



Wivenhoe



Distance: 3½ miles

Time taken: 1½ hours

Location: 3 miles South East of Colchester

Parking: NCP Wivenhoe Station CO7 9DJ

OS Explorer Map: OS Explorer 184

Grid Ref.: TM 037 217

Transport: Train: Greater Anglia Liverpool St. via Colchester (approx 2/hour).

Buses from Colchester

Refreshment: Wivenhoe: The Rose and Crown

(and from Autumn 2013 the Black Buoy)


Walk Description


This walk takes you along the picturesque waterfront of Wivenhoe, alongside the quay festooned with fishing boats, and out into the broad open skies alongside the River Colne. It passes over the marshland, now grazed by cattle, traverses the old Wivenhoe to Brightlingsea railway line, and returns via an avenue of trees with wonderful views of the estuary from higher up. Listen to the birdsong in the well-established woodland bordering Arlesford Grange, before returning along the sea wall to relax outside the quayside Rose and Crown. Definitely an excursion to enjoy during the height of summer.

This walk is ideally suited to a relaxing day out by letting the train take the strain:

[Essex Train Stations](#)

Directions

A. Turn left out of Wivenhoe Rail Station () along Station Road. At the end of the road, turn right down Wivenhoe High Street, continuing through Anchor Hill to The Quay.

B. Turn left along the Quay, passing the Nottage Maritime Institute and Rose and Crown pub () Follow the footpath signs east along The Folly, and past Cook's Shipyard (1) to meet Walter Radcliffe Way. You are aiming for the footpath by the Colne Barrier (2) .

C. Immediately after the Colne Barrier you will find Wivenhoe Sailing Club. 170 yards further along the gravel riverside path, there is a fork in the path to the left over marshland (3).

- D.** This path (4) takes you up and over the dismantled railway, then climbing up an avenue of trees to a kissing gate onto Arlesford Road (5). Cross over the road outside a house called 'The Chase' and turn right along the raised roadside grass.
- E.** After 150 yards you will see a lane entrance over on the right on the corner of the main road, signed 'Arlesford Quarry'. Do not take the private quarry road - you need the bridleway which runs parallel to it on the right (6).
- F.** Carry straight on past Marsh Farm and Arlesford Grange (7).
- G.** 500 yards past the Arlesford Grange entrance, there is a footpath leaving the bridleway on the right, although this is easily missed when the trees are in leaf (8).
- H.** Follow the dogleg of the path keeping the hedge immediately on the right. It can give the illusion that you have turned 180° back on yourself but the path diverges away from the bridleway you've just walked and steadily goes downhill (9).
- I.** Further on, by a bench, the landowner has kindly provided an alternative route through the woods. Keeping to the field edge is the official line of the footpath (10).
- J.** At the bottom corner of the field, turn right into the woods and follow the steep trail downhill (11).
- K.** At the bottom, you will see the River Colne in front of you. Turn right along the tree-lined path back towards Wivenhoe. The enclosed path emerges onto the open seawall path after 400 yards (12).
- J.** The walk back is uncomplicated giving you a chance to enjoy the wonderful views along the river (13), and again enjoy the pleasant tranquillity of this village.

[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](#).