

GRIMSTON HALL HISTORICAL TRAIL

Distance 5km /3 miles

Start: Trimley St Martin Village Sign. This is on the green where the High Road meets St Martins Green and is visible from the High Road.

Buses and bus stop: Felixstowe Flyer buses numbers 75 and 77 from Felixstowe and Ipswich Cattle Market stop very close to the Village Sign.

Eateries: The Hand in Hand, Trimley St Martin and The Mariners, Trimley St Mary (both pubs). Goslings Farm Shop has a café serving breakfasts, lunches and snacks.

This walk will take you along pavements, bridleways, footpaths, across field tracks and through a wood. It is mainly on the level, but you will need to walk up a slope over the Equestrian Railway Bridge and down steps the other side. This is a good walk for history buffs, as it takes in a number of places that have an interesting history associated with Trimley St. Martin village. There are also lovely views over the River Orwell.

① From the **village sign**, take the High Road south towards Felixstowe. At the roundabout cross over **Howlett Way** and continue south on the High Road. When you see an island refuge, use this to cross over the road. Pass **Reeve Lodge** on your right and shortly after you will come to **Gun Lane** which is the first turn on your right.

② Follow the Restricted Byway over the fields.

③ Ignore the path to the left and continue on the Restricted Byway until you reach the new equestrian bridge called **Bridleway Bridge**.

④ Go over the bridge and down the steps. Turn sharp left at the bottom of the steps and follow the public footpath south with woods on your left. You can see **Felixstowe Docks** in the distance. Keep straight ahead along the RUPP/Restricted Byway. You reach a wide track and ahead of you is **Grimston Hall**.

⑤ Turn right on to **Grimston Lane**.

⑥ A few metres on your left you will see a footpath sign which you take. The path is fairly narrow. You can see more of Grimston Hall on your left. As you approach the old farm buildings ahead, the path bends round to your right and then becomes a three way junction.

⑦ Take the footpath straight ahead through the woods. At the end of the footpath is a nice view over the River Orwell. The footpath now rejoins Grimston Lane.

⑧ Turn right here. Opposite you is **Alston Hall**, now one large cottage. Walk a few metres along the road.

⑨ Where the road goes to the right, take the footpath to the left of the cottage, passing to the side of metal gates. This is a wide track and passes through a wood. When the wood opens out on to fields you will again have lovely views over the River Orwell. The track ends at a T junction meeting **Goslings Track**.

⑩ Take the footpath to your right, go past barns on your right which belong to **Goslings Farm** and then walk to the side of a large metal gate. The track merges into **Thorpe Lane**.

⑪ Take great care when you walk around the corner here because of traffic. Continue walking along Thorpe Lane. At the next corner is a cul-de-sac to your right, continue straight ahead on a footpath between the cottages to the side of a metal gate. One of these cottages is known locally as **Plague Cottage**.

⑫ Take the footpath into the field. This bends to the left and then goes diagonally across a field. It emerges on to Grimston Lane.

⑬ Cross over Grimston Lane and up a slight grassy slope opposite. Take the narrow public footpath which runs between two properties. The path reaches the side of the railway.

⑭ Turn right following the path alongside the railway line until you reach Bridleway Bridge at point ④. Go up the steps, over the bridge and down the steps the other side. Take the path directly ahead of you, which runs alongside a small wood on your left.

⑮ At the end of the wood, turn right following the path under the electricity wires. The path passes through a hedgerow into a second field. (Ignore path on left leading to the housing estate.)

⑯ Follow the path along the field boundary. The official footpath runs diagonally across a field to the High Road.

⑰ Once on the High Road, turn left, cross over **Goslings Way** and then continue along the road until you reach the island refuge, cross here and return to the Village Sign.

N.B. The words that are emboldened can be referenced in a separate Gazetteer also found in this section of the website.