



Title: Epping Green

Distance: 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles

Time taken: 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours

Location: Between Harlow and Epping

Parking: Entrance to Bridleway, near Travellers Friend, Epping Green CM16 6PU

OS Explorer Map: OS Explorer 174

Grid Ref.: TL 435 055

Transport: [Regal Busways](#) 381/382 Mon-Sat Harlow - Epping

Refreshment: The Travellers Friend, Epping Green

The Cock & Magpie, Epping Green

King Harold's Head, Bumble's Green

The Sun Inn, Nazeing

Walk Description

This is an clockwise circular walk around sections of three named footpaths: The Forest Way, the Three Forests Way and the Stort Valley Way. The walk starts on the Forest Way heading west on a long wide public bridleway. The path then switches over to the parallel Three Forests way where there are views over the valley which is Nazeingwood Common. The route is over a fairly hilly part of Essex which makes for some lovely scenery. The footpaths are generally well-maintained and wide-enough for people to walk easily side-by-side, although the latest Ordnance Survey maps at the time of writing (April 2012) do not show changes to the waymarked footpath layout.

At Bumble's Green the route joins the Stort Valley Way through the golf course, and climbs the hill behind the historic Nazeing Park. From Nazeing, the walk rejoins the Three Forests Way bridleway, and again there are some scenic views across Nazeingwood Common near Lodge Farm. The walk continues back to Epping Green where there are two pubs to choose from. In fact this would be a great walk for a warm sunny day to sample the wares of no less than four watering-holes along the way!

Directions

A. From the parking area at the entrance of the bridleway, **(P)** head south west along the Stort Valley Way signposted to Harold Park Farm. This is Epping Long Green **(1)**

B. After half a mile, you will come to Old Farm. **(2)** Turn right here at the footpath waymarker, go over the footbridge and turn left onto a track.

- C.** Follow the track taking in the open views of Nazeingwood Common on your right video until the hedgerow begins to bend round to the right. On the left at the bend, the narrow footpath continues inside the wooded area (3) and bends round to the right before crossing a ditch and emerging into the open field (4).
- D.** Follow the field edge downhill in a north westerly direction, then turn left over an isolated footbridge (5).
- E.** Walk west for 280 yards, then at the facing hedge turn right so that the hedgerow is on your left (6).
- F.** After 340 yards, the hedgeline bends to the left towards a small footbridge heading south west (7). Cross the footbridge and carry straight on with the field edge to your left, crossing another footbridge. After a further 350 yards, turn right at the house towards King Harold's Head.
- G.** Just to the left of the pub, follow Belchers Lane north past Patience Cottage and Tays Farm (8) until you arrive at the Nazeing Golf Club entrance. To the left of the gates there is a stile into the golf course. Follow the green's edge round to the left until you see a footpath marker pointing across the green to the right. You are aiming for a waymark situated in the opposite hedge, in a line of red hedge markers. (9)
- H.** Follow the hedge with red posts down to the brook and turn right, following the Stort Valley Way markers. (10)
- I.** Continue for another 150 yards north east, until you come to a bridge over the brook with a small lake on the other side (11). Cross the bridge and immediately turn right following the hedgeline until you join a gravel track.
- J.** Follow the track round and cross over Nazeing Brook. As the track bends round to the right, leave the track (12), passing under the line of electricity pylons and walk up the left hand side of a driving range, alongside a hedge marked with red posts, towards a hillside white house. Look for a stile on the left field edge after 280 yards where the footpath leaves the golf course to walk along an enclosed path alongside the property (13).
- K.** The footpath leads onto Back Lane and carries on eastwards into the field opposite the house. Walk up the grassy hill towards the corner of the field diagonally opposite (14) with the Millenium Oak Circle on your right.
- L.** Take the footpath to the left of the timber clad houses and follow the path through to a tarmac access road. (15) Turn left and follow the track to the wrought iron entrance gates and to the T-junction with Betts Lane.
- M.** Turn left here and follow the road to the entrance of Longyard. Opposite this property, just before the red telephone box and post-box, there is a stile for the footpath to Broadley Common (16).
- N.** Follow the footpath through two fields, and in the third field head towards the righthand diagonal corner of the field (17) where there is a willow tree behind an electricity pole. Take the right-hand footbridge for the path passing alongside the Sun Inn's beer garden.

O. On reaching the main road (Common Road), turn left and look for the bridleway entrance about 50 yards away on the other side of the road, opposite Upper Gate House.

P. The public bridleway is signposted with 'Lodge Farm 1.2 Km' and is part of the Three Forests Way. After 500 yards a footpath crosses the bridleway. Take the footpath on the right and walk south along the field edge with a ditch on your left (18).

Q. After 180 yards of field edge, you will reach a footbridge. Cross the footbridge and carry on with the ditch on your right and join the farm track heading south to Lodge Farm (19).

R. As the track passes Lodge Farm and bends behind it, take the track on the right, initially downhill along a field edge (20).

S. The rest of the walk is a simple stroll straight back to Epping Green emerging rather appropriately by the Travellers Friend.

[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](#).