

# Cycling in East Sussex

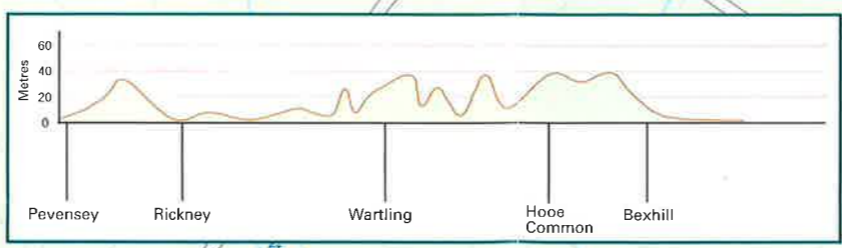
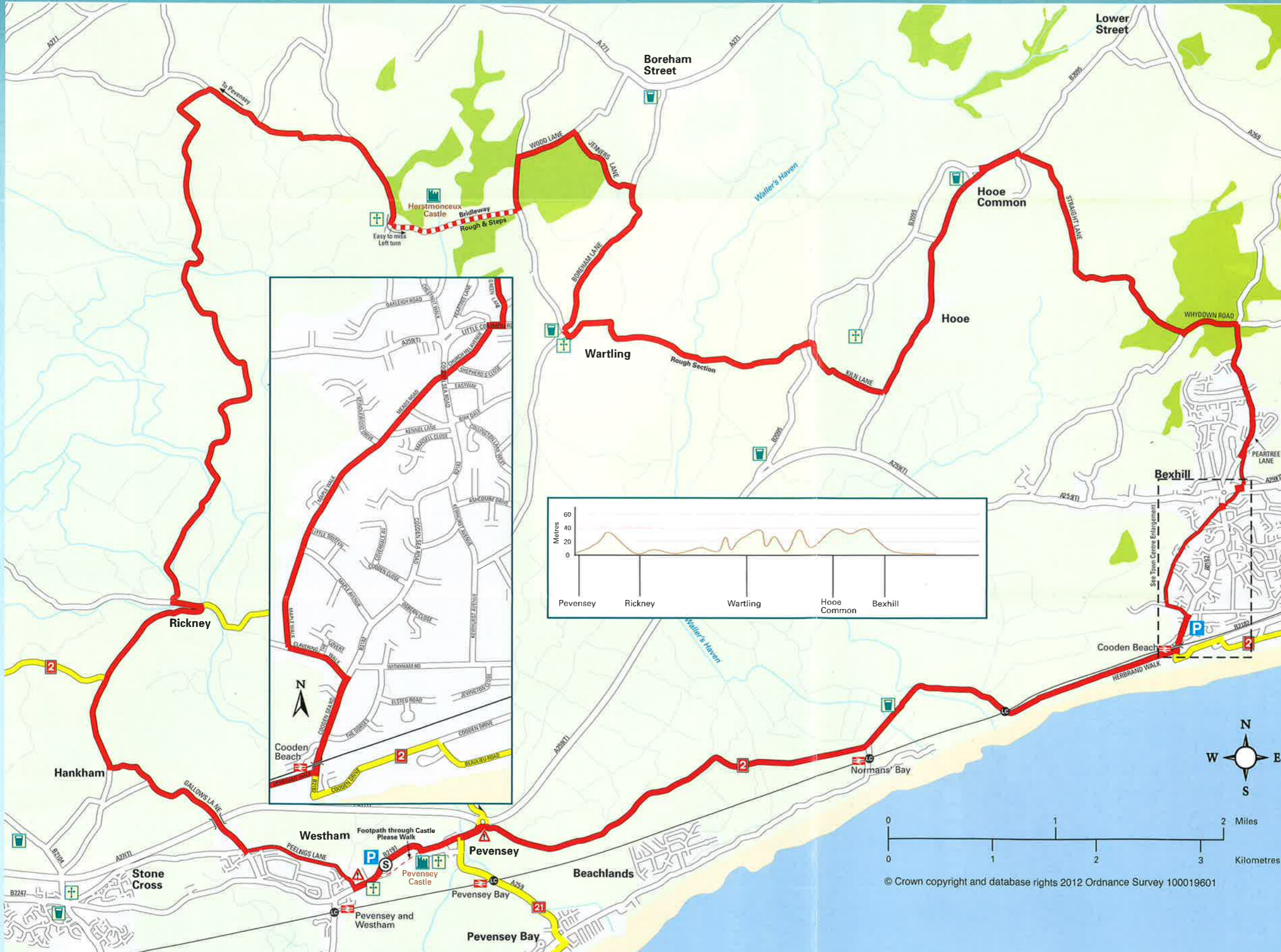
## Pevensey Levels & Castles circular



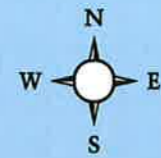
Tour de la Manche



East Sussex  
County Council



- Circular Route (On Road)
- Traffic Free Sections
- National Cycle Network (On Road)
- A Road
- B Road
- Minor Road (arrow indicates steep hill pointing downhill)
- Railway (with Level Crossing)
- Follow Road Sign as Marked
- Church
- Castle
- Pub
- Pevensey Bay Railway Station (with name)
- Take Care!
- Tourist Information Centre
- Car Parking
- Start of route



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## Pevensey Levels & Castles circular

Cycling in East Sussex: Coastal Route Guide



eastsussex.gov.uk



You get a distinct sense of history on this ride, incorporating Pevensey Castle on the Levels before skirting Bexhill for the easy climb north towards Herstmonceux castle.

### Pevensey – Hooe

The route starts at Pevensey, site of a Roman fort built over 1000 years before William the Conqueror landed on the beach in 1066. The Normans fortified the remains to build the castle which you can still visit today. Continue east along Sluice Lane to Norman's Bay, with occasional views across the long shingle beach and out into the English Channel. When you reach Cooden Beach train station on the western edge of Bexhill, pass under the bridge and cycle north through Little Common before plunging into the lush countryside with glimpses of lovely buildings and oast houses to the south of Hooe. Keep an eye out for the amazing chimneys of Court Lodge along Kiln Lane.



East Sussex Oast  
Photo: David Young

### Herstmonceux – Pevensey

Crossing the B2095 takes you down onto the levels, towards the ramparts

of Herstmonceux Castle and domes of Herstmonceux Observatory, a former home to the Royal Greenwich Observatory and now a science centre. A bridleway takes you through woodland to the south of the castle, rejoining the lanes near the church. The route south to Rickney across the Pevensey Levels is idyllic cycling countryside – flat and quiet lanes with fine views to the surrounding rim of hills eventually taking you all the way back to Pevensey.

### Places of Interest

**Pevensey Castle** The historical development of the castle is still visible, from the earliest Roman and Norman bailey walls to gun emplacements and pill boxes from World War II.

Phone: 01323 762604  
Website: english-heritage.org.uk

#### Herstmonceux Castle

The spectacular 15th-century moated castle is set within 500 acres of parkland and gardens (including an Elizabethan garden).

Phone: 01323 833816  
Website: herstmonceux-castle.com

**Observatory Science Centre** One of the country's leading science centres, Herstmonceux's hands-on approach

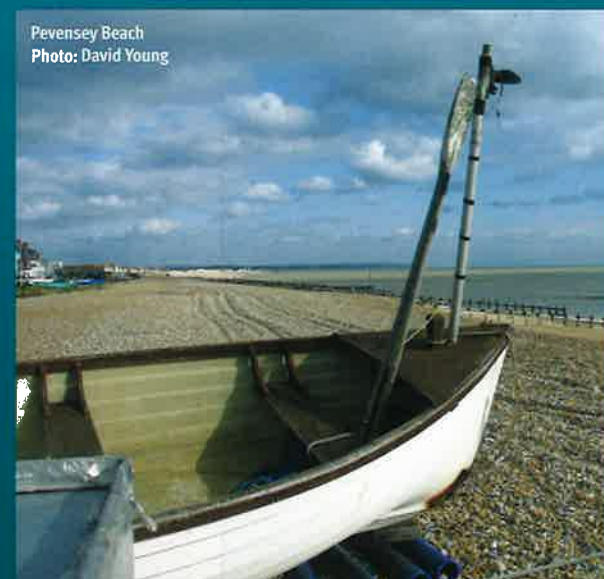


Herstmonceux Observatory  
Photo: Mark Mercer

puts the emphasis on experimenting and finding out for yourself.

Phone: 01323 832731  
Website: the-observatory.org.uk

**The Pevensey Levels** are the largest tract of wetland in East Sussex and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). A Nature Reserve lies in the heart of a large grazing marsh, home to many species of wildfowl and rare plants.



Pevensey Beach  
Photo: David Young

## Cycling in East Sussex Coastal Routes



East Sussex County Council  
Transport and Environment  
County Hall  
St Anne's Crescent  
Lewes BN7 1UE  
Phone: 0345 60 80 190  
Fax: 01273 481261  
Website: eastsussex.gov.uk/cycling  
Email: cycling@eastsussex.gov.uk

Sustrans is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity,

working on practical projects so people choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment. The charity is behind many groundbreaking projects including the National Cycle Network, over 12,000 miles of traffic-free, quiet lanes and on-road walking and cycling routes around the UK. [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)

May 2012 • 11-12 793 ESTE 020017

Cover photo: Pevensey Castle, David Young



The Source: 01424 810447  
Bexhill: Wheelies: 01424 213634

**Cycle Shop and Repairs**

Bexhill: 01424 773721

(calls charged at 10p per min from BT land lines)

Eastbourne: 0871 6630031

**Tourist Information Centres**

Pevensey, Cooden, Hooe Common,

Wartling, Herstmonceux

**Refreshments**

Between leaving the coast at Cooden and arriving at the Pevensey Levels west of Herstmonceux Church there are half a dozen climbs of 30m-40m

**Major climbs**

Easy / Moderate

**Grade**

Woodland near to Herstmonceux Castle

Short bridleway section through

**Off road/rough sections**

24 miles / 38 kms

**Distance**

Pevensey & Westham Train Station

**Starting point**

## Pevensey Levels & Castles circular