



Tour de la Manche

Pevensey Levels & Castles circular off National Cycle Route 2

Starting point: Pevensey & Westham Train Station

Distance: 24 miles / 38 kms

Offroad/rough sections: Short bridleway section through woodland near to Herstmonceux Castle.

Grade: Easy / Moderate

Climbs: 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.

Refreshments: Pevensey, Cooden, Hooe Common, Wartling, Herstmonceux

Tourist Information Centres:

Eastbourne: 01323 411400

Bexhill: 01424 732208

Bike shop and repairs:

Bexhill - Wheelies 01424 213634

The Source - 01424 810447



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



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MAP & GUIDE





The Romans built a mighty fort in Pevensey almost 1000 years before William the Conqueror landed on Pevensey Beach in 1066. The Normans constructed a powerful stone fortress, still impressive with walls 12ft thick. Cycle past these on your way east towards Norman's Bay, the occasional rise in the road giving you wide views across the long shingle beach and out into the English Channel. Bexhill is largely skirted on its western side 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.

After crossing the B2095 you descend down onto the levels, crossing Waller's Haven on a lane so little used that grass is growing in the middle. The next highlight is the domes of Herstmonceux observatory, a fortified 15th-century moated manor house, which was for a time a ruin before being carefully restored in the 1930s. From 1948 to the mid 1980s it was home to the Royal Greenwich Observatory and now houses 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 but with fine views to the surrounding rim of hills. The lanes take you all the way back to Pevensey.

Pevensey Castle

Many periods of development are visible from the earliest Roman and Norman bailey walls right through to gun emplacements and pill boxes which were built as part of World War II defences. Tel: **01323 762604**
www.castlexplorer.co.uk/england/pevensey

Herstmonceux Castle

The spectacular 15th-century moated castle is set within 500 acres of parkland and gardens (including an Elizabethan garden). Tel: **01323 833816**
www.herstmonceux-castle.com

Observatory Science Centre

With more than 100 indoor and outdoor exhibits, Herstmonceux's hands-on approach puts the emphasis



on doing and finding out for yourself and is one of the country's leading science centres. It is located in the grounds of Herstmonceux Castle and is the former home of the Greenwich Observatory.

Tel: **01323 832731** www.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, which is home to many species of wildfowl including some breeding waders and many passage and wintering wetland birds. Many types of flowering water plant grow here, some of which are nationally rare.



Cycle East Sussex




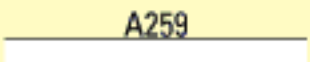
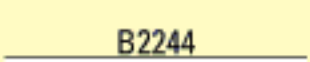
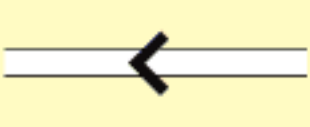

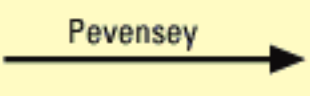







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Tour de la Manche



-  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

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