

Marching around Hedingham

In a new series of walks around the county, the Public Rights of Way team introduce a short walk for beginners at Hedingham Castle

1 START the walk from the Sudbury road (B1058), opposite the children's play park taking the pavement uphill to the start of the public footpath on your right. Once on the path it continues uphill, past the cricket ground on your right, until you come out opposite Rosemary Farm, which now provides holiday accommodation, on Rosemary Lane.

2 Turn left onto the lane and follow it as it curves past properties set around Rushley Green. There is a resting place and information about the green here.

3 Pass Keepers Cottage and a large gnarled tree on your left.

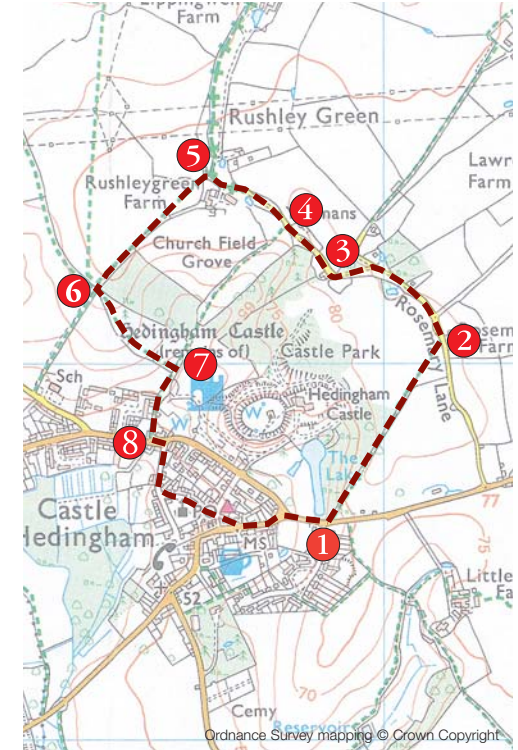
4 Continue past the first stile on your left on to a byway. This leads up to Rushley Green Farm where you will see a further stile on your left.

5 Go over the stile following the hedge line to your left over several more stiles, where cattle may be grazed, getting a good view of the castle until you reach a crossroad of footpaths. You have the option of carrying on straight ahead to the local primary school or turning left across the open area of pasture towards the castle.

6 Turn left onto the footpath, walking across the pasture. At the end of the path, there is a T-junction, turn right.

7 This takes you into an enclosed lane which takes you out on to Bayley Street.

8 Turn left here and make your own way through the village. There are lovely little narrow streets with a mixture of Georgian houses and medieval timber-framed cottages, a youth hostel housed in a 16th century building and a chance to enjoy the pubs and tea shop as well as perhaps paying a visit to the castle, which dominates views of the village.



Above Jousting at the castle
Left Hedingham Castle
Below Villagers in Castle Hedingham



Essential checklist

Distance Approx. 2 miles / 3.2 km (although more if you walk round the village and castle)
Terrain There are some steep slopes and stiles en route
Start Sudbury Road, opposite the children's play park
Map OS Explorer 195 Braintree & Saffron Walden
Parking Roadside parking in the village
Refreshments Pubs and tea shop in Castle Hedingham
Tourist Information Braintree TIC, Town Hall, Market Place, Braintree ☎ 01376 550066
HEDINGHAM CASTLE Open 10am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday, April to October, events throughout the year, check website for details www.hedinghamcastle.co.uk or ☎ 01787 460261
COLNE VALLEY RAILWAY See website for details www.colnvalleyrailway.co.uk or ☎ 01787 461174
 On-road parking is available around the village or at the pubs if you plan to go in afterwards.

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