



The countryside charity
Hertfordshire

Nomansland and Coleman Green



This circular walking route in the central part of Hertfordshire has a little of everything: open common-land, woodland, farm land, horse pastures and long views. The route follows a segment of the Hertfordshire Way and also takes in the northeastern portion of Heartwood Forest.

Distance: 4.4 miles / 7.1 km

Ascent: 200 feet / 61 metres

Duration: 2 hours

Difficulty: Easy, with one stile

Start / Finish: Nomansland Common Car Park, Ferrers Lane, south of Wheathampstead

Refreshments: The John Bunyan pub in Coleman Green

This circular walk of 4.4 miles starts and finishes at Nomansland Common Free Car Park on Ferrers Lane just south of Wheathampstead.

From the car park, walk north across Ferrers Lane...

... and turn left onto Down Green Lane.

Walk two-tenths of a mile in a northerly direction along the lane, watching out for occasional cars and cyclists.

The lane takes you through the wooded part of Nomansland Common, emerging at a grassy triangle.

(Note - the many footpaths through Nomansland Common are an alternative to Down Green Lane, but they are not well signposted and it would be easy to end up in the wrong place.)

Turn right (east) and walk about 30 yards, then turn left (north) onto the well-marked Public Footpath to Butterfield Road and Wheathampstead Church.

Walk north on this footpath for a quarter-mile. There is a wooden fence and horse pasture on the left.

Where the wooden fence ends, the path forks. Take the right-hand path northeast into the wood...



... emerging at a field. Follow the path as it continues along the field edge with the wood on your left.

At the corner of the field, keep following the path as it curves around to the right (east). In another 20 yards, the path turns left into the wood and there is an immediate path junction.

Take the right-hand path, which is the main path, and follow this path gently downhill for one-tenth of a mile to the next path junction.

Turn left here (northwest) and shortly you will come to yet another path junction, where you turn right, heading east once more.

Follow this path as it passes through a wood and then up a small rise and out into the open, turning in a northeasterly direction. At the next path junction, turn right and pass through a gate to come to the B651 near a bus stop.

Cross the road taking great care as it can be very busy.

On the east side of the B651, look for the Public Footpath sign pointing the way to Coleman Green.

Walk straight ahead (east) on the green verge for just a few yards and then take the informal path to the right, to the edge of the field. There are beautiful views to the south.

Turn left and walk east along the field edge, with the trees on your left.

After about one-tenth of a mile, the path turns southeast and proceeds gently downhill through the middle of the field.

Carry on along the path and through a gate as you approach Dyke Lane. Head straight across the road and onto the gravel track for Beech Hyde Farm.

For the next 1.75 miles you will be on the Hertfordshire Way, following the waymarks with the white arrow on a dark green background.



Follow the track straight ahead through the farmyard, on past the Model Dairy on the left, and out the other side of the farmyard on the track.

Continue onto a tarmac road (Beech Hyde Lane) for 30 yards to a corner, and then through a green metal gate on the left. Follow the footpath in a southeasterly direction and gently uphill across the field and into a wood.



Emergence from the wood onto a gravel drive at the John Bunyan pub, where you may wish to stop for refreshments.

Turn right on Coleman Green Lane and walk about 50 yards to a small informal lay-by on the left, delineated with logs.



Turn left at this lay-by onto the footpath, past a green metal gate, and follow the path along the edge of the field with the hedge on your right.



Continue on the path to the next field, with a row of trees on your right.

The path then goes across the middle of this field to reach Titnol's Wood. Turn right at the signpost at the edge of the wood, still following the Hertfordshire Way.



Proceed along the path with the wood on your left and the field on your right, over a stile and carry on straight ahead in a southwesterly direction along the edge of a wood.



The path emerges from the wood and runs alongside a paddock and through a wooden kissing gate to Hammond's Lane.



Turn right on Hammond's Lane (west) and walk for a quarter of a mile to Hammond's Farm on the right, marked with a signpost for 'Public Bridleway 7, Nomansland Common 1'. This is where you leave The Hertfordshire Way which continues west. You turn right (north) up the farm track.



Follow the track straight ahead through the farmyard and on to where it jogs a bit to the left (northwest) just in front of a black barn. The track then turns north again as it leaves the farmyard.



As you proceed along the track, there are lovely long views to the west across the valley.

Continue northerly along the track. It then becomes a footpath with trees and a hedgerow on the left and a field on the right, dipping down to Coleman Green Lane.



Cross the lane and pass through a wooden gateway with a Woodland Trust welcome notice. You are now entering the northeastern part of Heartwood Forest.

Carry on through this gateway and straight ahead along the path with a hedgerow and telegraph poles on the left and a field on the right.



The path continues with a hedge on your left, and eventually enters a small wood before reaching the B651 once again.

Take care crossing the B651, then walk a few yards west on the gravel path before turning left across Ferrers Lane. From here, it's a short walk west across the grassland back to the car park.

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This route last walked by CPRE in June 2024.

If you have enjoyed this walk, please consider supporting CPRE Hertfordshire in our efforts to protect and promote the Hertfordshire countryside for everyone. For more information on our work, or to sign up for our newsletter, make a donation, or volunteer with us, please visit www.cpreherts.org.uk

CPRE Hertfordshire is a registered charity no. 1162419, address: 31a Church Street, Welwyn, AL6 9LW, tel 01438 717587.

Note: all walkers do so at their own risk. Suitable footwear and clothing are recommended.