

Route Description: Around Hurst Green

1. There's roadside parking in Hurst Green (SD68526 37939). Walk up Avenue Road in Hurst Green, take the minor road called The Dene (SD68438 38128). Descend the hill past the property on the right hand side, it was one of four bobbin mills in the village. Continue to Dene Bridge, another site of an old bobbin mill, the mill cottages are on the L, but the current properties have lost their original identity. Continue up the hill, it's steeper than you think, past Cut Thorn Farm. Near the top of the hill is a narrow lane on the R, between bungalows (SD67950 37998).
2. Turn R along the narrow country lane, as the road starts a descent, Moon Cottage (SD67737 38183) is on the R. Opposite is a signpost and stile giving access to farmland. Cross the stile, immediately turn R and the summit of Doe Hill is marked by the trig. point (SD67678 38181). From the trig., continue in a straight line passing the trees to the R, continue down the slope to a stile (SD67438 38303), then a footbridge (SD67411 38340). Head for the SW corner of the small woodland across the field to another stile & footbridge (SD67339 38427). Cross the field heading for Lower Hud Lee Farm, the path rises slightly following a line of solitary trees to the farm buildings (SD66928 38365) to reach the bridleway (SD66813 38325).
3. Head N up the stony road to Higher Hud Lee. Follow the signs taking you L (west) across a short field to a wooden five-barred gate and Hudd Lee Wood.
4. Enter this cool and tranquil woodland, a lush grassy path leads uphill, it's an easy gradient. Continue through the woodland to emerge at a gate, a pathway between plantations leads to a T-junction of bridleways (SD66778 39069).
5. Turn R at the junction, passing by a steel gate and stile. It's very pleasant, easy walking to the old hunting lodge Greengore (SD67419 38927). Although there is a great sense of open space, we are hemmed in by small hillocks and woodland obscuring distant views. There are a lot of trees around here!
6. The bridleway widens to become a stony road, continue to a bend (SD67566 38896), on the L the start of the bridleway through Dean Brook and Mill Wood. Descend the path alongside a dry-stone wall to meet Dean Brook. Cross the stone bridge turning R, then follow the stream through Mill Wood (the site of another bobbin mill). We emerge onto Avenue Road in Hurst Green village.