

14. 77 & 79 High Street. Mid-15th century building, originally with recessed centre and jettied at both ends. In the 19th century it was one building, the fire station. Look for the old fire bell fixing on the gable of the building. When it rang, horses were brought from the High Street to pull the fire cart.



15. Southdown House. Original building was late medieval, circa 1450. Formerly a butchers at one end, until the beginning of the 19th century it probably included the Bull Inn, whose owner lost his license for receiving stolen goods.



16. Mill Leat. Excavated about 1400. Both the river and the mill leat levels were controlled by weirs, so that the required amount of water was available to drive the water wheel for the mill on the east side of the High Street. In 1908 Eden Banks in Lingfield Road had 'Boating Rights'! A scheme was undertaken in 2007 to make it a more attractive water feature.



17. Tanyard House. A timber framed open hall house, built circa 1400. For many years it housed the Tannery Office, where the workers went once a week to collect their pay.



18. Tannery Site. Tanning of hides in Edenbridge dates back to at least 1447. The site was here in the reign of Charles II (1660-1685). Greatly expanded from the mid-19th century, its product was much in demand, particularly during WWI when it was said every British soldier went to war on an Edenbridge sole, and then again in WWII. Hides came from local cattle and tannin was produced from the many oak trees. Allied to tanning was boot and shoe making, and flax was grown locally for thread. The tannery dominated the town and impacted on all the residents, but the chimney and distinctive smell vanished in the 60s, then the main part of the works in the 1970s after a major fire.



The cobbled entrance to the Leather Market car park is a reminder of the entrance to the tannery. Find the curved imprint of the track for the iron gates. On the wall of No 94, inside the gateway, is the WWI memorial to tannery workers who lost their lives.



19. 94 & 96 High Street. Though connected, these are two separate medieval structures built some 50 years apart. No 94 was a Wealden hall house, built about 1400. The filled-in jetty (to the right) would have been similar to that of The Priest House (see 11). No 96, built about 1450, was probably a public building. Jettied to the front, visualise the shop on the ground floor, which may have had a drop down shutter providing the counter for customers on the street.



20. Honours Mill. Built in the late 18th century on the site of an early medieval water mill, it was two storeys until about 1906 when an extra storage floor was added. Mill was used until 1968 flood when waters reached 6ft high and broke the water wheel.



21. Baptist Church. Find the foundation memorial stone plaques from 1892 on the front wall of this distinctive building. Church is no longer used for services.



22. The Great Stone Bridge. In Roman times river would probably have been crossed by a causeway, later by a wooden bridge, then a typical five arch pack horse bridge, eventually in 1831 by the present bridge. The Great Stone Bridge Trust, which looked after it, was probably formed in 1511. It received gifts for the bridge's maintenance, and two bridge wardens, George Langridge and Augustus Corke, are commemorated by an 1836 stone plaque. One on the opposite side indicates the lamps were first provided by the Trust to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. At the outbreak of WWII parapet stones were numbered, removed and carefully stored so any enemy tanks crossing the bridge could be better targets!



23. The Old Eden. Constructed in the late 15th century as a small Wealden hall house, it became a series of cottages in the 16th century. In 1865 the northern cottage became a beer house. Formerly the Old House at Home. Find the flood marker showing the river level in 1968.



You've now reached the end of Edenbridge's historic High Street!

Find more fantastic walks, places to eat and drink and other ideas for great days out at:
www.visitededenbridge.com



Trail 1



Edenbridge offers free parking, and has a variety of places in which to eat, and historic buildings (including the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul and the Eden Valley Museum). There is also the convenient Edenbridge Town Station.

Version 1 2026



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Written by Lindsey Eaton, with thanks to Don Garman, the Eden Valley Museum and the late Alan Dell.

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Trail 1

Edenbridge Historic Town Trail

Step back through 800 years of history — where medieval inns, Tudor merchants and Roman roads shaped everyday life!

Distance **1 mile**

Time **1 hour**

Starting at... **TN8 5AQ**

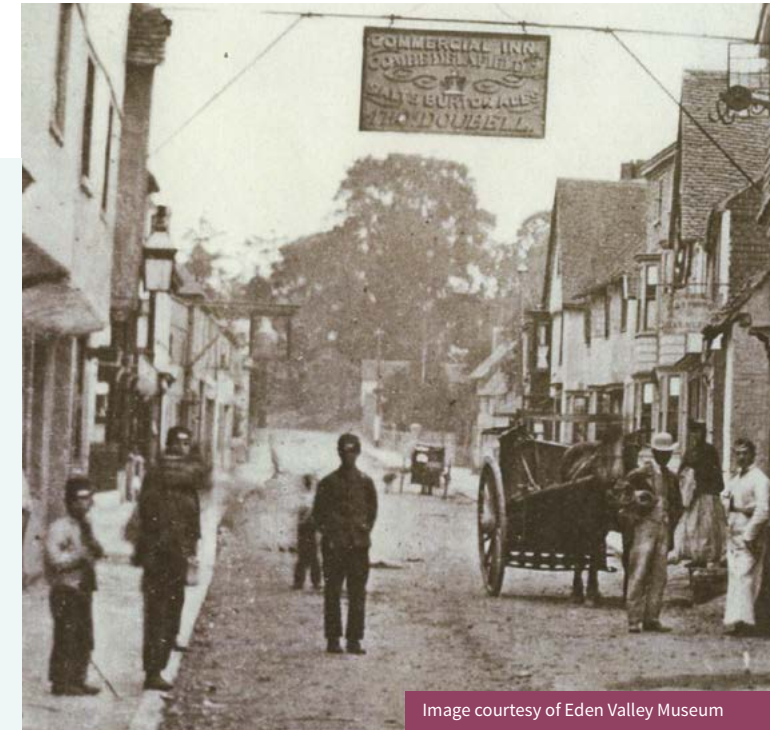


Image courtesy of Eden Valley Museum

www.visitededenbridge.com

Established at a crossing of the River Eden, the town's High Street follows a Roman route between London and Lewes. Leather tanning defined local life for 500 years, but this major chapter ended when the tannery closed in the 1970s.

Start: north end of the High Street at TN8 5AQ
///friday.vest.votes
Finish: south end of the High Street at TN8 5AX
///rich.begin.dining

1. St Lawrence's Presbytery. Patterned tile hanging is mainly 18th century. In 1920 it became the first Edenbridge and District War Memorial Hospital in memory of those killed in WWI. Together with the War Memorial, the hospital moved to Mill Hill in 1931 but has now closed. Across the road is a Victorian building built by a local family, the Goodwins. See the colourful glass in the roof.



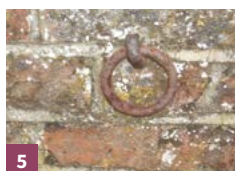
2. The Post Office. Built in 1935, King George V's silver jubilee year – find the plaque with his date and arms.



3. Ebenezer Chapel / Bridges Centre. Calvinist chapel built in 1808. By 1991 it was threatened with demolition, but local action resulted in setting up the Bridges Centre, with its Community Café.



4. Costa Coffee. Formerly the White Horse Inn, a 16th century timber framed building. In the 1800s you could catch the daily coach from here to Westerham, then change to go to London. Notice doors for coach and horses to enter the yard at the rear.



5. Market Yard. Edenbridge Market was established by a Charter granted by Henry III in 1227. Site of a regular cattle market from mid 1840s until 1928, look closely at the east wall and see the rings for tethering cattle. Today it is a car park, with a general market held on Thursdays.



6. Magic Wok. Formerly a tea shop, drapers and grocers, named Alma House after the 1854 Crimean War battle. House was occupied by the Chandler family and ornamented with bricks known as blue headers. The blue effect was made by dipping the ends of bricks in salt water before they were put in the kiln.

7. Tylour House. Tylour House was built in 1468, the year its owner Sir William Tylour (a member of the Grocers' Company) was Lord Mayor of London. His coat of arms is on the right side of the entrance door, and that of the Grocers' Company on the left. In Henry VIII's time it was called The Griffin Inn.



8. Church House. Formally Doggetts Farm House, it was probably built towards the end of the 14th century, after the Black Death and Peasants' Revolt. One of the three oldest surviving buildings in Edenbridge. Late Georgian brick façade dates from 18th century, and two bricked up windows can be seen, done during time of the window tax. Known as Church House from 1913, when it was bought by a Miss Geraldine Rickards. She also built the community room, now known as Rickards Hall, which was used as a hospital for Belgian soldiers during World War I. Church House, now owned by the Town Council, has housed the Eden Valley Museum since 2000. Museum has interesting, and regularly changing, exhibitions of local history. Free admission. www.evmt.org.uk



9. Doggetts Barn. Lying behind Church House, Doggetts Barn was a barn for Doggetts Farm House. The timber-framed building had a spell as the Library in the 1960s, and is now offices for Edenbridge Town Council.



10. Ye Olde Crown Inn. Note the unusual sign across the road. Dating from 1350, the Inn is another of the three oldest buildings. A busy stopping point for travellers and traders – see the double doors that gave coaches, carriages and horses access to the yard and stables. Turn left up Church Street to continue.



11. The Priest House. Built in the 15th century, originally a Wealden hall house, and jettied to the right. [Jettied is when an upper floor projects beyond the building underneath, making the house bigger without obstructing the street.]



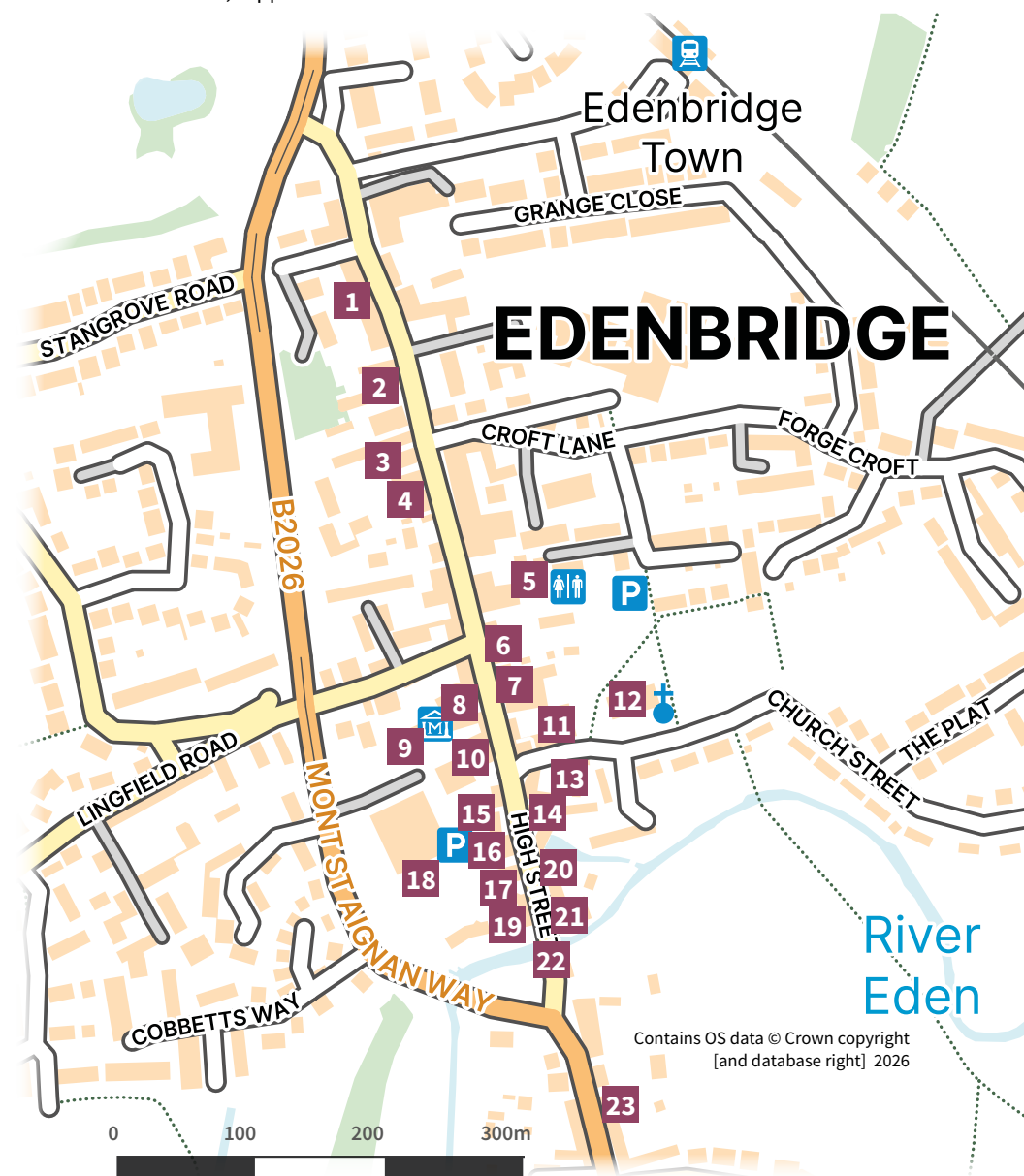
12. The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul. A church has stood on this site since at least the 12th century. What do you notice about the clock? It has no minute hand – the hour was all that mattered for worshippers! On the left of the path to the porch, find a headstone for John and Ann Chandler



who owned Alma House (see 6). Font and Jacobean pulpit are notable. Edenbridge has significant connections with the Arts and Crafts movement – don't miss the stunning Burne-Jones window at the east end. The grave of architect Mackay Hugh Baillie Scott (1864-1945) and his wife Kate lies in the old cemetery, a short walk beside Church Street boundary wall. His memorial is an obelisk, topped with a small metal cross.



13. 2 & 4 Church Street. Built by the Goodwins, a local family of builders (see 1), the design was possibly chosen from an early 19th century Victorian pattern book on town houses. Appears they practiced unusual brick and tile features. Pick out differences between them and find entrance for the cart and rack for storing ladders.



8 Belgian Soldiers at Rickards Hall © EVM



8 Eden Valley Museum © EVM



14 Edenbridge Firefighters © EVM



22 Great Stone Bridge © EVM