

WALK 2 'THE SCHOOL RUN'

Distance: short 5.13km, 3.2 miles; long 7.13km, 4.4 miles.

Start: Trimley St Martin Village Sign. It is on the green at the junction of the High Road and St Martins Green.

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. The Artisan Smokehouse, Falkenham, open: Thursday-Saturday 10a.m.-4p.m.

This is a circular walk along pavements, bridleways, across field tracks and a short path through a wood. It is mainly on the level, but there is a ramp up and down the footbridge over the A14. Two distances are given as there is a shorter route if preferred. The longer route takes in The Artisan Smokehouse in Falkenham. However this is only open on certain days but would make a nice break in your walk as there is a lovely café with some outside seating overlooking the countryside.

① From the **village sign**, walk north-east along **Old Kirton Road**, passing **Cavendish Road** on your left until you come to **Mill Lane**, cross over and continue along Old Kirton Road. About 50m on your right you will see barriers which is the start of the footbridge over the A14. Cross over this.

② After crossing the footbridge, pass the Trimley St Martin village notice board on your right. Continue north along **Kirton Road**. You will pass Roselea Nursery Farm shop on your left. Continue on the pavement until you reach **Trimley St Martin School** on your right. This is worth a quick look. Retrace your steps a few metres until you reach the end of the houses.

③ Cross over the road here and walk east along the bridleway (same side as the school). This is very pleasant in early summer when the wild roses are out and in September with hips and haws. Eventually you will come to wide track running north/south.

At this point you can take a longer walk called 'The Artisan Route' which is at the end of this information. For the shorter route continue as below.

④ Turn right and continue on the footpath passing woods on your left. On the horizon you will see cranes from **Felixstowe Docks**. Also to your left in the distance you can see Trimley water tower. After about half a mile the footpath reaches Capel Hall Lane.

⑤ Cross over Capel Hall Lane to the footpath opposite. Walk through the field. After about 180 metres the path joins another footpath which runs diagonally across the field. Turn right and keep straight until you reach the edge of the field. This joins a bridleway.

⑥ Turn left on to this bridleway. This was known as Sandy Lane. The bridleway runs parallel to the A14 here. You will pass the site of the **Mill Pouch** where the land drops steeply to your left. You then pass a very sandy area. The track running close to the A14 can be very noisy. The bridleway eventually meets **Thurmans Lane**.

⑦ Turn right under the underpass. Walk up Thurmans Lane. A few metres on your right, you will see a bridleway to your right.

⑧ Take this track until it reaches the woods on your right, then take the first footpath on the right you come across, into the woods. Continue along this path until you see a sign which indicates that the bridleway goes off to the left.

⑨ Take the bridleway across the field. On your right you will see a **WW2 pill box** in the field. Continue along the bridle way until it emerges into **Church Lane** and continue along Church Lane. You will pass **Trimley St Martin church** on your left. When the road joins the High Road, turn right.

⑩ Continue along the High Road passing the Post Office on your right until you reach the roundabout. Cross over the roundabout and continue along the High Road until you reach the village sign.

The Artisan Loop

For a longer walk from point ④ turn left along the wide track, passing barns on your left. Continue walking straight passing **Hams Farm** on your left until you reach Back Road.

A Turn right on to Back Road. A few metres on your right you will come to the Artisan Smokehouse-Café-Deli. Continue till you reach the T junction.

B Turn right at the T junction on to Falkenham Road. At the end of the houses on your right take the first right road into Back Lane.

C Follow the road round to the left. There are lots of overhanging trees along here. Continue until you see a sign for a bridleway to your right.

D Take the bridleway with a hedge on your left. At the bottom of a slight slope, you'll come to a copse. The wood on your left is known as **The Rookery**. At this point the bridleway bends round to the left over Falkenham Brook. Carry along the bridleway until it eventually meets the track you were on before at point ④. Turn left and continue the short route from this point.

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