



Tour de la Manche

1066 circular off National Cycle Route 2

Starting point: Hastings train station.

Distance: Full route via Bodiam and Northiam - 43 miles / 69 kms
Southern loop with short cut via Sedlescombe - 25 miles / 40 kms
Northern loop with short cut via Sedlescombe - 28 miles / 45 kms

NB There are two shorter options - (a) start from Hastings but go via Sedlescombe to Brede and rejoin the main route, missing out the northern section or (b) start from either Robertsbridge or Northiam, use the Brede to Sedlescombe short cut and thus only do the northern half of the ride, cutting out Hastings.

Offroad/rough sections: None

Grade: Strenuous (almost 900m of climbing)

Climbs: Over a dozen climbs of 35m-100m

Refreshments: Hastings, Battle, Bodiam, Great Dixter & Northiam

Tourist Information Centres:

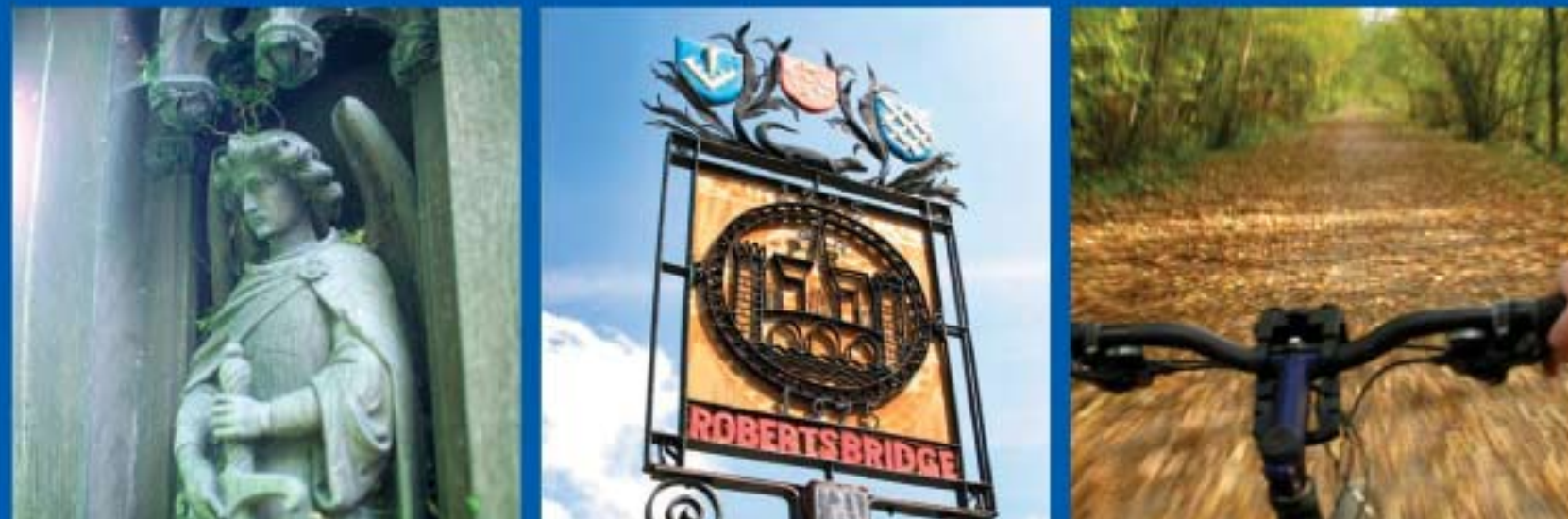
Hastings: 01424 781111 Battle: 01424 773721

Cycle Hire:

Hastings Cycle Hire and Sales: 01424 444013

Cycle Repairs/Shops

Sidley Cycles: 01424 213634 - The Source:
01424 810 447 - Hastings Cycles: 01424 446886.



Tour de la Manche



Cycle East Sussex Coastal Routes

East Sussex County Council

T&E, County Hall,
St Anne's Crescent,
Lewes,
East Sussex,
BN7 1UE

Tel: 01273 481000

Fax: 01273 479536

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/cycling

For more information on routes or the interactive mapping in your area visit Sustrans:

www.nationalcyclenetwork.org.uk



Project part-financed by the European Union



Tour de la Manche

Cycle East Sussex 1066 circular



**MAP
& GUIDE**





This is a real rollercoaster ride with almost 3000 ft (900m) of climbing, linking the coast with the woods and hills of the Weald. Follow the excellent wide promenade westwards along Hastings seafront before a steep climb away from sea up along the western edge of Hastings. The countryside section of the ride truly starts on delightful Telham Lane. A busy climb on the B2095 is rewarded with the delights of Battle. Beyond here you are back into woodland, carpeted with bluebells and wild garlic in the spring and verges of wildflowers from spring to autumn.

Robertsbridge boasts many fine old buildings. The descent to cross the River Rother gives splendid views of Bodiam Castle. Ewhurst Green has lovely old oast houses and a curiously-shaped steeple on the church. Keep an eye out for the unusual mullioned windows in the roof and the beautifully carved lych gate at Beckley church. Pass through the coppiced woodland of Beckley Woods then descend to almost sea level to cross the River Brede. A final long climb allows you to re-enter Hastings from the east, dropping down through the historic Old Town and back to the promenade.



Hastings The Norman castle now lies in ruins overlooking the town and can be reached by a cliff lift. During the Middle Ages Hastings was an important Cinque Port, duty-bound to supply ships and men in the event of an invasion. The Old Town to the east, the picturesque fishermen's quarter with weather-boarded houses in its narrow alleys, holds many surprises such as the mummified witches' cats
Tel: 01424 781112 www.visithastings.com

Battle The Battle of Hastings was fought on the slopes below the town. On the site of his victory William the Conqueror built an abbey; the high altar marks where Harold fell. Little but the foundations and the monks' dormitory survive.
Tel: 01424 773792 www.battle1066.com

The High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a historical countryside of rolling hills draped by small, irregular fields, abundant woods and hedges, scattered farmsteads and sunken lanes. It is a unique landscape full of surprises. The word 'Weald' means wilderness or forest: the High Weald was once an untamed, wooded area, with patches of wild grassland and heathland. At the time of Domesday (1086) the High Weald was the most densely wooded area of England and even now boasts the highest proportion of ancient woodland in the country.



Bodiam Castle Built in the 14th century by Sir Edward Dalyngrigge to guard this vital crossing point on the River Rother, which was a potential route inland for French invaders, this is a picture-book castle with rounded corner towers, battlements, portcullis and moat. There are fine views from the roof across the surrounding parkland. **Tel: 01580 830436 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/places/bodiamcastle**

Northiam The ancient oak on the village green is said to be 1000 years old. Queen Elizabeth dined under the tree on her way to Rye in 1573. During the occasion she took her shoes off and let the villagers keep them when she left.

Great Dixter The fine timber-framed manor house dates back to 1460 and was restored by Sir Edward Lutyens in 1911. The house is surrounded by Christopher Lloyd's beautiful and ever-changing gardens. Great Dixter is open to the public from April to October. **Tel: 01797 252878 www.greatdixter.co.uk**

Sedlescombe An estate to the southeast of the village once occupied by local gentry, now houses the Pestalozzi Children's Village. It was opened in 1959 and carries on the work of the Swiss educational reformer who died in 1827. The school is for deprived children of all Third World countries.

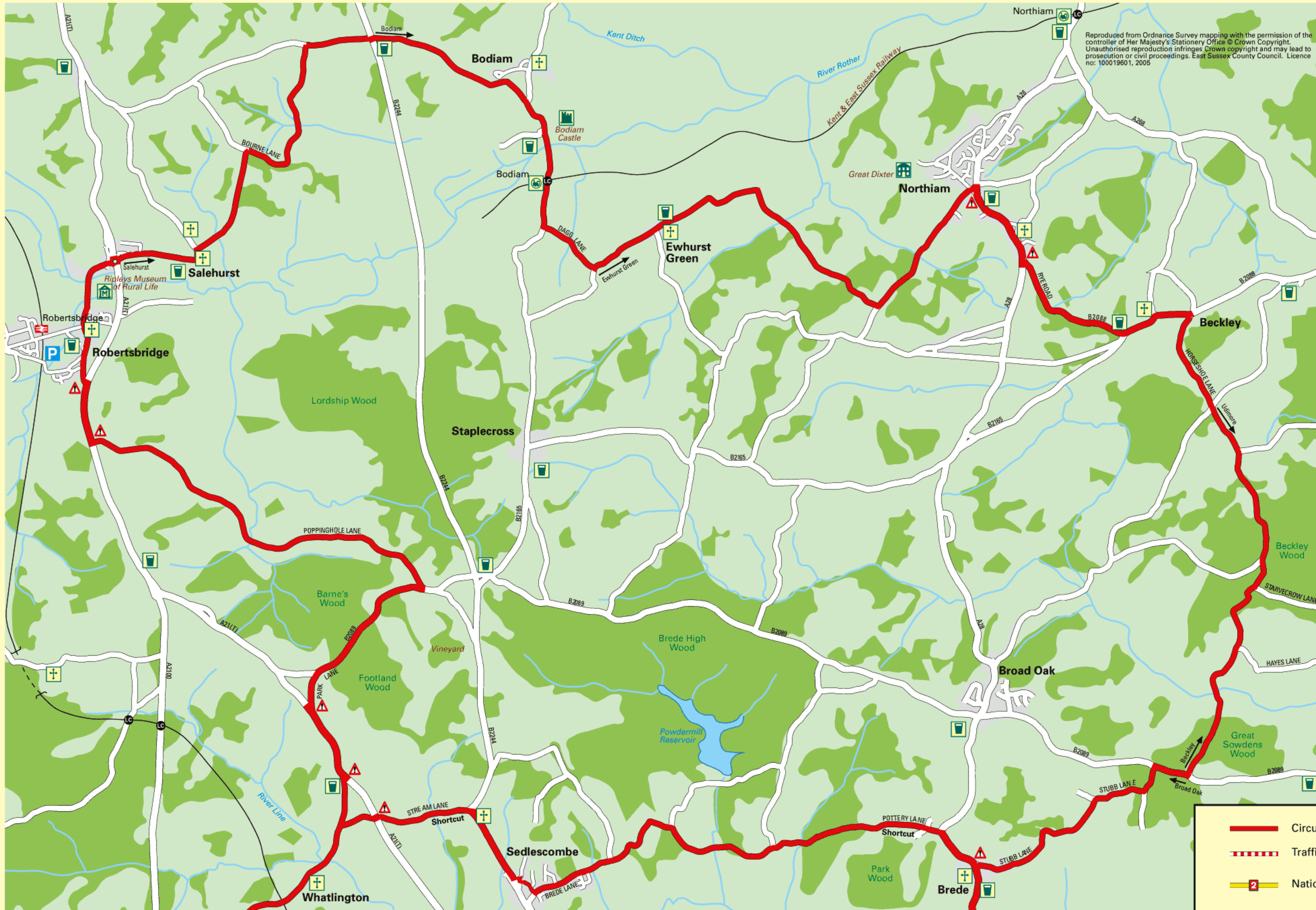


Cycle East Sussex

1066 circular

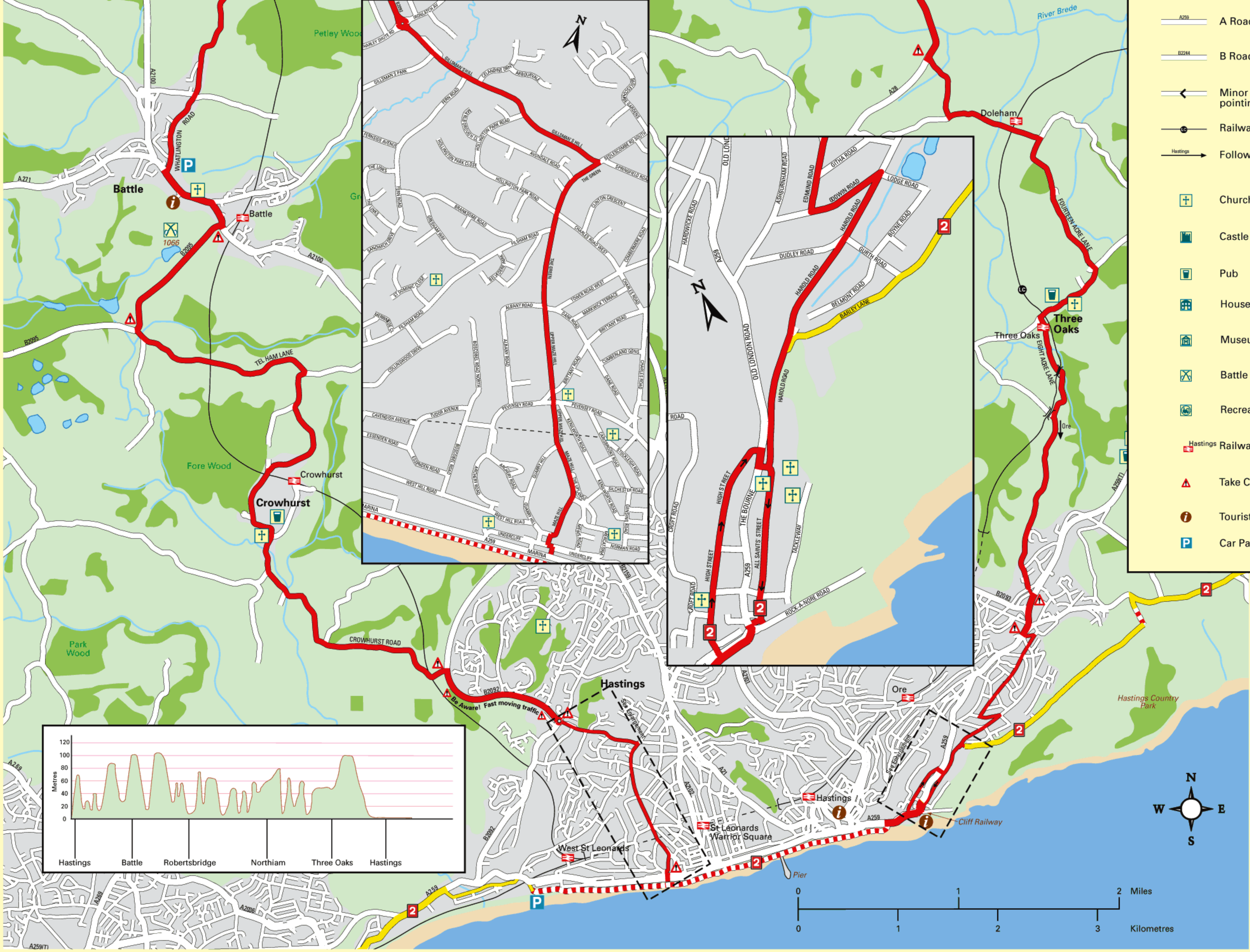



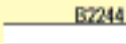



Tour de la Manche














Reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. East Sussex County Council. Licence no: 100019601, 2005

- 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
-  House of Interest
-  Museum
-  Battle Site
-  Recreational Railway Station
-  Railway Station (with name)
-  Take Care!
-  Tourist Information Centre
-  Car Parking

