# Points of interest

### Jubilee Woodland

Southminster Jubilee Woodland was created in 2002 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II with the planting of thousands of trees. It is slowly developing into a mixed deciduous woodland, with a network of paths which are interspersed with beautifully carved wooden sculptures of various animals.





## Southminster through history

Southminster was historically the trading centre of the Dengie Peninsula, although the Great Depression of British Agriculture in late Victorian times led to a decline in its fortunes. Southminster was famous for its horse market, which was held annually and was a major fair in the area. Earliest recordings of the market date back to 1218.

## Wibblers Brewery

Wibblers Brewery is housed in a Grade II-Listed barn which dates to the 17th century. The brewery is renowned for the quality of its ales. In 2016, the microbrewery won CAMRA's Champion Winter Beer of Britain award for its Crafty Stoat, a dark and complex stout. The Brewery Taproom & Kitchen serves and award-winning range of food and drink.





### St Leonard's Church

St Leonard's Church dates mainly from the 15th century, with 12th century traces. Alexander John Scott, rector from 1806 to 1840, had been chaplain to Lord Horatio Nelson. After the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, Nelson died in the arms of Scott, who accompanied his friend's body back to England for burial. Artefacts of Scott's are in the church.

## Refreshments

Wibblers Brewery, Taproom & Kitchen The Station Arms The King's Head 01621 772044 01621 772225 01621 929983 wibblers.co.uk thestationarms.co.uk @khsouthminster

## **WOODS & LANES OF SOUTHMINSTER**

## **Short Walk**

This stroll around Southminster has a few surprises including a hidden wood with sculptures, lovely views, old houses and an award-winning microbrewery.



Mainly hard-standing, some field paths that can be muddy. No steps or stiles



55 to 70 minutes



2.36 miles



# How to get here



Car Park, 17A High Street, Southminster CMO 7AY



Buses 31, 331 & 332 (Chelmsford -Burnham) or trains from Wickford



Explorer 176

visitmaldondistrict.co.uk/walks



lordship.friction.uttering











## Route

- 1. Leave the car park and turn left into the High Street. After a third of a mile, cross the road and turn right into Devonshire Road. In 200 yards, just after passing Crown Lane on your left, go through the **kissing gate** into an area of woodland on the right. This is **Southminster Jubilee**Woodland. On reaching a crossroads of paths (there is a bench and a signpost here), turn left to follow the track through the wood. The woodland walk doesn't take long (only 250 yards), but it's a delightful oasis on the edge of town.
- 2. At the end of the woodland track go across the **footbridge** and take the field edge path ahead. In 30 yards, the path bends right through a gap in the hedgerow. Keep right here, walking on the right-hand edge of the large field, with a ditch and stream on your right, for 250 yards. On reaching a gap in the hedges, turn right and take the footpath heading towards the houses, on the left-hand side of the hedgerow. In 200 yards, turn left in the corner of the field to continue along its right-hand edge, with houses to your right.
- **3.** After 250 yards, the footpath exits onto Queenborough Road. Turn left here, soon passing the now-closed police station, which was built in 1901; the road becomes North End here. Between here and the junction with North Street there are several listed buildings on the left, including a 15th-century thatched cottage and **Home Farmhouse** (parts of which are 15th century). Go ahead on North End, until the road bends sharply to the left. At this point, go through the barrier to the left of the five-barred gate. There is a fork of paths across the field; take the right-hand path, which runs along the right-hand edge of the field. Note the line of **ancient oak trees** along this section of footpath.
- **4.** In 350 yards, turn right to follow the public footpath. There are fine views of the Dengie Peninsula and two **wind turbine sites** here. Go ahead on the path for a quarter of a mile, passing **Pandole Wood** on your right (this contains earthworks which date back to the **Iron Age**), until you reach the lane called The Marshes. Turn right here; you'll see **Southminster Hall** through the trees, which is used for wedding ceremonies. In 100 yards, turn left onto Goldsands Road to visit the **Wibblers Brewery, Taproom & Kitchen**.
- 5. Retrace your steps to the T-junction and turn left onto Hall Road. Note the fine water pump "erected by the Governors of the Charter House" in March 1832 on your left. It is one of only two known cast iron obelisk pumps in Essex, the other being at Ridgewell. Continue past the railway station and continue along Station Road. There are several fine historic houses along this road, including the 19th-century weatherboarded The Station Arms public house. Pass St Leonard's Church, cross over Burnham Road (with the The King's Head on your right) and after 130 yards you will reach the access road to the car park where we started the walk earlier.