

THREE DENGIE PUBS

PUB WALK



CIRCULAR WALK

Easy pub walk but good shoes recommended



START
STOW MARIES



2 HOURS
45 MINS



6.5
MILES



OVERVIEW

This walk features attractive countryside, a disused railway and three superb examples of village pubs on the Dengie Peninsula. All three offer excellent ranges of local beers and food to tempt you, before or after your walk. Please check availability and opening times before visiting.



HOW TO GET HERE



Location for the start of the walk:

Prince of Wales Public House, Stow Maries

OS Explorer Map No:

168 (Colchester)

OS Grid Reference:

TQ 830 993

Parking:

Prince of Wales car park, CM3 6SA -

(please ask the pub's permission first)

Public Transport:

Bus No. D5 from Burnham-on-

Crouch or South Woodham Ferrers

(www.traveline.info)

CAMRA (THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE)

CAMRA is a voluntary organisation campaigning for real ale, community pubs and consumer rights. Maldon & Dengie CAMRA is one of the smallest national branches; but we pack a big punch! We encourage our local breweries to supply good ale, help landlords to keep it and sell it that way and allow pub-goers to make good use of their locals and drink fine ale.



 maldonanddengiecamra.org.uk

M A L D O N D I S T R I C T



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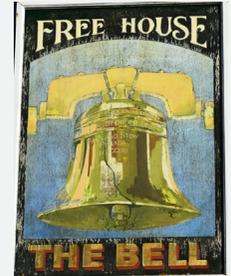


STOW MARIES GREAT WAR AERODROME

Stow Maries Aerodrome was built in 1916 to house the Royal Flying Corps, which would later become the RAF. It is the only intact First World War aerodrome in the world, other sites were all demolished or replaced by larger buildings during the Second World War. In 2012 all 24 surviving buildings were listed Grade II*. Because of the site's condition and importance, a number were included on the English Heritage "Buildings at Risk Register" but due to an extensive restoration project with a fantastic team of volunteers, 3 buildings were successfully removed from that list. The site is open for visitors, by air or by road and gives a fascinating insight to local history.

THE BELL PUBLIC HOUSE

The Bell Public House dates to the 14th century. The traditional interior includes an open fire and large fireplace and three dining areas featuring the original exposed beams. The pub has a reputation for good food and up to four ales are usually on offer. Allegedly, it was the home of George Washington's great-great grandfather, when he was rector of Purleigh church in the 1640's.



THE NORTON PUBLIC HOUSE

The Norton Public House is a community owned pub offering a friendly welcome. At least one locally-brewed beer is offered, with others sourced from all over the country alongside tasty home-cooked food.

THE PRINCE OF WALES PUBLIC HOUSE

The Prince of Wales Public House is an attractive 17th century weatherboarded pub which always features an excellent range of beers. There are three cosy drinking areas with open fires, and an old baker's oven which is used to cook legendary pizzas on Thursday evenings in the winter. All food is prepared and cooked in-house.



MALDON RAILWAY (DISMANTLED)

The dismantled railway track once formed the Maldon West to Woodham Ferrers line which opened in 1889. The railway linked with the newly constructed London Liverpool Street to Southend Victoria line which had opened the same year. During the Second World War the passenger services on the Maldon line were withdrawn and were never reinstated. From 1945, the line was used for goods traffic but with sadly closed in 1953.



PUBS ON OR CLOSE TO THE WALK



THE PRINCE OF WALES PUBLIC HOUSE, 6 Woodham Road, Stow Maries, CM3 6SA

- Tel: 01621 829971

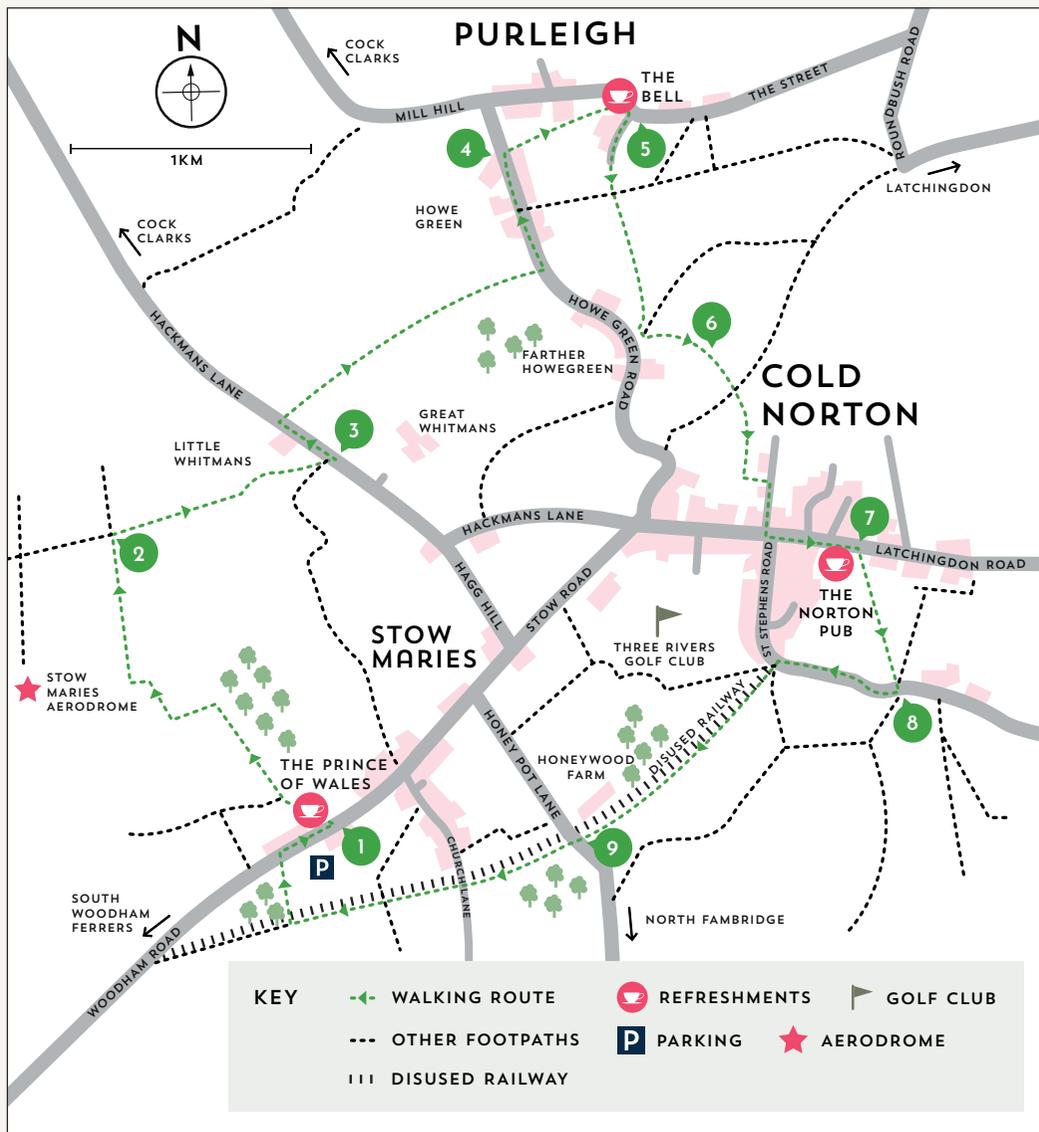
THE BELL PUBLIC HOUSE, The St, Purleigh, CM3 6QJ - Tel: 01621 828348

THE NORTON PUBLIC HOUSE, 54 Latchingdon Rd, Cold Norton, CM3 6JB - Tel: 01621 826948

STOW MARIES AERODROME CAFE, Hackmans Lane, Stow Maries, CM3 6RJ

- Tel: 01245 429134 (check opening times before visiting)

This walk was developed by Maldon District Council and Chris Harvey.



1. Leaving the Prince of Wales Public House, turn left along the road for 50 yards then turn left again onto the signed footpath. The path goes through the rear pub garden, following the signs to a metal gate. Go through the gate onto the fenced path. Go over a stile, coming to a footpath junction. Take the path opposite, gradually climbing along the right-hand edge of a large field. Follow the edge of the field as it bends left and right, taking the views to your left of the Crouch Valley. 0.5 miles after entering the field, look out for a small gap in the hedge with a signed footpath (this is about 100 yards before you reach a larger gap in the hedge (where you can see the end of the Stow Maries Aerodrome airstrip) – this footpath is easy to miss!

2. Turn right onto this footpath, go over a stile and head along the left-hand edge of the field, with good views of the Aerodrome to your left. After 0.3 miles, you will reach a footpath crossroad. Turn right to take the path going across the middle of a large field. Follow the path to a gap in the hedge and a footbridge, just to the right of a farm track. Cross the bridge to follow the left edge of two fields. At a gap in the hedge, go through it then take the path running diagonally across the field to the right and mount a new fence to continue on the path. Continue in this direction, walking to the left corner of the meadow and coming to a road (Hackmans Lane).

3. Turn left onto Hackmans Lane and walk for 200 metres to a footpath signpost. Turn right there and head gently uphill observing the stunning views across the area. On reaching a small wooden bridge, cross over and walk along the left edge of the field, heading gently downhill as the path becomes enclosed by fences and end at a 'Kissing Gate' by a road. Go through the gate and turn left onto the road. Walk on the road for 400 yards, passing several houses. At the last house on your right, look for a gap in the high hedge. Go through this gap, which brings you onto Purleigh village playing fields (cricket and football pitches).

4. Walk across the playing fields towards the children's playground, with the church on the hill ahead of you. Go over the small footbridge and stile and head uphill on the left edge of the field towards the church. At the top of the hill, go over the stile and head left along the path (known as "Rigby's Path"). This brings you out into the churchyard. Walk up to the gravel path by the church's main entrance; turn right along this path coming to a metal gate. Go through the gate and then turn left onto the road, by the "Bell" pub.

5. Turn right out of the pub car park and head south along Church Hill, passing Purleigh Hall until you reach a stile, climb over this and go across the field in the same direction to reach a gap in the hedge. Go over another stile, heading across the middle of a large field on a well-defined path in the same general direction. After crossing the field, go over the footbridge and take the path heading through the trees until reaching the common at Farther Howegreen. Turn left around the edge of the common and after 30 yards, turn left through the gap in the hedge (after passing beneath the overhead power lines) and head onto the path along right-hand edge of the field.

6. Continue into the next field, taking the well-defined path through the middle of the field. On reaching the edge of this field, cross over the track to go through the kissing gate opposite. Head across the field to a gate in an electrified fence (in the same direction as before). Go through this gate heading to the left corner of the field and go through the kissing gate, continuing along the fenced path. Go through another gate, crossing a raised wooden walkway over boggy ground. At the end of the walkway, turn left along the path between the fences. At the end of this path, turn right onto an unmade lane (Cherry Blossom Lane). On reaching the main road through Cold Norton village (Latchingdon Road), turn left and cross over the road. In 350 yards, you will reach the "Norton" pub.

7. From the Norton Public House, continue on Latchingdon Road, crossing over the road bridge (which goes over the dismantled railway). 80 yards after the bridge, turn right onto the signed footpath and follow the fenced path. Continue ahead (ignoring a footpath to your left), cross over a footbridge and follow the fenced path between the fields. Go through the gate and the end of the path to enter Cold Norton churchyard; continue ahead, exiting the churchyard onto the lane and turn right.

8. Heading over the hill, follow the lane for 0.5 miles (just before the houses) and turn left onto the signed bridleway which follows the route of the dismantled railway. After 0.6 miles, the path descends away from the railway line to meet a small lane. Cross the lane and climb towards the signed path opposite to resume your route along the dismantled railway.

9. Continue on the bridleway for 0.5 miles, the path goes through the Stow Maries Nature Reserve. After 0.3 miles (and crossing the lane) look carefully for a footpath sign to the right. Take this path crossing the footbridge and follow the left side of the field. On reaching the main road, cross over and turn right along the path for 200 yards to reach the "Prince of Wales" to complete the route.



Tell us what you think of the walk & send us your photos:



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