

AUTUMN The Local Link

Length: 1.7 miles (2.7km)

Time the walk takes: Approx 1.5 hrs

Things to note: Some of the route can be quite overgrown, wear clothing that covers your arms and legs to protect from brambles. At picture 6 there is a small, steep slope.

Return Journey: Number 49 from Moulsecoomb Way (back to Moulsecoomb and central Brighton. For Lower Bevendean/back to community garden, take 49 to University, then 48 at the bottom of The Avenue.

WALKING THE LOCAL LINK

1. Begin at Bevendean community garden. Walk through the metal gate to the right of the community garden entrance. Follow the path on your right up the hill. Keep right until you come to a wooden gate with an opening that you can walk straight through.

2. Turn to your left then take the right fork up the hill. Keep going over the brow the hill until you have houses in sight.

3. At a cross roads of the paths turn right. Carry on along this path you will have the back of a row of houses on your left.

4. At the end of the field go straight on through the wooden gate. This area can be quite overgrown. Be aware of brambles and nettles.

5. Continue along this path with the farmers field on you right.

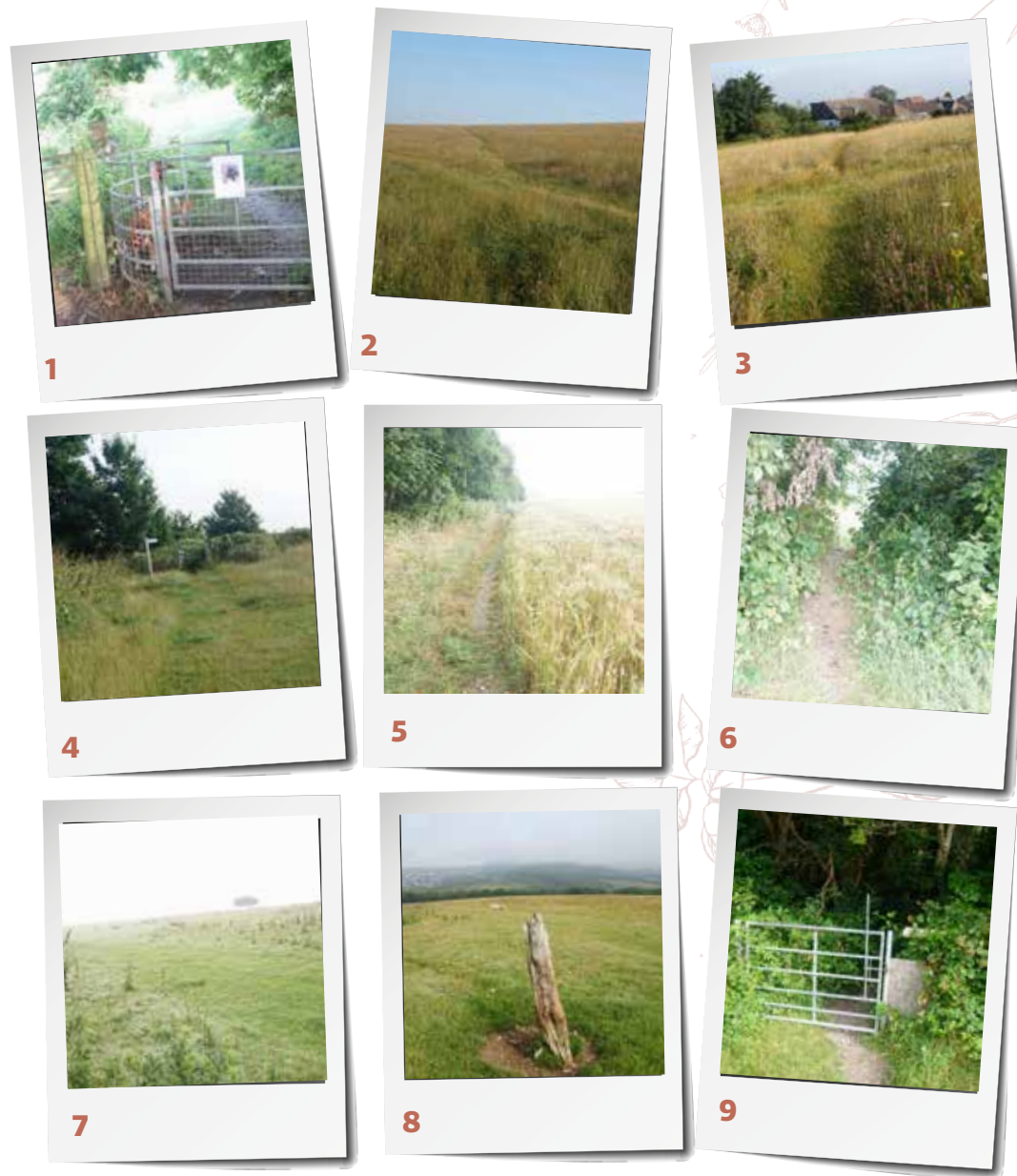
6. When you reach the end of this field, there is a short but very steep path taking you over a small hump - be careful. Once you are over the hump, bear right and go through the metal gate.

7. Take the path on your left, (reminder to keep dogs on a lead, sheep graze in this field). Skirt around the edge of the field keeping wooded area on your left.

8. Once you have walked to the end of the wooded area you will be able to see an old wooden post in the not too far distance. Turn left after the post, bear left until you come to the edge of the slope, then turn right. You will see Coldean in the distance (don't head down the slope).

9. Walk straight along this path towards the wood in front of you. The path will lead you to a metal gate into a small wood. Once through the gate take the left path, then the left path again. You may have some branches across the path to navigate. After a short walk through the woods, you will see a metal fence which leads to a metal gate that brings you on to Ashurst Road.

Finding the bus stop: Leave the woods and turn right onto Ashurst Road, at the end of the road turn left, walk a short way before turning left again onto Moulsecoomb Way. The bus stop is at the bottom of Moulsecoomb Way. See above 'Return Journey' for information on buses.



Autumn Nature Observation Look out for:



Crimsons, golds and browns of trees losing their leaves and changing colour.



Fungi. Damp weather provides ideal conditions for fungi to grow. You may be able to smell damp, earthy aromas in the air.



Flowering ivy. Ivy is one of the few plants to flower in the autumn, so it's very important for pollinators like bees and butterflies that are still active.



Teasel: Masses of tiny seeds are beloved by many birds, especially goldfinches.



Migrating birds. Nightingales, cuckoos, swifts and swallows fly south to warmer climates for the winter.