

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Route overview

Following sections of the Saffron Trail and Harcamlow Way. Transport links are good on this stage and there is a good selection of places for refreshment in Stansted Mountfitchet, Newport and Saffron Walden.

An initially steep climb from Stansted Mountfitchet quickly brings you out of the village and into high country, reaching Ugley's isolated church in **3.5 miles**. A further **2.7 miles** takes you, after a dip to the River Cam, uphill again to join the Saffron Trail to Widdington. Newport, in another **2.4 miles** on the Saffron Trail, marks the rough half-way point and, with its pubs, grocery, B&B and railway station, is a good place to rest, or split the stage over two days.

Leaving Newport you follow the Harcamlow Way long-distance path for **4.4 miles** to Audley End. A final **1.2 miles**, now on the Saffron Trail once more, takes you to Saffron Walden, and the end of this stage.

14.2 miles (22.9km)



Public transport options

There are **train** stations at Stansted Mountfitchet and at the midpoint of Newport. Audley End is the nearest station to Saffron Walden (1 mile away). **Bus** options include: the No 301, which calls at Stansted Mountfitchet, Newport, Audley End and Saffron Walden; and the No 59/60 between Audley End and Saffron Walden. See also public transport map and table pp29-31.

Where to eat or stay along the way

- **Stansted Mountfitchet** (see Stage 3, p61)
- **Widdington** (after 6.2 miles/10km) **Eat** at the *Fleur de Lys* pub (☎ 01799 543280, thefleurdelys.co.uk, High St; Thur 6pm-10.30pm, Fri-Sat noon-10.30pm, Sun noon-7pm, Mon-Wed closed, food Thur 6pm-9pm, Fri & Sat noon-3pm & 6pm-9pm, Sun noon-5pm) a pleasant village local with good food.
- **Newport** (after 8.6 miles/13.9km) **Stay** at *Toll House B&B* (☎ 01799-732944 or 07946-

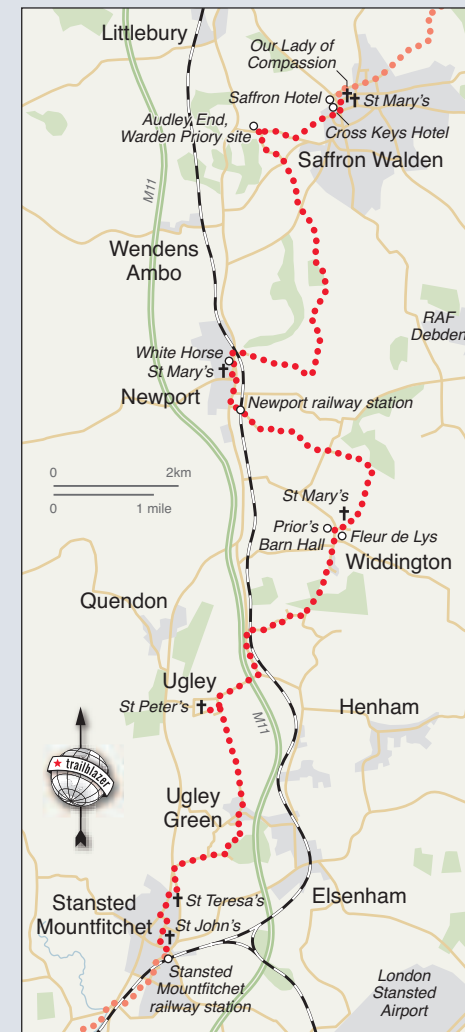
- **Terrain** Gently rolling hills, walking on footpaths and quiet lanes
- **Difficulty** Easy
- **Cumulative distance from London** 61.5 miles (99km)
- **Time** 5hrs actual walking time
- **Total ascent** 263m, 862ft
- **Map** OS Explorer 195 *Braintree & Saffron Walden*
- **GPX route file & directions*** 504.pdf, 504.gpx, 504.kml at <https://trailblazer-guides.com/press> * See pp27-8 for more information on downloads

484498, thetollhouse.co.uk; Belmont Hill), a friendly B&B with good breakfasts. **Eat** at the *Coach and Horses* (☎ 01799-540292, Cambridge Rd; open Mon-Thur noon-3pm, 6pm-11pm, Fri & Sat noon-3pm & 6pm-midnight, Sun noon-9pm, food Mon-Sat noon-2pm, 6pm-9pm, Sun noon-3pm), a former coaching inn with good pub grub, 400 yds further north after route leaves the village, or rehydrate at the pleasant **drinks-only** *White Horse Inn* (☎ 01799-540002, Belmont Hill; Mon 3pm-midnight, Tue-Thur 4pm-midnight, Fri 4pm-1am, Sat noon-1am, Sun 9am-midnight).

● **Saffron Walden** Good accommodation options include *Cross Keys Hotel* (☎ 01799-522207, theoldcrosskeys.co.uk; 32 High St), a lovely medieval inn with **restaurant** (Mon-Sat noon-8pm, Sun noon-5pm); and former coaching inn *Saffron Hotel* ☎ 01799-588882, saffron-hotel.co.uk; 8-12 High St) which has good **pub grub** and Sunday roasts in its *Saffron Kitchen* (Wed & Thur 5-8.30pm, Fri & Sat noon-8.30pm, Sun noon-4.30pm, Mon & Tue closed). For a **snack** or **afternoon tea**, try *Tea Amo* (☎ 01799 529102, teaamo.co.uk, 5 Cross St; Tue-Sun 9.30am-4pm, Mon closed;) or *Elder Street Café & Deli* (☎ 01799-543598, elderstreet-cafedeli.co.uk, Elder St; Mon-Sat 9am-4.30pm, Sun 10am-4pm).

Services

- **Stansted Mountfitchet** (see Stage 3, p61)
- **Newport** For **groceries** there is a Nisa (Mon-Sat 7am-10pm, Sun 7am-7pm) on High St, or stock up on picnic supplies at **bakery** Dorington's (☎ 01799-541533, 24 High St; Mon-Fri 7am-4pm, Sat 7.30am-3.45pm, Sun closed) which does excellent sandwiches, baguettes and pastries.
- **Saffron Walden** Stock up on **picnic supplies** at Waitrose on Hill St (Mon-Sat 7am-9pm, Sun 10am-4pm) or Costcutter (daily 7am-11pm) at 41-45 High St. If you need a **laundrette** there's Launderet (☎ 07779-136495; daily 7am-9pm; 7 Emson Cl).



		LONDON TO WALSINGHAM CAMINO
		Stage 4: Stansted Mountfitchet to Saffron Walden
Distance from start	Distance from last waypoint	
0	0	From Stansted Mountfitchet railway station, walk up Station Rd and turn left into Chapel Hill, immediately crossing at the pedestrian crossing on the corner and turning left to continue up Chapel Hill to St John's Church.
330yds/300m	330yds/300m	Arrive at St John's Church . To continue, walk round the building to the car park and out into St John's Hill, and turn right to follow that road.
770yds/700km	440yds/400m	Follow St John's Rd as it turns right angle left, and walk to the end, where it meets Cambridge Rd, the B1383.
990yds/900m	220yds/200m	Turn right into Cambridge Rd, and walk until you reach St Theresa's church , on your right.
0.8miles/1.4km	550yds/500m	Turn right through the garden and walk around to the other side of St Theresa's church, where you will find the entrance. To continue, walk on through the car park to emerge at High Ln.
0.9miles/1.5km	110yds/100m	Turn left into High Ln and walk until you reach a roundabout.
1.1miles/1.8km	330yds/300m	Turn right just before the roundabout and cross High Ln, turning left on the other side to walk past the roundabout and enter Cambridge Rd. Just into Cambridge Rd, look out for a turning on your right, Alsa St.
1.2miles/1.9km	110yds/100m	Turn right into Alsa St, and continue until you see the Aubrey Buxton Nature Reserve on your right.
1.7miles/2.8km	990yds/900m	Take the footpath on the left, opposite the entrance to Aubrey Buxton Nature reserve. A post beside this path has a roundel, reading: 'Public Footpath'. Follow this path as it turns between high hedges, turns right, and then left to skirt Alsa Wood.
1.9miles/3.1km	330yds/300m	On the far side of Alsa Wood, follow the path as it turns right, walking until the path reaches a T-junction.
2miles/3.2km	110yds/100m	Turn left at the T-junction. There is a 'Public Footpath' roundel. Walk until you reach Dellows Ln.
2.1miles/3.4km	220yds/200m	Turn right into Dellows Ln and walk up to Ugley Green

2.2miles/3.6km	220yds/200m	At Ugley Green, skirt to the right-hand side of the green, cross over, and take Field Gate Ln. A white fingerpost points the way.
2.6miles/4.2km	440yds/400m	Where Field Gate Ln becomes a track, at Fieldgate Farm, continue straight on along the track until you reach Ugley Farm, where you continue through the farmyard, looking out for Ugley church off to your left.
3.3miles/5.4km	0.8miles/1.2km	Turn left to reach the churchyard.
3.5miles/5.6km	220yds/200m	Arrive at St Peter's church , Ugley. To continue, retrace your steps through the churchyard and turn right, away from Ugley Farm, to continue along the track, until you reach a lane.
3.7miles/5.9km	330yds/300m	Turn right into the lane. There is no pavement, but it is possible to follow the field margin to the left of the road, or walk on the narrow grass verges. Continue beneath the M11, until you reach a T-junction.
4.2miles/6.7km	880yds/800m	Turn left at the T-junction into North Hall Rd. A white fingerpost indicates 'Henham' and 'Elsenham'. Continue until you reach a lane on your right, with a white fingerpost indicating 'Little Henham'
4.6miles/7.4km	770yds/700m	Turn right into the lane, where a white fingerpost indicates 'Little Henham'. Pass beneath the rail lines and follow the lane as it snakes left and right until you reach a T-junction, at Little Henham Hall
5.3miles/8.5km	0.7miles/1.1km	Turn left when you reach the lane at Little Henham Hall, following a concrete 'Public footpath' sign. Walk through the farmyard to reach woodland, where the path goes straight ahead into the trees, a sign reading 'Landowners Welcome Careful Walkers' beside the path.
5.5miles/8.9km	440yds/400m	On the far side of the wood you join a path marked with the pink roundel with crocus flower of the Saffron Trail.
5.7miles/9.2km	330yds/300m	Bear left to join the Saffron Trail, passing to the right of High Wood and walking along the right-hand margin of a pasture. Where the path ahead bears right and runs between hedges, follow it. A Saffron Trail roundel points the way.
5.8miles/9.3km	110yds/100m	Where the path reaches a lane called Wood End, turn right into the lane (Saffron Trail roundel) and continue into the village of Widdington, where the road becomes High St. Continue along High St to the centre of the village.
6.2miles/10km	770yds/700m	Arrive at the <i>Fleur de Lys</i> pub, Widdington.

		<p>For St Mary's, Widdington bear right just after the pub to take South Green, then turn right into Church Ln. St Mary's is on your left.</p> <p>If you wish to visit Prior's Hall Barn (English Heritage), then instead of turning right at South Green, continue on down the High St, and follow it as it curves left. The entrance is a hundred yards or so along, on the left.</p>
6.4miles/10.3km	330yds/300m	Immediately after St Mary's, take the footpath running left (Saffron Trail roundel). It passes through a narrow belt of trees then turns right (signpost with Saffron Trail roundel on the ground when I last visited). A well-marked track then runs left at a 45 degree angle, crossing a large field to reach Park Wood.
6.8miles/10.9km	660yds/600m	Follow the path as it skirts to the left of Park Wood, then continues over another prairie-like field to reach Cabbage Wood.
7.1miles/11.4km	550yds/500m	When you reach Cabbage Wood, turn left along the wide, well-used farm track (Saffron Trail roundel) to reach Waldegraves.
7.4miles/11.9km	550yds/500m	At Waldegraves continue straight on along the same farm track (Saffron Trail roundel) until you reach a lane.
7.5miles/12.1km	330yds/300m	Turn left onto the lane and cross over, following the lane as it curves left. After 100yds take the track leaving on your right. (Saffron Trail roundel and black Byway sign). Follow this track as it descends to the village of Newport, reaching the railway station.
8.6miles/13.9km	1.1miles/1.8km	At Newport railway station, turn left (Saffron Trail roundel and Byway fingerpost) cross left over the footbridge to emerge in Station Rd, which you follow up to London Rd B1383.
8.9miles/14.1km	220yds/200m	Turn right into London Rd and continue to Church St. We leave the Saffron Trail at this point.
9.1miles/14.6km	550yds/500m	<p>Turn left into Church St for St Mary's, which is 100yds straight ahead.</p> <p>To continue, retrace your steps out of the churchyard and turn immediately left down the lane to Elephant Green, emerging in Belmont Hill, which is the continuation of London Rd,</p>
9.2miles/14.9km	110yds/100m	<p>Bear left to follow Belmont Hill.</p> <p>The White Horse pub is on the opposite side of Belmont Hill.</p> <p>To continue, carry on along Belmont Hill, looking out for Water Ln, a turning on your right.</p> <p>If you wish to visit the Coach and Horses, it is another 400yds on along Cambridge Rd after the turn-off described below.</p>

9.3miles/15km	110yds/100m	Turn right into Water Ln, and continue under the railway line. At this point we join another long-distance footpath, the Harcamlow Way. The track is called Bromley Ln.
9.9miles/16km	0.6miles/1km	Bear slight right along the way marked with a 'Public Footpath' sign and, when I last visited, a small remaining fragment of a Harcamlow Way roundel.
10.1miles/16.3km	330yds/300m	A Harcamlow Way roundel indicates the path continues straight on. Ignore the footbridge on your right just after it, and continue along the left-hand bank of Debden Water.
10.2miles/16.4km	110yds/100m	At a T-junction of paths, turn left (Harcamlow Way roundel) to pass through a narrow belt of trees and climb a steep incline through a pasture.
10.3miles/16.5km	110yds/100m	Pass through a hedge, where the Harcamlow Way roundel is often obscured by new growth. The path kinks left to follow the left-hand field margin towards a wood called Rosy Grove.
10.6miles/17km	550yds/500m	At Rosy Grove continue straight on, the bulk of the wood on your left, the path marked with a Harcamlow Way roundel.
10.8miles/17.4km	440yds/400m	Where the path divides, take the right-hand option, swinging through a shallow angle (Harcamlow Way roundel) and continue along the field margin.
11.1miles/17.9km	550yds/500m	The path takes a shallow turn left, (Yellow arrow roundel) to pass to the right of Brakey Ley Wood.
11.4miles/18.3km	440yds/400m	Close to the far side of Brakey Ley Wood a post containing several roundels, including a Harcamlow Way roundel, shows the path bearing slight right.
11.7miles/18.9km	660yds/600m	Although a clear path continues straight ahead, at this point you should turn left to cross the stream via a farm-vehicle bridge (Harcamlow Way roundel) and turn right on the far side to continue along a track called Beechy Ride to reach the B1052.
12miles/19.3km	440yds/400m	Cross straight over the B1052, Newport Rd (Harcamlow Way roundel) to follow the continuation of Beechy Ride. Continue past Abbey Farm, where the track becomes a tarmacked lane.
12.7miles/20.5km	0.7miles/1.2km	Bear right to continue along the lane (Harcamlow Way roundel) as it passes through the Audley End Estate and takes you out to Audley End Rd.
12.9miles/20.8km	330yds/300m	Turn left at Audley End Rd.
13miles/21km	220yds/200m	Reach the entrance to Audley End House , site of Warden Abbey . To continue, retrace your steps, but continue along Audley End Rd past the point at which you joined it, looking out for a gateway in the brick wall to your left.

13.5miles/21.7km	770yds/700m	Take the path through the gateway on your left (Saffron Trail and Harcamlow Way roundels, as these paths combine on this stretch). Emerge on the far side of parkland in Abbey Ln.
13.7miles/22km	330yds/300m	Walk up Abbey Ln to High St.
14miles/22.6km	660yds/600m	Turn left into High St. The <i>Cross Keys Inn</i> is on your right after 100yds. Continue to Church St, a turning on your right. The <i>Saffron Hotel</i> is just past this turning, in High St.
14.1miles/22.7km	110yds/100m	Turn right into Church St for St Mary's, which is 200 yards ahead on your left.
14.2miles/22.9km	220yds/200m	Arrive at St Mary's , Saffron Walden.