

The Walk from Chingford Station to Hawkwood Nursery

Come out of Chingford Station by the main exit past the ticket office. You need to go up Connaught Avenue which is the road opposite the station with the Rusty Bike pub on the corner. Cross the station forecourt and use the zebra crossing to cross the main road.

At the top of Connaught Avenue go straight on and follow the path up the hill. As you reach the top of the hill bear round to the left and you will see a stone obelisk with two plaques on it that marks the original Greenwich meridian. From here there is a view of the London skyline.

Take the path that is to your right as you stand halfway between the obelisk and the wooden bench looking at the skyline. It starts off quite steeply down hill and after about twenty yards forks to the right. Follow this path down through the trees, at first meandering through vegetation on either side, then straighter and through fairly bare forest floor under the high canopy of the trees. This path crosses two other paths and eventually meets another wider path crossing from left to right.

Turn right along this path and follow it for about 200 yards until you reach a bridleway. Turn left down the bridleway going down the hill (not the path that goes sharp left into the trees). After about 50 yards you will be travelling parallel to the fence of Hawkwood Nursery which is on your right, and you may be able to see the glasshouse through the trees. Further down this bridleway you will come to a small path going to the right that goes between two trees and takes you on to the road leading to Hawkwood Nursery right by the main gates. Enter through the gates and follow the signs past the glass house to the entrance.

The Walk from Hawkwood Nursery to Chingford Station

Just outside the main nursery gates take the path on the left that goes into the forest between two trees. Turn left up the wide bridleway and follow it up the hill until you come to a fairly open, level path. Take the wide path on the right (not the path that goes ahead of you into the trees). After about 100 yards you will reach two paths on the left going up the hill into the trees, go past these and go straight on for another 100 yards or so where you will reach another two paths on the left going up the hill into the trees. Take the path that forks to the right and follow it in a straight line upwards across the bare forest floor, past a fallen tree on the right, and then between two trees and past the roots of a large fallen tree on the left after which it winds its way up the hill with vegetation on either side.

After a while the path goes round to the left, becomes quite steep and forks two ways. Climb the left hand path and as you emerge from the trees you will see an obelisk and a smaller pillar on your left and a view of the London skyline to your right.

With your back to the view of the skyline, go between the two pillars and go round to the right. By some old concrete foundations the path forks, take the right fork into the trees and then follow your nose down the hill to the point at which you emerge from the forest at the top of a road called Connaught Avenue. There is no road name but the house on the left with the nicely manicured garden is number 100. Follow Connaught Avenue all the way down the hill to the main road and you will see Chingford Station in front of you.

