



06 KENT DEAL TO RICHBOROUGH

▶ Distance: 10½ miles/16.8km ▶ Time: 4 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



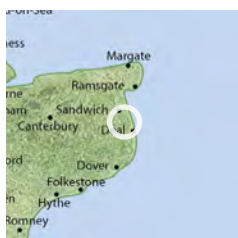
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FEATURE
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Walking Sandwich's old town walls.

PHOTO: TOM BAILEY

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Deal Station, grid ref TR374525. Beach Street or Guildhall car park in Sandwich for parking
Is it for me? Well-marked coastal path, paved sections and field paths. Long, but practically flat
Stiles 5

PLANNING

Nearest town Deal
Refreshments Deal & Sandwich
Public toilets Deal & Sandwich
Public transport Trains between Deal & Sandwich
Maps OS Explorer 150; Landranger 179



CHOSEN BY...

PHILIP THOMAS

The second day of our journey along the

Saxon Shore Way leaves Deal for the medieval Cinque Port of Sandwich, where the trail turns inland, following the historic coastline of Kent up the Wantsum Channel to the Roman fort at Richborough. This linear walk then retraces its steps back to the station at Sandwich.

1 Start

From Deal station take the A258 Queen Street to the seafront and turn L along the promenade to the scant remains of Henry VIII's Sandown Castle – only a humble mound of earth

survives, with a small, unassuming sign testifying to its former size.

2 1½ miles/2.2km

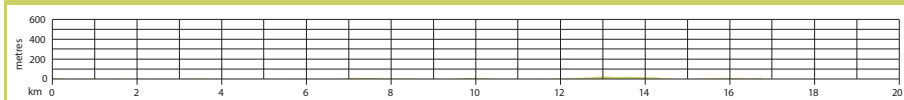
Continue north on the Saxon Shore Way (the lee of the shingle bank provides some shelter in windy conditions), passing the settlement of Sandwich Bay, reaching the Saxon Shore Way fingerpost turning L.

3 4¼ miles/6.7km

Continue across Royal St George's golf links (path indicated by markers, which may be diverted during major golf tournaments), eventually reaching gate, then continue on the Saxon Shore Way over access road into field

and across bridge over North Stream, soon picking up a tarmac path to the edge of Sandwich – the old quay – on the banks of the River Stour. It's worth making a detour to explore some of this historic Cinque Port.

GRADIENT PROFILE



06 KENT
DEAL TO RICHBOROUGH▶ OS Explorer map 150 ▶ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapshop

DON'T MISS...



Richborough Castle: a Saxon Shore fort built by the Romans to defend against Germanic invaders, originally founded as port not long after their own invasion in AD43.

4 **5¼ miles/9.3km**
Turning L, the Saxon Shore Way follows the old earthworks of the town wall (a paved footpath), crossing a few roads. After passing 'The Butts' (where townsfolk once trained in archery in case of a siege), turn L onto Ash Road and soon after turn R onto Richborough Road.

5 **6¼ miles/10.9km**
Continue along this quiet road (taking care) and before main road bridge, turn R onto river path. Ignore first path L, then after going over a small bridge, take second path L (leaving Saxon Shore Way) over stiles at railway crossing, turning R immediately onto track curving L, where the walls of Richborough come into sight.

6 **8 miles/12.8km**
Turn R to continue on the path around the perimeter (or turn L to the English Heritage visitor



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centre). Half way along the western edge of the fort, the footpath turns R onto a track, proceeding past houses to a lane, crossing and turning L to follow the R-hand fence line of field. Go through kissing gate eventually reaching a drainage ditch, turning L to pick up Stour Valley Walk east, to the road. Cross the road and then the railway again, turning R back onto Saxon Shore Way. Retrace steps to New Street (about midway between

points 4 and 5) and R for Sandwich train station (signed). **CW**



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