

• Distance 11km/7 miles • Time 5½hrs • Type Countryside and villages



1 NAVIGATION LEVEL 1 **1** FITNESS LEVEL 1

Plan your walk



WHERE: Circular walk from Duton Hill via Great Easton, Little Easton and Tilty.

START/END: Three Horseshoes PH (TL604268).

TERRAIN: Undulating countryside, grassy tracks and lanes.

MAPS: OS Explorer 195.

GETTING THERE: Essex County Council bus no.313 runs from Dunmow to Saffron Walden via Duton Hill.

EATING & DRINKING: Three Horseshoes, Duton Hill (☎ 01371 870681); The Stag, Little Easton; The Swan, Great Easton (www.swangreateaston.co.uk).

SLEEPING: 4-star Roslyns B&B is a renovated Victorian school in Little Easton (☎ 01371 852177, www.roslynsbandb.co.uk); Whitehall Hotel, Broxton (www.whitehallhotel-essex.co.uk).

VISITOR INFORMATION: Thaxted TIC (☎ 01371 831641).

LOCAL RAMBLERS AREAS/ GROUPS: West Essex Ramblers (www.westessexramblers.org.uk).



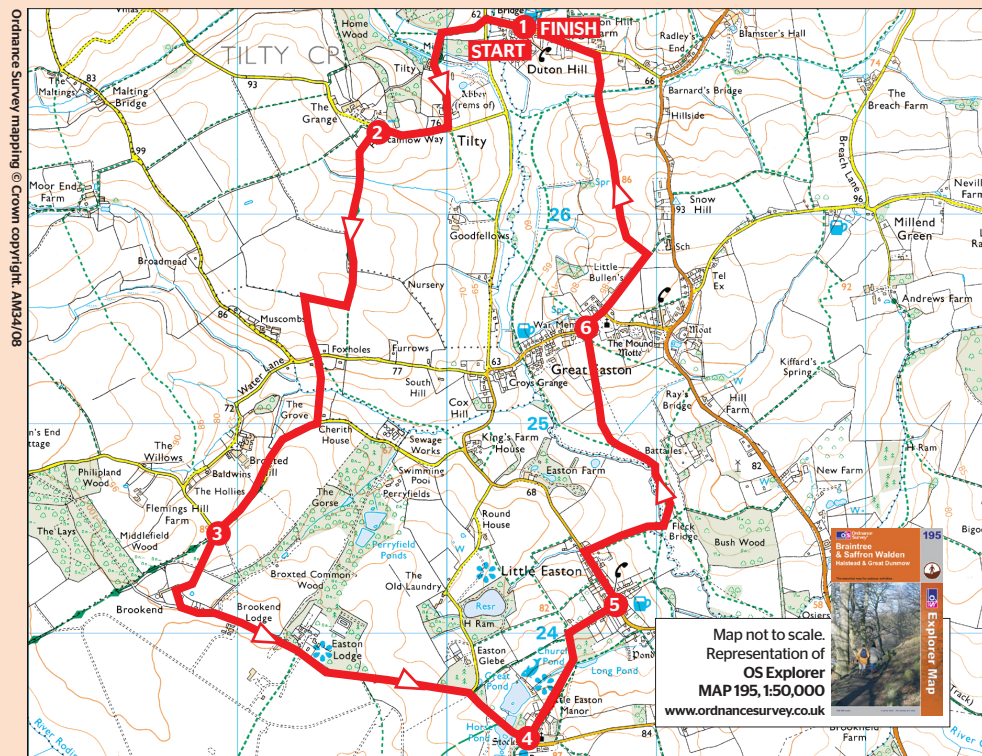
This delightful circular walk highlights one of Essex's secret corners. You will pass the 12th-century remains of Tilty Abbey, once a thriving community with its own vineyard, and follow a path used for centuries to Tilty church. Other highlights include 12th-century Little Easton church and its unusual Louvain Crusader tomb and the Norman motte on private land to the right of the church. Here too is Easton Lodge, once home to Edward VII's mistress, and its gardens, which are open from Easter until October.

1. START Turn L outside the pub and head gently downhill past a bridge to the crossroads. Take the Harcamlow Way footpath opposite. Cross the stream, bear L to follow the path along the field edge, and cross an earth bridge beside an iron gate. Keep ahead along a track passing a watermill and before the house, go through a gate on the left. Pass the remains of Tilty Abbey (TL601267), continue through the

field and go through the kissing-gate to Tilty church (TL600264)

2. At the T-junction past the church turn R along the lane and, after 400m, turn L before a house called Pumpkin Hall. The path crosses a stream and continues across fields. Keep to the right of the ditch as the grassy path later curves first right and then left and continues to a lane. Cross this, go over the stile, through a gate and head towards a gate on the opposite side of the paddock. Cross the footbridge, head along the left-hand field edge to a lane and turn R.

3. Where the lane bends sharp right keep ahead along a bridleway and, after about 100m, look out for a narrow footpath to the left of a paddock's fencing where you leave the Harcamlow Way. Continue ahead to reach an enclosed path between more paddocks and join the farm track between Brook End Farm and its stables. At the lane turn L to pass Easton

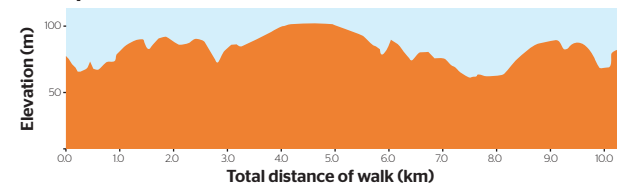


Lodge (TL593239). Bear R along the lane and pass between two ponds to reach Little Easton church (TL604235).

4. At a public footpath sign, turn L just before the church and go through the small iron gate on the right of the main one to enter the grounds to Little Easton Manor (TL604236). Pass between buildings, go through another gate leading to a grassy path across fields, and pass between two ponds. Ignore the footpath sign on the right and continue ahead beside the fence as it curves right, to join the bridleway. Keep ahead to a road.

5. Turn L and after 300m turn R at a public footpath sign along an enclosed path between houses. Where the gardens end, bear L, follow the downhill path to the

Steepness of walk



right of a stream, turn L over the second footbridge, keep ahead turning R across another footbridge, and go over a stile. Turn L, keep ahead to pass to the right of a copse, follow the riverside path and, before the ditch, turn R to follow the line of pylons, heading towards a waymarked fingerpost. Cross the plank footbridge, cross another bridge by a fingerpost and head towards the backs of houses to reach a road. The Swan pub is on your left.

6. Turn R and opposite Great Easton church (TL607255) turn L at a public footpath sign and go through a gate. Keep ahead and bear R along a gravel path. At the fingerpost turn L across the field and, at the waymarked fingerpost, cross the plank footbridge, continue along the right-hand field edge path and at the road turn L to return to the Three Horseshoes pub.
Route devised by Deborah King

Read more about this walk in our walk-in-depth feature on page 60.



Route and gradient profile created using Anquet Maps v06. Download more maps from www.Anquet.co.uk