HOLTYE

This short walk includes a preserved section of the London (Peckam) to Lewes Roman Road at Holtye. This was built in the 2nd century AD. It was in use until the early 5th century. From near Bassetts Farm there are fine views of East Grinstead Church round towards Hartfield.

**Distance:** 4 miles (6.4 kilometres)

**Map reference:** O.S. Explorer 135, 462329 and 147

**Parking:** about 200 yards to the east of the Holtye Golf Club, on the south side of the A264 is a rough lay-by for parking.

**Directions:**

1. Walk on the verge, 50 yards east, on the same side as the layby to a gate and stile leading to the site of the Roman Road.
2. Go over the stile and head downhill, past the fenced-in section of the Roman Road and then cross the bridge.
3. Go ahead uphill with a hedge on your left. At the top turn half left for three or four yards then right along narrow path through copse to exit at fingerpost. Follow the finger post which points straight ahead across a large field and then follow the woodland on left, to the far corner by a pylon.
4. Turn left through a copse then a few yards right, into an old orchard. Turn left to a hunt gate. Go through the gate and follow the line of a fence on right, as far as the farmyard at Bassetts Manor. Do not enter the farmyard but go left uphill. Keep straight on, following the hedge on right, passing two iron field gates until you reach a barrier and stile, cross over into woodland to another stile.
5. Continue on to Chantlers Farm, where the track becomes a well-surfaced lane. Just beyond the drive to Scraggs Farm on the left, look down the bank to a stile leading
into a field with two man-made ponds. Pass by these, well to the left as far as a
telegraph pole. Go up the bank on the left to a stile and gate leading into a field.

6. Look half right, you will see a house and garden partly enclosed with a wire fence.
Walk towards the wire fence on the right-hand side where there is a stile half way
along. Turn right along the fence then left round the corner to an opening onto the
A264.

7. Cross A264 carefully and walk a few yards left to a concrete way-mark through the
hedge and bushes onto Sweetwoods Golf Course. Walk the length of this course
keeping to the trees and bushes on your right. Where there are no bushes keep
straight on. As you begin to drop down, go through a gap and down to the club
house. Follow the stony road keeping the main buildings on your left. At the top of
rising ground another track branches off to the left. Ignore this and carry on, along
the way ahead, until you come to a road. If you turn left, this lane leads back to
Holtye golf club and the A264.

8. An alternative way back to the car is to turn right and walk downhill to the first turning
on the left. A little way along this minor road is a bridleway on the left-hand side.
There are two or three steps to start with, the way then climbs up between the trees
and eventually comes out on the level on Holtye Golf Course. The path is well
marked. Continue along it passing on open area at a fairway on the left. Cross
straight over along the path to the trees on the other side, then look for a low post
with a blue cap and arrow pointing to a narrow path going up to the left. At the top
you come out into the open and keep straight on to a short sunken path to cross the
road here and onto the other side.

9. Cross over the fairway, along a slightly sunken path to the trees ahead, then turn
right to follow along the edge of the golf course until you come to the road junction
opposite the golf club. Turn left along the A264 to return to the layby.