



Title: Bradwell

Distance: 12 Miles

Time taken: 4½ Hours

Location: Dengie Peninsula, 9 miles east of Maldon

OS Explorer Map: 176

Grid Ref.: TL 992 038

Parking: West Field car park, Tillingham, opp. St Nicholas's church, CM0 7TW

Bus:  Bus D1, two hourly from Maldon, no Sunday service

Train: No train service

Refreshment: The Green Man, Bradwell Waterside
The Fox and Hounds, Tillingham

PEAR Rating: 

Walk Description

Although this is a long walk, it's not demanding. The terrain is level, and the footpaths are well maintained, although not always clearly marked. About half the route follows the coastal path. This is beautiful, with plenty of visual interest. From the mudflats and seascape itself, to the ancient Chapel of St Peter-on-the-Wall, the sandy beaches along the northern shore, Bradwell marina with dozens of boats bobbing around on the water, even the power station: there's always plenty to see and enjoy. You don't really need directions for this part of the walk, they're only included them as an excuse to showcase some scenic photographs! But the first section, going east from the car park to the seashore, and the last section taking you back to Tillingham over fields and through woods, does warrant some guidance.

Directions

- A.** From West Field car park (P), cross North Street and enter St Nicholas's churchyard through the wooden gate. Pass to the left of the church and leave the churchyard via a kissing gate in the north fence. Turn right.
- B.** At the end of the fence there is a gap. Bear right through the gap and continue east with the hedge on your left (1) for about half a mile, until you reach a small lane (2).
- C.** Walk ahead along the lane ignoring the footpaths to the left and right until you reach a small industrial estate. The route continues eastwards but a few yards to the left, passing along a track between two buildings (3).
- D.** 200 yards past the industrial estate the track turns right and there is a field entrance on the left. The route heads diagonally across this field towards a small wooden bridge in the north east corner (4). However if the field is blocked by crops, stay on the farm track skirting the field.

- E.** At the far end of the wooden bridge, turn left along the farm track for 30 yards. Go around the corner then immediately bear left to go diagonally across the next field (5). At the start of this field crossing the end point isn't clear: head north east aiming to the left of a line of bushes (6). The land around here was reclaimed from the sea during the 18th century.
- F.** Carry on in the same direction, heading towards 2 trees to the left (north) side of the barn you can see in the distance. When you reach the trees, continue walking north east. The waymarker, half hidden behind the second tree, points out the direction (7).
- G.** Continue north east across the field then bear slightly right to walk east along the field margin. After 250 yards follow the field margin around to the left then turn right through a gate into some pasture. Walk straight ahead eastwards across this field to a gate onto a tiny lane (8).
- H.** Go straight ahead along the lane to a T-junction then turn left and walk along the lane towards the sea wall (9).
- I.** Climb up onto the sea wall and continue north, with the marshes and then the sea on your right. There is a radar station on the mud flats to your right, and you can see St Peter's Chapel in the distance.
- J.** Keep going for along the sea wall for about two miles, towards St Peter's Chapel. The path turns right towards the sea, then left along the coast (10) then moves back slightly more inland: all the way you have the borrowdyke on your left and the marshes on the right (11).
- K.** You will see St Peter's Chapel getting closer. Follow the coastal path towards a copse (12). Passing the bird observatory at Linnet's Cottage, you emerge from the copse to the grounds of St Peter's, one of the oldest churches in Britain.
- L.** From St Peter's, continue north along the coastal path, with some mature trees on your left. Near the northerly tip of the coast you will pass a line of barges which have been sunk offshore to protect the coast from erosion (13).
- M.** Follow the sea wall round to the left towards Bradwell Power Station, and keep walking alongside the estuary for a further two miles (14).
- N.** Walk past the power station and carry on as you pass tiny Pewet Island (enjoyed for many years by the smuggling fraternity) on the right and a holiday caravan park on the left (15).
- O.** When the grassy coastal path joins the road, turn left. There is a single storey, white painted cottage opposite, the 'Bradwell Centre for Outdoor Learning'. To the left of this there is a more modern house set back from the road. Take the footpath to the right (estuary-side) of this house, going up a slope towards the marina (16).
- P.** Alternatively, the Green Man is about 60 yards further up the road.
- Q.** Walk past Bradwell Marina observation tower, then past the clubhouse. Continue ahead into the boatyard passing to the right of the workshop and office. You will see the seawall ahead of you. Bear left to pass between the office and the seawall (17).
- R.** Go ahead across a piece of scrubland with the seawall on your right, then down the slope into a field. Turn right to walk around the edge on the field, with the seawall on your right. At the far end of the field turn left towards Westwick Farm, passing to the left of a pond, then turn right to go up a slope into a field, heading

south (18).

S. Walk ahead with the hedge on your right through a narrow field and then a wider one, for about a third of a mile. At the facing hedge, go through the corner (19) into another, bigger, field. The exit from this field is hard to spot: there's a tiny gap in the roadside hedge, about 50 yards to the right of a 5-barred gate.

T. Cross the road and take the footbridge and gate almost opposite (20). Carry straight on with a hedge on your left onto Maldon Road. Cross the road and turn left. After 140 yards, turn right alongside a wooden fence.

U. Continue straight ahead across the next field, following the line of telegraph poles towards some woods (21).

V. Enter the woods near their left margin. Continue south through the trees for 250 yards. Leaving the woods, continue straight ahead across another field, then into another tiny patch of woodland, known as Packards Grove.

W. As you leave Packards Grove, bear left to walk up a farm track heading southwards (22) passing Packards, a grade II listed building, on your left.

X. Just past the farmhouse follow the track around to the right (23). Walk along the track for almost a quarter of a mile until you reach a junction. Turn left towards Mark Farm (24).

Y. Continue into the farmyard until you reach The Granary on your left, then turn right to pass the barn (25). Follow the track round to the left to continue south with trees on your left and a market garden on your right.

Z. Go straight on along the track for about 500 yards until you pass through a small clump of trees then turn right, to re-trace your route back to Tillingham (26).

[ROUTE DIRECTIONS at www.essexwalks.com](http://www.essexwalks.com)

The ROUTE MAP and ROUTE PHOTOS **also** need to be downloaded and saved on your computer for printing.



The Route Map PDF can be downloaded from this page: [Description & Map](#)



The Route Photos PDF can be downloaded from this page: [Photos](#)

This route description is not meant to be used in isolation, it is one piece of a three part guide to the walk. The other two pieces are the route map, and the numbered photographs. The walks work best when the description, map and the photos PDF are printed off and used in conjunction with each other.

The numbers in brackets in the description refer to specific points along the route, marked with numbered symbols and these in turn are matched to illustrative photographs which show you the lie of the land.



These symbols are shown at strategic points along the route, overlaid on a 1:50K Ordnance Survey map: [Online OS Map at www.essexwalks.com](#).

Unless otherwise stated, the parking facilities available on this walk may not be suitable for large walking groups or those arriving in more than one car. Parking cannot be guaranteed. If you are using a car, be considerate with your parking: parking areas in rural communities are primarily for local use: please don't abuse this and spoil it for others. It could result in parking controls being tightened, requiring the withdrawal of the walk route. For more see: [Courtesy](#)