

Points of interest

Miniature Railway

The Little Braxted Bakery railway has a stretch of narrow-gauge track and two beautifully restored engines, plus carriages. The AK18 engine was originally 2ft 6in gauge and came from an explosives factory, while the Ruston locomotive came from a chalk works and was 70cm gauge, but both have been regauged to 2ft. Rides available.



Little Braxted Hall

This fine old Grade II Listed house dates back to the 15th century or earlier with later additions and alterations. It's timber framed and faced with red brick. Look out for the two octagonal chimney stacks at the front and one at the rear. The metal railings enclosing the garden are also Listed and have distinctive acorn finials on the posts.

St Nicholas' Church

When he became minister at Little Braxted in 1881, Rev Ernest Geldart, formerly an architect, found the interior dull so he decided to transform the Norman church, with a new font, chancel screen, altar and choir stalls, as well as spectacular painting, doing most of the stencil work and pictures himself. Almost every surface is intricately adorned.



George Washington's ancestor

Another famous rector of St Nicholas was Lawrence Washington, who was later ejected from another parish in Purleigh by Parliament for being a "frequenter of ale houses". His sons John and Lawrence emigrated to Virginia in America and his great-grandson, George Washington, became the first President of the United States of America.

Refreshments

The Braxted Bakery
The Green Man
The Bull

07740 117688
01621 737 299
01621 893385

@thebraxtedbakery .co.uk
greenmanlittlebraxted.co.uk
thebullatgreattotham

More locations available at visitmaldondistrict.co.uk/food-and-drink

A GREAT STROLL IN LITTLE BRAXTED

Short Walk

The quiet lanes around Little Braxted make a pleasant walk, with a richly decorated church and an unusual miniature railway at Braxted Bakery on the way



Mostly on lanes with firm tracks, some field paths which may be muddy. One stile but alternative route available



1 hr 5m to 1 hr 20m



3.3 miles



Farms and fields around Little Braxted

How to get here



Braxted Bakery, Little Braxted CM8 3ET*

*Parking for bakery visitors only



Bus 90 (Maldon-Witham)



Explorer 176



manuals.moguls.crafts



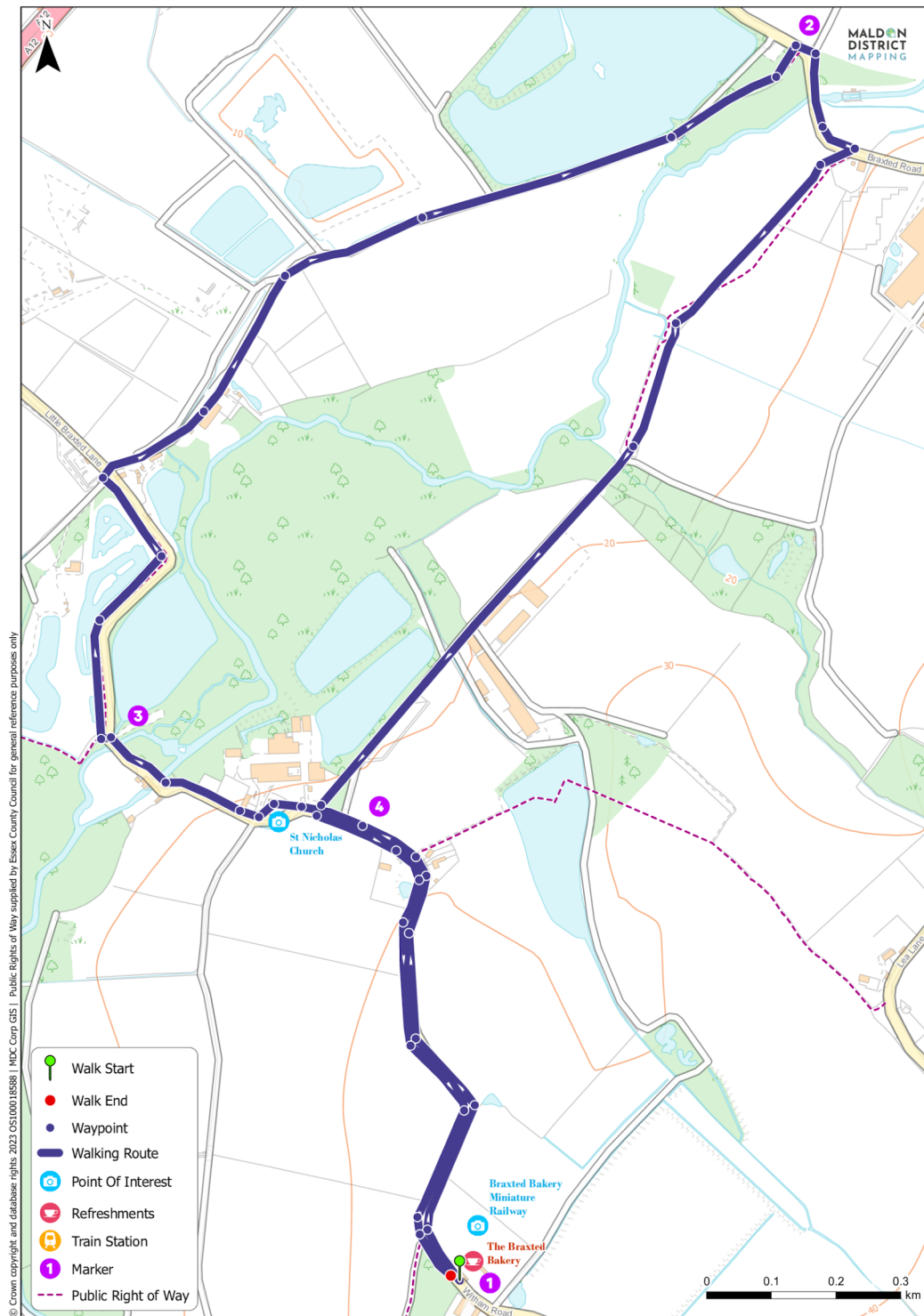
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Route

1. Leave the **Braxted Bakery** and turn right onto Little Braxted lane. Follow the lane for over half a mile, until you reach **St Nicholas' Church** (the parish church of Little Braxted, dating back to the 11th century and with a stunningly decorated interior). This Grade 1 Listed church is well worth a visit. It is often open for visitors, but if not, enquire in the offices behind the church to see if you can locate the keyholder. After visiting the church, continue along Little Braxted Lane, passing **Little Braxted Hall** (15th century with later additions) on your right. 180 yards after Little Braxted Hall, you will pass the imposing buildings of **Little Braxted Mill** on your left, built alongside the **River Blackwater**. These buildings date from the 18th and 19th centuries, but there has been a mill on this site since at least the Middle Ages. The current building and its attached mill bridge are Grade II Listed. Cross over the road bridge spanning the River Blackwater and look out for a stile and gate on the left.

2. Go over the stile and take the enclosed path to your right. Follow this for quarter of a mile (you will catch glimpses of fishing lakes through the hedges on the left) until you reach the access road to **Coleman's Fishery**. There is a lakeside tearoom here which is open to the public (opening times vary seasonally - check online first).

Accessibility note: If you are unable to use the stile, continue along the lane until you reach the access road to Coleman's Fishery. Cross over Little Braxted Lane and follow the signed footpath diagonally opposite. Go ahead on this well-surfaced track (soon passing to the left of **Coleman's Farm**) for three-quarters of a mile; look out for the large **Coleman's Reservoir** on your left, which is a popular fishing spot

3. Exit the track by going through the side gate alongside the electric security gate to reach Braxted Road. Turn right here and walk alongside this busy road with care for 250 yards. The road bridge spanning the River Blackwater is single lane, so look both ways for passing traffic. After crossing the **bridge** and just after the road sign for Great Braxted, turn right onto the footpath, going through a **kissing gate**. The path soon enters a large field. Continue in the same direction across the field to follow the path which soon runs to the right of a long fence. Go through the gate and follow the straight, wide track (passing farm buildings and a small solar farm) for half a mile. Go around the gate and exit the track on to Little Braxted Lane.

4. Turn left and retrace your route down this lane for half a mile until you reach the **Braxted Bakery** on the left, where you started the walk.