

Explore Darent Valley by rail

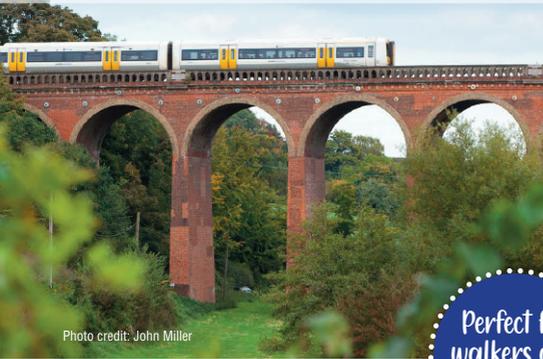


Photo credit: John Miller

Perfect for
walkers and
wine lovers

Take the train to see historic houses, a vineyard and a solar system in the pretty Darent Valley countryside connecting Swanley and Sevenoaks, stopping at four stations along the way. Take a look at our suggested one-day itinerary from **Otford to Shoreham** or plan your own adventure using the suggestions overleaf.

Morning – Otford

From Otford Railway Station make your way to what was once classed as one of the biggest palaces in England. Today you can still see **Otford Palace's** remaining tower.

Head back to the main road and grab a warm drink at either **Pond View Café** or **Sally's Cake Emporium**, both serving homemade light bites, perfect for a mid-morning treat.

Continue towards the Darent Valley Path and you'll come across the **Otford Solar System**. Get a sense of the vastness of space with this intriguing large-scale model. Explore further on foot and pick up the **Darent Valley Path** (approx. 2-3 miles) that will take you to our next stop, Shoreham. Alternatively head back to Otford Railway Station and catch the train.

Lunch

You'll be spoilt for choice on where to eat in Shoreham. Choose from four traditional pubs or treat yourself to something special at Mount Vineyard.



Otford to Shoreham **3 minute** journey

Afternoon – Shoreham

After lunch spend an hour exploring the **Shoreham Aircraft Museum**, home to hundreds of aviation relics excavated over many years or find the building where Samuel Palmer, 19th century British landscape painter, lived and worked, located on Darent Way.

If you're a wine lover you'll enjoy an afternoon of wine tasting at **The Mount Vineyard**. Afterwards finish the circular walk back to Otford or catch the train from Shoreham Station.



John Miller



London Victoria direct to Otford in 35mins. Save money with a Group Travel ticket from South Eastern <http://bit.ly/SEGrouTravel>

Photo credit: Colin Bowdery

Explore more

Darent Valley Community Railway

The Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership connects 12 miles (19 km) of rolling countryside between Sevenoaks and Swanley, stopping at four stations along the way.

Sevenoaks Station

The historic market town of Sevenoaks thrums with independent and high street shops, cafes, restaurants and bars. Stroll the length of the High Street to see Knole, a 600-year-old estate in an exquisite medieval deer park.

Bat & Ball Station

From here you can explore Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve but before you do make sure to spend time marvelling at the beautifully restored Victorian station, once used by Queen Victoria when she visited Knole.

Otford Station

You'd never know it when you first step off the train at this quiet village with a duck pond at its heart, but Otford was once home to one of the biggest palaces in England, see more overleaf.

Shoreham Station

A pretty village with a medieval bridge spanning the River Darent, Shoreham is the place for country walks and wine tasting at the award-winning Mount Vineyard, see more overleaf.

Eynsford Station

In and around Eynsford you'll find the Norman remains of Eynsford Castle, Lullingstone Roman Villa (the largest excavated Roman villa in England) and Lullingstone Country Park. There's also Lullingstone Castle and The World Garden, only a short walk from the station.

Swanley Station

The town of Swanley is another great spot to join the Darent Valley Path and it has one of the best family parks in the area, boasting over 60 acres of outdoor space including a boating lake and mini golf.



Please note recommended times are just suggestions depending on your individual groups interest you may wish to spend more or less time stated. All information, including train times, correct at time of publishing, January 2020. Please check all times and details before booking.

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