84	After about 70 yds. turn left along a passageway (Footpath		
		230), and follow it through its windings and down steps.		
38	86	At the bottom cross a stream by way of a footbridge on the		
		right, then go ahead, straight on up an estate road.		

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	Mins.*		OS	Miles
39	87	At the top of the road, walk up Footpath 211, which leads		
		uphill to the left, to reach the end of the terrace at house no.28.		
		The footpath is signposted (correctly) but at a slightly misleading		
		place. To reach it, after the roadway swings to the right, continue		
		straight ahead (past the signpost), keeping on the right-hand edge of		
		the parking area and heading for the wall at the right-hand edge of the		
		small service unit. Here (surprisingly) is the start of the tarmac		
		footpath. Turn left up it.		
40	88	At the junction at the top turn right along another tarmac		
		footpath.		
41	89	At the end reach the dead end of a cul-de-sac and go ahead.	494 778	
42	90	At the main road, turn left briefly.		
43		After about 40 yds. turn right, away from the road, along		4.21
		Footpath 44.		
44	91	Turn left through a gate into a large playing field and head		
		across it towards the diagonally opposite corner, which is		
		about 40 yds. to the right of the largely white buildings of the		
		Erith Rugby Club.		
		This direct route across the playing field to reach, eventually, the		
		Duchess of Kent depends on its three gates being unlocked. I am		
		assured that (if only to save costs!) they are now permanently open,		
		despite the remnants of a notice showing closing times. If necessary,		
		however, there is an alternative - continuing along Footpath 44,		
		turning left along a path level with the end of the field, and then		
		continuing ahead along a road to reach the corner at Direction 47,		
		turning right there to rejoin the main route.		
45	95	[Map point] At the corner by the rugby club go through the		
4.5		metal gate and on along a passageway.		
46	96	At its end carry on, slightly right, across an open area,		
		following the path which edges across towards the road on the		
47	00	right.		
47	98	Reach the road through a gate at the corner and turn half-right		
48	101	along Brook Street, keeping the Duchess of Kent on your right.		
40	101	[To visit Northumberland Heath Church, now divert instead to		
		<u>Detour 2</u> in the Appendix.]		
		Main route: At the junction with Mill Road, continue ahead		
		along Brook Street, crossing to its left-hand pavement.		
49	104	At the junction at the end, use the island, or the lights a little		4.88
		further along, to cross the A220 and continue ahead along the		
F0.	10.5	left-hand side of Colyers Lane.		
50	106	Cross Hurst Road and continue ahead along Colyers Lane.		
51	122	At the bottom, use the lights to cross the main road, and turn		5.75
52	400	left along its far side.		
	123	Turn right along Peareswood Road.		
53	127	Pass the end of Craydene Road and go ahead to cross the		
		railway over the footbridge.		

^{• &}quot;Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
54**	129	Coming off the footbridge: either, to continue the circuit		6.12
		(if not visiting, or finishing at, Slade Green Church), carry		
		on from Direction 2, by turning sharp left along the road		
		into the estate;		
** or	129	or, to detour to, or finish at, Slade Green Church, turn		
54A		90-degree left along the main roadway.		
54B	132	On the left reach Slade Green Church , the starting point of	521 770	6.21
		the walk.		
54C		If returning to the circuit having visited the church, resume		
		from Direction 1.		

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APPENDIX to Local Circuit CE1

Detour to Christ Church, Erith (Detour 1)

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
9A	0	Instead of crossing the A220/A206 at Direction 9, continue		0.00
		along the left-hand pavement and turn left along Victoria Road.		
9B	1	Reach the entrance to Christ Church on the left.		0.05
		After visiting the church retrace your steps to the nearby lights.		
9C	2	Use these lights to rejoin the main route at Direction 9 by now		0.10
		crossing the A220/A206 (Bexley Road), and going briefly		
		ahead on the far side, then turning left down the passageway.		
		Add 2 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.10 miles to cumulative distances.		

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Detour to Northumberland Heath Church (Detour 2)

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
48A	0	Instead of continuing ahead at Direction 48, turn left off Brook		0.00
		Street into Mill Road.		
48B	1	Reach Northumberland Heath Church on the left.		
		After visiting the church retrace your steps to Brook Street.		
48C	2	Turn left along Brook Street to rejoin the main route at		0.09
		Direction 48. Stay on its left-hand side.		
		Add 2 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.09 miles to		
		cumulative distances.		

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FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

See footnote on next page.

FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

I do not venture to give advice about walking with your dog. As well as the joys, you will be well aware of the issues involved, and particularly that relationships between dogs and other countryside animals potentially involve mutual suspicion, or worse.

But what this footnote does try to do, in response to requests, is to give some indication of the nature of the walk from a dog's point of view, to enable you to decide whether it is suitable.

The percentage distances on the right should be self-explanatory.

The information in the middle column may look a bit cluttered, but I think it should enable you (if the detail is of interest) to mark up within a few minutes a print-out of the walk notes, so that you have some idea what might be round the next corner.

The risk in all this is that <u>things change so quickly</u> in the agricultural working world; and what I describe might become misleading after subsequent changes. I have done my best, but there is no guarantee that you will find the information up to date!

		%
LOCAL CIRCUIT SB1	Direction numbers	of walk
Busy road	7-8, 10-12, 24, 28-31, 33-34, 42, 47-52	53
Quiet road \$\$	1-2, 5, 15-16, 22-23, 26-27, 35-36, 38b, 41,	18
	53a, 54A	
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	4b, 19a, 32, 38a, 44, 46	8
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	3-4a, 4c, 6, 9, 13-14, 25, 37, 39-40, 43, 45,	13
	53b	
Woods	17-18, 19b-21	8

^{**} This is not a promise, just a statement of fact - that, having walked these sections perhaps two or three times, I have found no animals or any sign of them.

\$\$ Again, not a promise that there will be no traffic to worry about. Just a personal judgement of conditions as I have found them.

STILES: There are currently no stiles on this walk.