

Groombridge circular

Overview

Type of cycling: Cycling on country lanes

Difficulty: Medium (cycling on lanes, a short stretch along the A26 (we strongly recommend you dismount and walk down the footpath for this small part outside the pub) and some hills).

Suitability: Older children or adults comfortable with cycling on lanes.

Highlights: Beautiful and diverse countryside, watching steam trains go by at Groombridge, a magnificent wood and cliffs to explore at Birchden / Harrisons rocks and a good chance of spotting some wild deer.



Groombridge circular

Stage 1

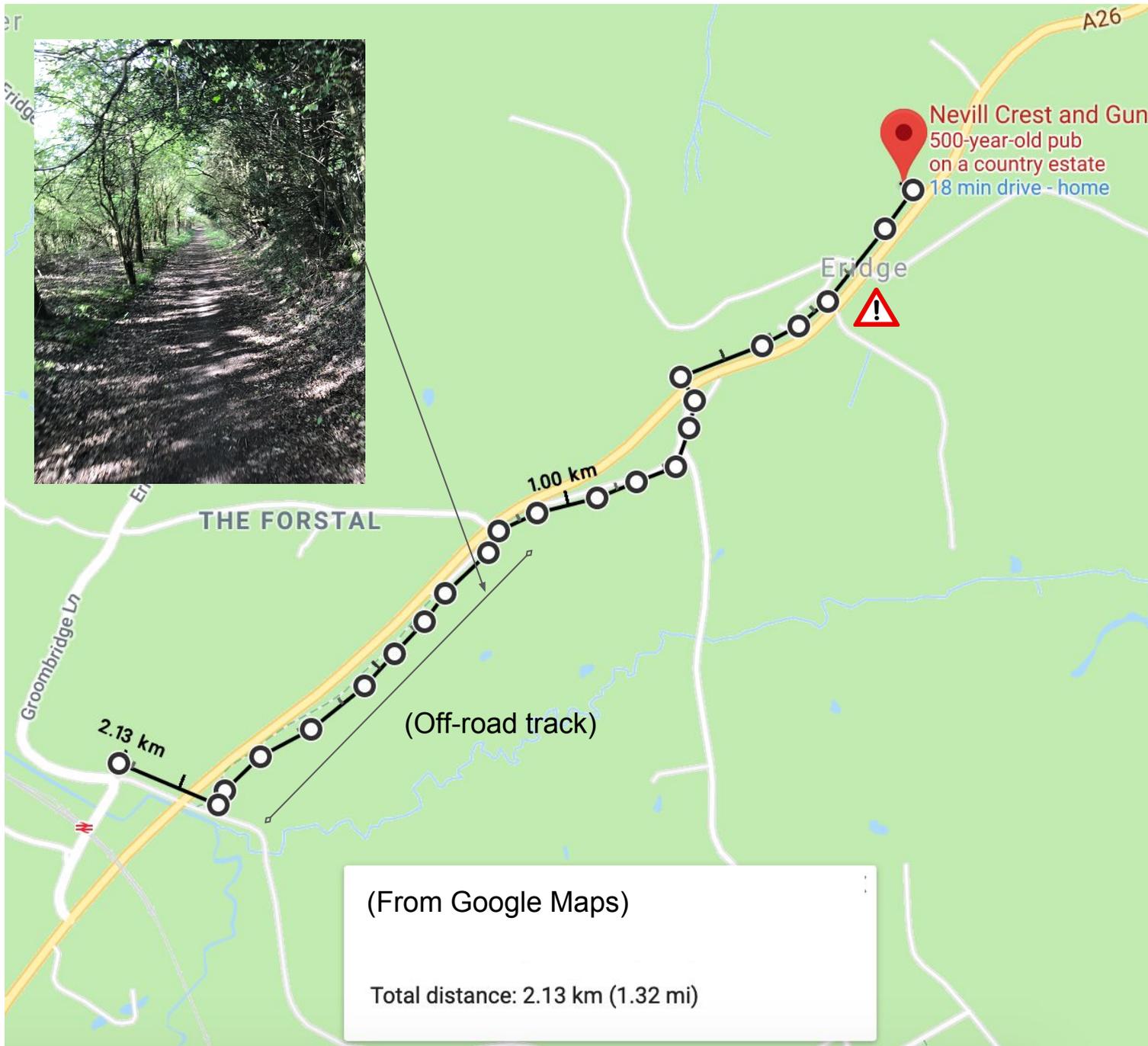
Turn right out of the pub car park and right down the A26

DO NOT cycle on the A26. Instead, it is only a short walk (500m) to the base of the hill along a footpath. From here you can cross the road and onto the Sustrans recommended cycle route that runs down to Eridge station parallel to the A26 but off-road..

Having crossed the A26 take the very first right hand turn up the lane back towards the A road.

At the top of the lane, skirt along the layby on the A26 to then join an off-pad track that passes downhill to Eridge station.

At the base of the hill, turn right under the bridge.



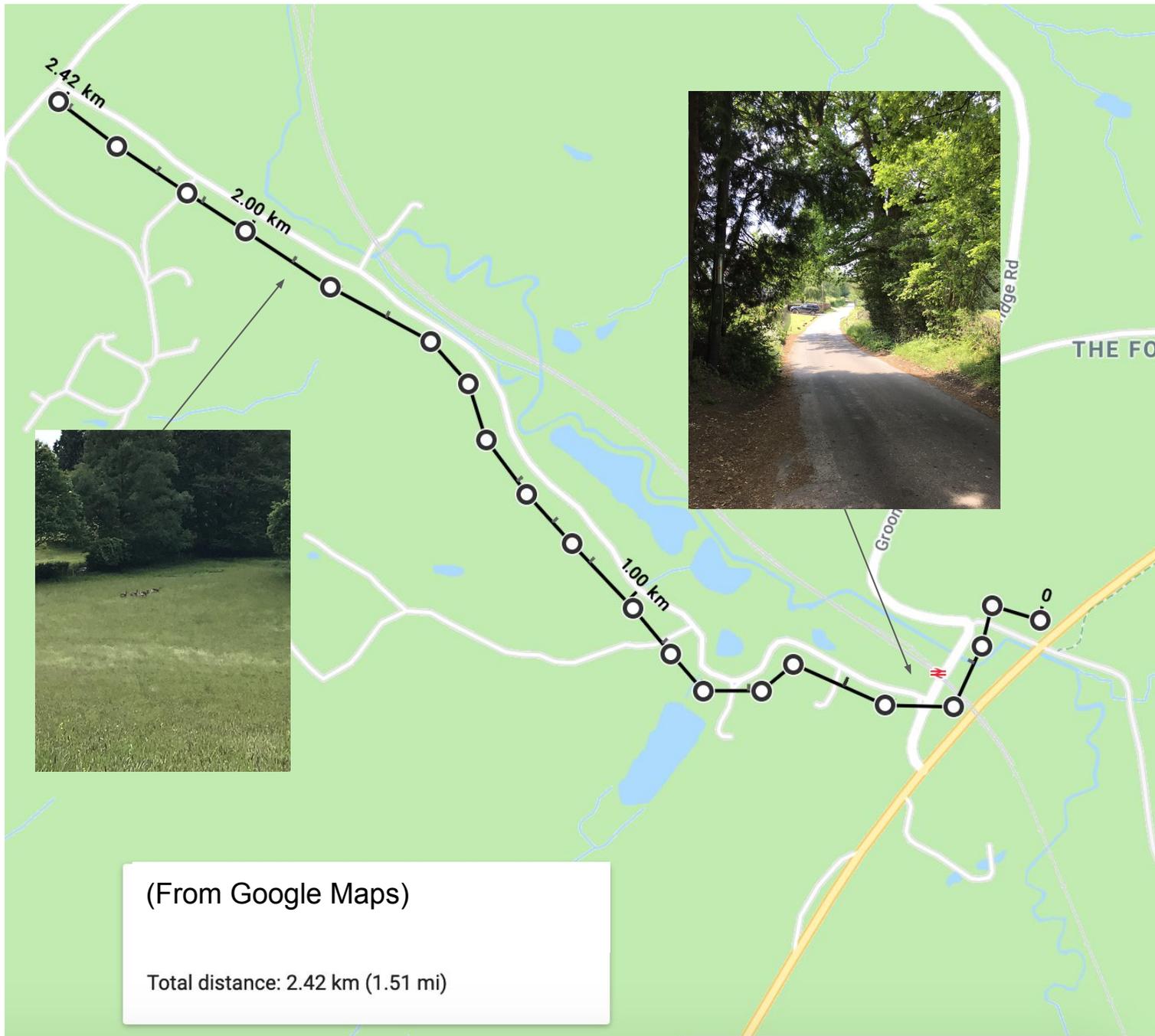
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Stage 2

Turn left past the station and turn right onto Forge road.

On the Sustrans recommended cycle route 21, this lovely quiet road passes through some stunning countryside (we have often spotted wild deer along this stretch) before climbing up the hill above Groombridge.

At the end of the road, turn right at the T junction at the top of the hill.



(From Google Maps)

Total distance: 2.42 km (1.51 mi)

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Stage 3

Freewheel down to Groombridge. As you reach the Village you can pick up the Forest Way that heads off to the LHS before the small hill into the Village.

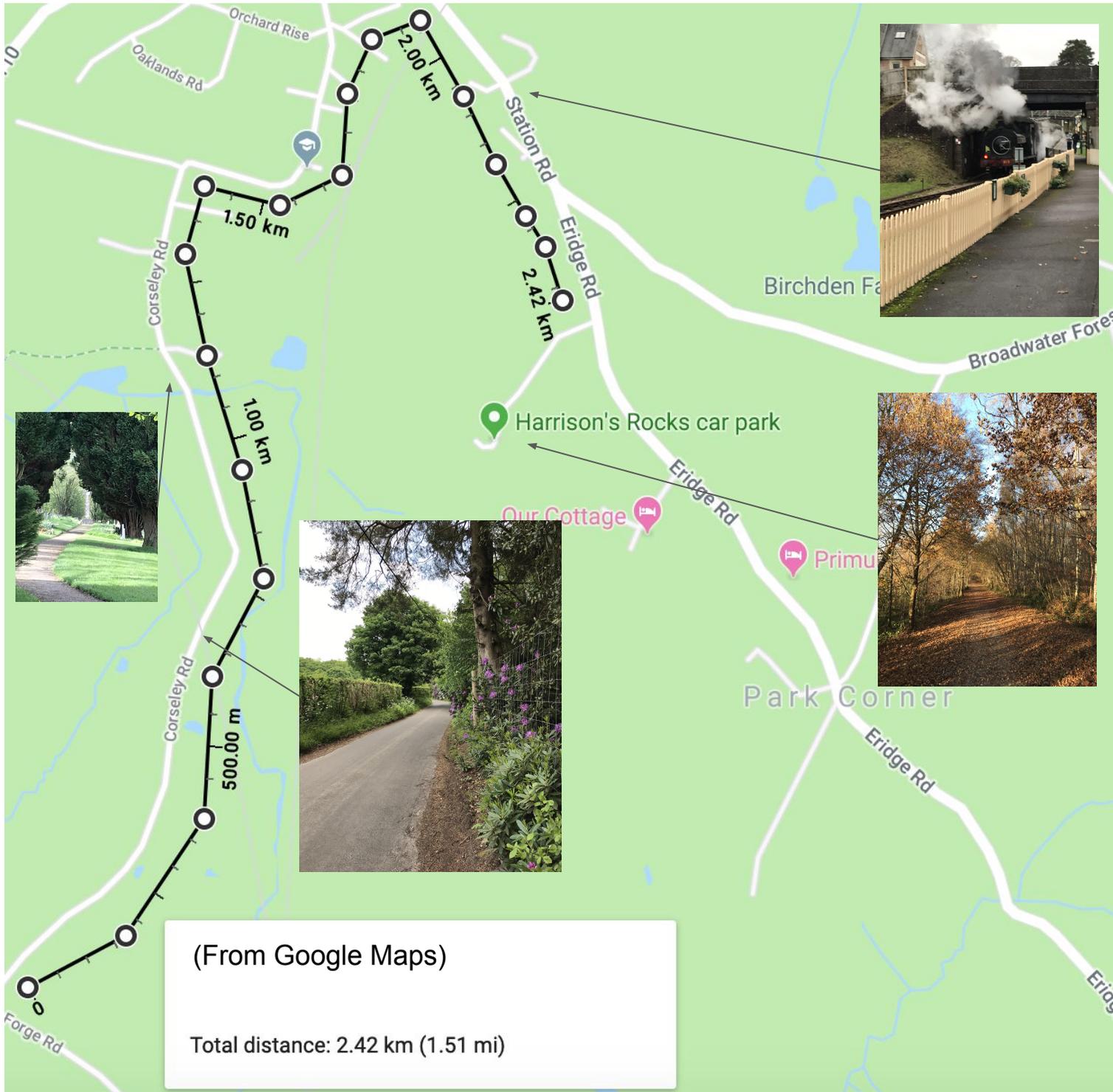
This off-road cycle route runs all the way to East Grinstead via Hartfield (home of Winnie the Pooh). We highly recommend this route for another day. You can also pick up our bikes from the station in Groombridge!

After a short hill up into the village, the road turns right and then left past the church.

Follow this road around and turn right onto station road.

Pass over the railway bridge (or take some time out to visit the Spa Valley Railway and grab a coffee or ice cream from the platform kiosk. If you are lucky a steam train will pull in!

Shortly after the station take the right hand fork onto Eridge road. If you have the time we highly recommend visiting Harrison's rocks and Birchden wood just off to the right. It is an amazing place to explore. You can cycle on the main gravel walkways (although please do be careful for dogs and walkers and cycle with care)



(From Google Maps)

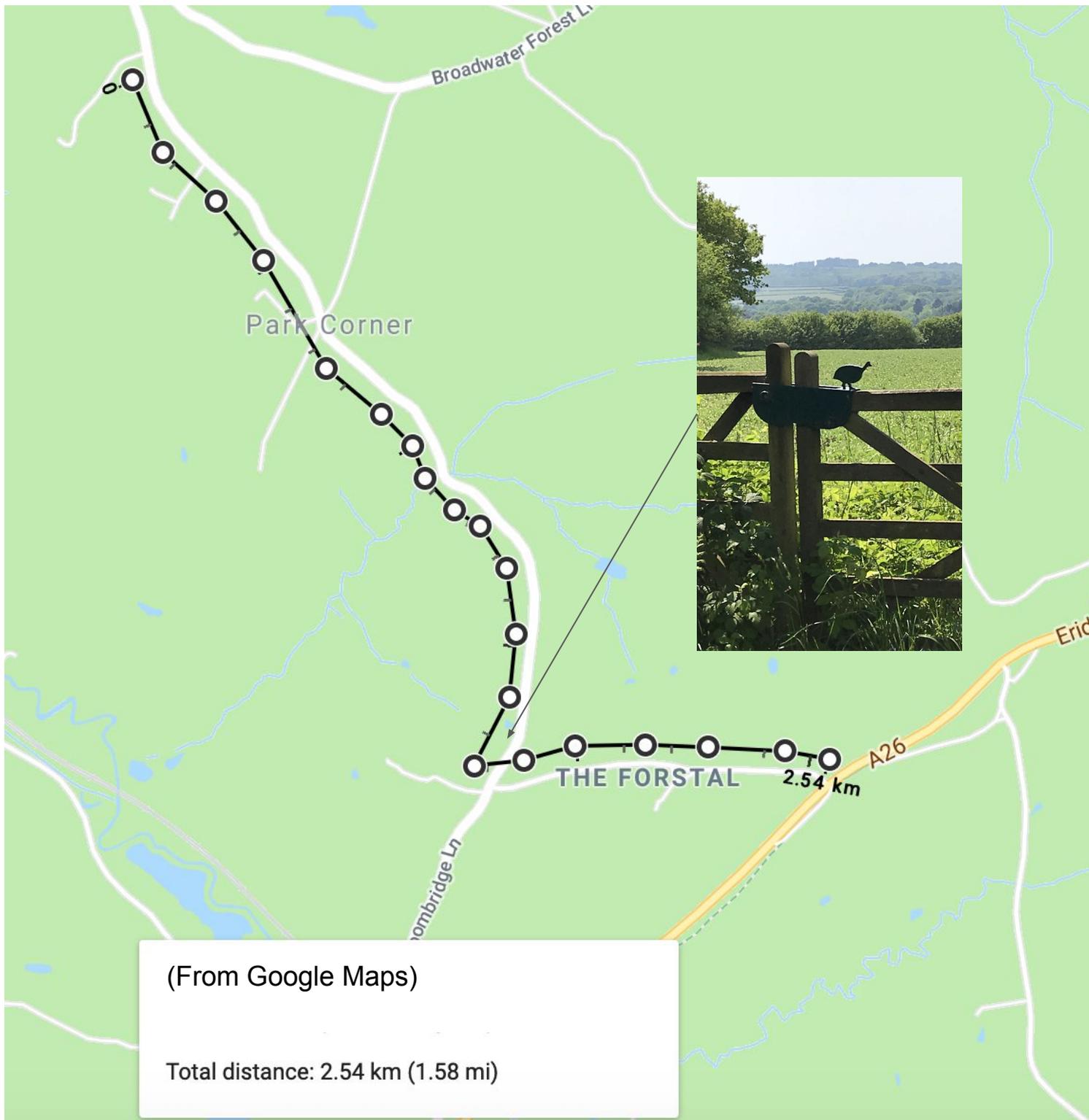
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Stage 4

Continue along Erdige road. The road heads down a small hill and then up the other side.

At the top of the hill take the first left hand turn along The Forstal road that connects back to the A26. (and avoids needing to climb the steep hill from Erdige station on the return journey!)



(From Google Maps)

Total distance: 2.54 km (1.58 mi)

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Stage 5

Cross over the A26 and follow the lane you started down back to the base of the hill.

Cross over the A26 again (be careful) and dismount to walk back up to the pub along the footpath.

Park up the bikes and go inside to grab yourself a well earned drink or bite to eat!

