

Hiking in Essex aimed at people in their 20's and 30's

Hike Essex

Summer Walks Program

June - August 2010



Hi Guys,

It only seems like a few short weeks since the Spring programme, but as usual we have packed so much in. For this years Easter weekend away we went up to Robin Hoods Bay, near Whitby in Yorkshire, which turned out to be an excellent choice even though the weather wasn't as kind as last year. The first day saw us walking through the Yorkshire moors alongside a steam railway run by local enthusiasts. On the second day we followed the beach along the coast encountering fossils and some seals before climbing up the steep sides to get some superb views before dropping back into Robin Hoods Bay.



Apart from the Weekend away we also had some really notable walks. For the 2nd year running we joined in the Croydon outdoor group's competitive walk in Kent, entering 2 teams and placing creditably mid pack after a 12 mile walk through beautiful scenery. We started the Thames path, from Rainham to Stanford Le Hope, with the final stages up to Southend forming part of this programme. We also visited the chocolate box village of Finchingfield in the North of the county (see below).



The Summer programme could be even better. We have 2 weekends away planned. The first a relatively local camping trip down to East Sussex, where we will be walking around the areas of the Battle of Hastings and Beachy Head. The second on August bank holiday weekend, going further afield to some real hills in the Brecon Beacons. Both should be great weekends, so please let the organisers know quickly so we can get them booked. We also have some great local walks lined up as well as a successor to the Monopoly walks, the "Utterly Trivial Pursuit", a competitive walk discovering yet more interesting places in the centre of London.

With summer approaching there is lots to look forward to so I hope to see you there.
Jon, Hike Essex Chairman.



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Walks

Stansted Mountfitchet

Sunday 6 June

A mixture of the old and the new, Stansted Mountfitchet is home to a castle, thatched cottages and a windmill. Despite the proximity of the airport, the countryside remains a beautiful place to visit.

Starting Stansted Mountfitchet/TL 514 248
Distance 7 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 11:00
Meeting point Stansted Mountfitchet Train Station. Trains arrive at 10:46 (from Harlow Town) and 10:51 (from the Airport). Car park costs 1 all day on Sunday.
Contact *Name* Ken
Phone 07527 403321
Email kenneth.ja.paterson@googlemail.com

The River Roach

Sunday 13 June

This is a circular walk that initially follows the River Roach before heading north inland to Paglesham Churchend. We'll be stopping at the Shepherd & Dog for a quick drink before finishing off the remainder of the walk which combines a mix of footpaths with some road walking.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Starting Wakes Colne/TQ 873 904
Distance 10 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 10:30
Meeting point Rochford Station.
Contact *Name* Karoline
Email karojasmin@aol.com

Fobbing and Vange Marshes

Sunday 20 June

Come and explore some of the last remaining fragments of Thameside Grazing Marsh. The Fobbing and Vange marshes are sites of special scientific interest, with coastal grassland, dykes and creeks. Drop out possible after 5-6 miles.

Starting Fobbing/TQ 718 834
Distance 11 miles
Walk grade Moderate
Start time 11:00
Meeting point Next to the Church in Fobbing
Contact *Name* Mark
Phone 07870 209364
Email scrameta@gmail.com

Thames Estuary: Part 3 of 5 - Stanford-le-Hope to Benfleet

Saturday 26 June

A varied linear walk starting with a brief section alongside the river before moving inland through fields and across marshland offering panoramas across the estuary. Pub stop (5 miles) or bring packed lunch. Pubs at the end.

Starting Stanford-le-Hope/TQ 682 822
Distance 13 miles
Walk grade Moderate
Start time 10:45
Meeting point Meet at Benfleet Station and catch 10.32am train; arrive Stanford-le-Hope 10.42am. Alternatively go directly to Stanford-le-Hope station for 10.45am start.
Contact *Name* Stewart
Phone 07776136536
Email publicity@hikeessex.org.uk

The John Ray Walk

Sunday 27 June

The John Ray Walk runs between Braintree and Witham mainly crossing fields and taking in a number of small villages including the Notleys and Cressing. John Ray is sometimes called "the father of English Natural History" and was born in Black Notley in the 17th Century. Dropout after 5 Miles.

Starting Witham/TL 821 145

Distance 9 miles

Walk grade Leisurely

Start time 10:15

Meeting point Witham station to catch the 10.23 train to Braintree. Anyone who would prefer to leave the car at the start, we will be leaving Braintree around 10.40.

Dogs welcome Y

Contact *Name* Nikki

Phone 07813 859940

Email nicolawilsonhome@aol.com

Chiltern Hills

Saturday 3 July

A walk in the Chiltern Hills. Come along for woodland, open lands and good views. Pub in Albury mid way and coffee house at end of walk

Starting Tring/SP 972 131

Distance 7 miles

Walk grade Leisurely

Start time 11:00

Meeting point Ashridge Estate visitor centre car park

Contact *Name* Adam

Phone 07813 210514

Email jim.panting@virgin.net

Manningtree

Sunday 4 July

walk through the Stour Valley, made famous by Constable. The walk passes by the settings of his most famous paintings.

Starting Manningtree/TM 094 323

Distance 12 miles

Walk grade Leisurely

Start time 11:00

Meeting point Manningtree Railway Station

Contact *Name* Jenni

Phone 0779 186 8887

Email jenniwade@hotmail.com

West Horndon to Upminster

Sunday 11 July

Linear walk through the countryside between West Horndon and Upminster. Pub at the middle and end. There will be an option to leave half way through as there is a half hourly bus service to Upminster from the pub at the middle of the walk.

Starting West Horndon/TQ 623 880
Distance 9 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 10:45
Meeting point If wish to park at Upminster and to get the train before the start of the walk please catch the 10:32 getting to West Horndon at 10:37am. Alternatively there is a half-hourly train service back to West Horndon after the end of the walk.
Contact *Name* Jo Miller

Blackmore to Stondon Massey Circular

Saturday 17 July

A leisurely walk across wide open fields with some good views. Please bring a packed lunch

Starting Blackmore/TL 603 017
Distance 5 miles
Walk grade Easy
Start time 11:00
Meeting point Outside The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore
Contact *Name* Alison
Phone 07905 768623
Email aliper@ekit.com

Into Colchester

Sunday 18 July

A long walk to stretch the legs. Starting in the vilage of Weeley, we walk back into Colchester, following the river for the latter half of the walk. A beautiful setting with a historic town at the end. A late finish - Pub at the end. Bring a packed lunch and plenty of supplies.

Starting Weeley/TM 147 224
Distance 15 miles
Walk grade Moderate
Start time 12:00
Meeting point Meet at Colchester bus station, taking bus 76 (departs 11:17) to Weeley. Alight outside the Black Boy pub.
Contact *Name* Becky

An Utterly Trivial Pursuit

Saturday 24 July

After 2 successful years of the Monopoly walk it was time for a change. So an Utterly Trivial Pursuit was born! Come along and join us for a team based competitive walk around London. You will be split into teams of about 6 and your objective will be to collect sets of interesting places around London within the allocated 3 hours. The team with the most points will win a prize. Simple! We will follow the walk with some food and a social in London. NOTE: Each team will need a camera and a London street map (ie: London A-Z). Distance is advisory and may vary.

Starting London/TQ 301 805
Distance 8 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 11:00
Meeting point Outside the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square (to the right of the main entrance)
Contact *Name* Jon
Phone 07971 855706
Email jon.caine@yahoo.com

St Peters Way from Galleywood

Sunday 25 July

St Peters way walk from Galleywood - 10 miles with a pub stop either in Stock or West Hanningfield.

Starting Chelmsford/TL 703 025
Distance 10 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 10:30:00
Meeting point at the main car park at Galleywood common.
Contact *Name* Jo
Email johannaholden@hotmail.com

Belhus Park

Sunday 8 August

A six mile figure of eight walk through Belhus Country Park. Please bring packed lunch.

Starting Averley/TQ 560 378
Distance 6 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 11:00:00
Meeting point Meet at first public car park on Warwick Lane.
Contact *Name* Brian
Phone 07943 251979
Email bjtaylor2906@yahoo.co.uk

Burnham-on-Crouch

Sunday 15 August

Enjoy a walk along the riverbank with views a plenty. Please bring a packed lunch, although a pub stop may be possible along the way.

Starting Burnham-on-Crouch/TQ 948 965
Distance 9 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 11:35:00
Meeting point Meet at North Fambridge train station at 11.05 for 11:23 train to Burnham. Parking costs 1.00, a one-way train ticket costs 2.80.
Contact *Name* Mark
Phone 07979 344510
Email ms.07979@googlemail.com

Thames Estuary: Part 4 of 5 - Canvey Island circular

Saturday 21 August

A circular walk around the perimeter of Canvey Island passing through nature reserves and beachfront, plus the occasional oil refinery, with good views across the Estuary. Lunch stop at the GradeII listed Labworth Cafe (8 miles) or bring packed lunch. Pubs at the end.

Starting Benfleet/TQ 777 858
Distance 14 miles
Walk grade Moderate
Start time 10:15:00
Meeting point Outside Benfleet Station
Contact *Name* Stewart
Phone 07776136536
Email publicity@hikeessex.org.uk

Lee Valley

Sunday 22 August

A walk following the 'gunpowder plot' at Waltham Abbey, waterways, ancient woodland and a host of views. Please bring a packed lunch although there will be an optional pub stop midway.

Starting Waltham Abbey/TL 384015
Distance 6 miles
Walk grade Leisurely
Start time 11:00:00
Meeting point Free car park at Cornmill Meadows(closes at 6PM)
Contact *Name* Shelley
Phone 7815896228
Email shelley.rowan@hotmail.com

Socials

3rd July Chicagos Rock Cafe Chelmsford

Meet at Chicagos Rock Cafe, Regent Theatre, 6 Moulsham St, Chelmsford, CM2 0HR at 19:30 for dinner and dance. Chicagos has a wide ranging menu so join us for a pleasant evening with the added option of staying on to dance into the evening.

Please confirm with Brian if you wish to attend so he may book our table (see below for contact details).

14th August Ice Skating in Chelmsford

Meet at the Riverside in Chelmsford to skate from 2:30pm till 5pm. Option of food and drink afterwards.

Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre
Victoria Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM1 1FG

Any queries Brian can be contacted via bjtaylor2906@yahoo.co.uk or 07943251979.