

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Route overview

12.2 miles (19.7km)

This stage is deep in the countryside with little in the way of buses or services along the way, although there is a good pub and a village shop (open mornings only) at Hundon, the halfway point. Note that at the time of research the pub in Stansfield was closed pending new ownership, so until it reopens, options to stay overnight are either a mile before or a mile after the end of this stage, or take a taxi to Bury St Edmunds.

The route begins with a **2.5-mile** stretch, first climbing gently but steadily, then descending similarly, over quiet lanes to Great Wratting. There is a further climb and descent to Hundon (**4.8 miles**), where this stage could be divided.

From Hundon it is **2.1 miles** on footpaths, ascending steadily to Chipley Abbey Farm, site of Chipley Priory. The final stretch is a steady descent, followed by a short up-hill section for Stansfield, reached in another **2.8 miles**.

Public transport options

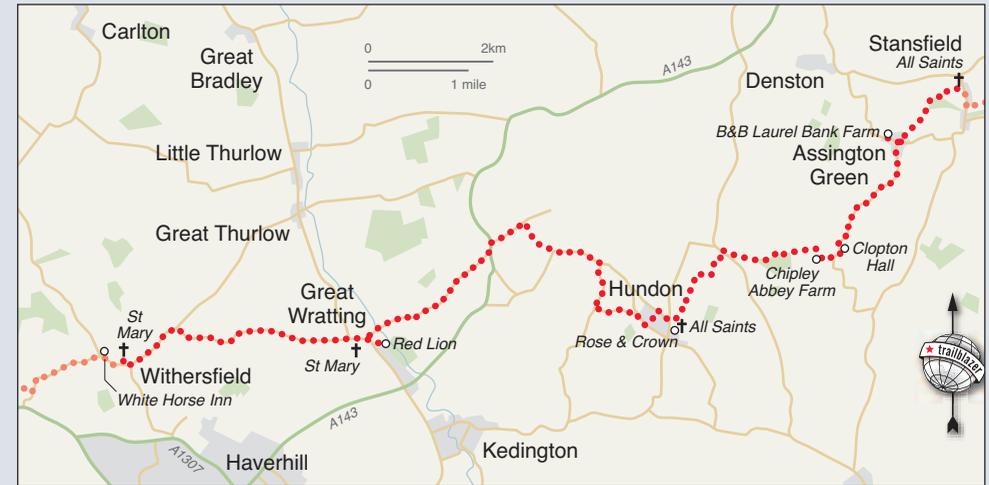
This stage is very rural with no stations and limited bus services. Withersfield is linked with Haverhill (3 miles away) by the twice-daily Star Cabs No 351 bus or SE1 community bus (pre-booking essential) which can also call in Great Wratting, Hundon and Stansfield by arrangement. The No 14/15 to Bury St Edmunds calls in Great Wratting and the No 59/60 connects Haverhill with Saffron Walden. See also public transport map and table pp29-31.

Taxis serving Withersfield, Hundon and Stansfield include *Star Cabs* (☎ 01440-712712) and *Sudbury Cab Company* (☎ 01787-373222, 🌐 sudburycab.co.uk).

Where to eat or stay along the way

- **Withersfield/Haverhill** (see Stage 5, p87)
- **Great Wratting** (after 2.5 miles/4km) *The Red Lion* (☎ 01440-783237, 🌐 facebook.com/wrattngredlion, School Rd; Mon-Thur 11am-3pm & 5.30pm-10pm, Fri-Sun 11am-10pm, food daily noon-1.45pm & 6.30-8.30pm).
- **Hundon** (after 7.3 miles/11.7km) Eat at the *Rose and Crown* (☎ 01440-786261, 🌐 hundon-village.co.uk/roseandcrown.html, North St; Tue 6pm-10pm, Wed-Thur noon-2pm, 6pm-11pm, Fri-Sat noon-12pm, Sun noon-9pm, food hours contact pub).

- **Terrain** Gently rolling hills
- **Difficulty** Easy
- **Cumulative distance from London** 87.5miles (141km)
- **Time** 4hrs 20mins actual walking time
- **Total ascent** 328m/1076ft
- **Map** OS Explorer 210 *Newmarket & Haverhill*
- **GPX route file & directions*** 506.pdf, 506.gpx, 506.kml at 🌐 <https://trailblazer-guides.com/press> * See pp27-8 for more information on downloads



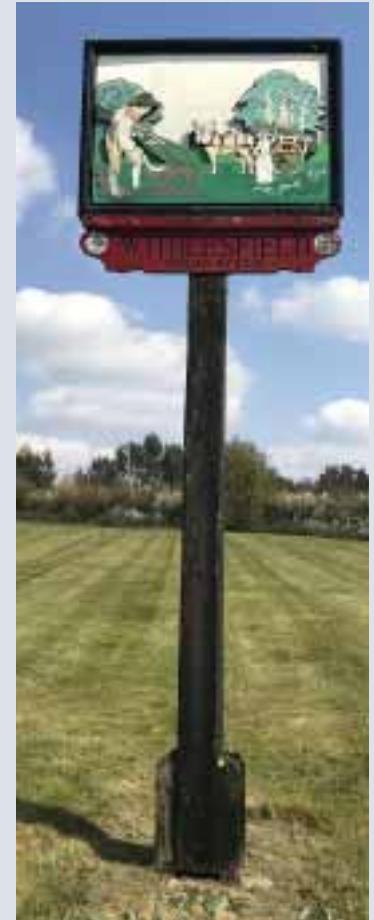
If dividing this stage here, the options to **stay** are a little off the route: there's the *Plough*, (☎ 01440-786789, 🌐 facebook.com/The-Plough-Inn-Hundon, Brockley Green; open Mon 6pm-11pm, Tue-Fri noon-3pm & 6pm-10pm, Sat noon-10pm Sun noon-8pm, food hours contact pub) 1.8 miles/2.9km off route; or *Suffolk retreats* (☎ 0845-5213313, 07947-187073, 🌐 suffolkretreats.co.uk, Hundon Grange) yurts, minimum 2 nights stay, 1 mile/1.6km off route.

- **Assington Green** (after 11.2 miles/18.1km) *Laurel Bank Farm B&B* (☎ 01284-789279, 🌐 suffolksbedand-breakfast.co.uk) offers bed, breakfast and evening meals, is 200yds off the route and – at 1 mile, 1.6km short of the destination, the closest accommodation to the end of this stage.

- **Stansfield** At the time of research Stansfield's pub, *Stansfield Compasses* (☎ 01284-789263, 🌐 stansfield-compasses.co.uk, High St) was closed pending new ownership. Until it reopens there is nowhere to stay in Stansfield itself but see Stage 7 p108 for accommodation at Hawkedon, 1.2 miles/1.9km further on.

Services

- **Hundon** On North St is the *Village Shop and Post Office* (☎ 01440-786223; Mon-Sat 9am-1pm)



Right: Village sign, Withersfield

LONDON TO WALSINGHAM CAMINO		
Stage 6: Withersfield to Stansfield		
Amended 27.4.23. Revisions in red		There is a more direct route on the approach to Hundon, which cuts 0.5 of a mile off the route
Distance from start	Distance from last waypoint	
0km	0km	From the church of St Mary the Virgin , Withersfield, walk east to the junction with Turnpike Hill and East St.
110yds/100m	110yds/100m	Turn left into Turnpike Hill and continue to Burton Green.
0.7mile/1.1km	0.6mile/1km	In Burton Green, turn right into Withersfield Rd and continue to Great Wrattling.
2.5miles/4.1km	1.9miles/3km	At the junction with the B1061, turn right for the village. The church of St Mary is on your right, just after this junction. For the Red Lion pub, continue along the B1061 for 300yds. For the continuation of the route, also continue along the B1061 from the church, but look out for a lane called The Street, leaving to the left.
2.6miles/4.2km	110yds/100m	Turn left into The Street, walking on verges or field margins to avoid traffic. Continue until you reach the junction with the A143.
4.4miles/7.1km	1.8miles/2.9km	Turn left onto the A143, cross over and look out for Hall Rd.
4.5miles/7.3km	220yds/200m	Turn right into Hall Rd, and continue until you see Barniston Hall School on your left. Look out for a track (Borley Ln) just after the school entrance, leaving Hall Rd on your right.
4.9miles/7.9km	660yds/600m	Turn right into Borley Ln, and continue until you reach a tarmacked lane, crossing your route at an L junction.
5.3miles/8.6km	770yds/700m	Bear left, up the back of the L, and continue past Fox Farm until the lane divides.
5.8miles/9.4km	880yds/800m	Bear left into Valley Wash, and follow it until you reach Church St, a turning on your left.
6.3miles/10.1km	550yds/500m	Turn left into Church St, and continue to North St.
6.7miles/10.8km	220yds/200m	In North St, you will see the entrance to the church of All Saints just to the left of this junction. The Rose & Crown pub is just to your right along North St. There is a village shop and post office, if you go left, a couple of hundred yards up North St.

		To continue the walk, from All Saints, walk on past the church, to the bottom left-hand corner of the churchyard.
6.8miles/11km	220yds/200m	Follow the footpath leading out from the churchyard, continue past Street Farm, then over meadows until you reach a T-junction of paths. There are no signs on this section.
7.3miles/11.8km	880yds/800m	At the T-junction of paths, turn right, and continue, the path turning left at 90 degrees, then right, then left to skirt Hundon Hall, to reach Folly Rd.
7.8miles/12.6km	880yds/800m	Turn right into Folly Rd, and continue until you see a concreted farm track, Black Grove Ln, marked Byway, on your left.
7.9miles/12.8km	220yds/200m	Turn left onto the concreted farm track, marked Byway, and continue until the surfaced track turns left.
8miles/12.9km	110yds/100m	Keep straight on, past the concreted farm track, on an often very muddy track. A red on yellow Byway roundel points the way. Continue past Black Grove Plantation until the path forks at a Y-junction.
8.2miles/13.2km	330yds/300m	Bear right at the Y-junction, following a blue on yellow roundel marked Bridleway. Walk through the yard at Chipley Abbey farm, following another Bridleway roundel to emerge in a lane.
9miles/14.5km	0.8mile/1.3km	Turn left in the lane, and continue to Assington Green.
10.5miles/17km	1.5miles/2.5km	As you arrive in Assington Green, Laurel Bank Farm B&B is 100yds down the lane to your left, signposted Denston. To continue on the route, turn right at this point, signposted Stansfield. Look out for a green on white footpath sign on your left, just after this junction.
10.8miles/17.4km	440yds/400m	Take this footpath on your left, passing to the left of a belt of woodland.
11.2miles/18km	660yds/600m	Where a yellow on black Public Footpath roundel points into the woods, follow it. The path bears right, through a gate and over a footbridge (with Public Footpath roundel)
11.5miles/18.5km	550yds/500m	Cross the River Glem via the footbridge (with Public Footpath Roundel) and follow the path uphill until you reach a right-hand turn.
11.6miles/18.6km	110yds/100m	Follow the path right, crossing another footbridge, with Public Footpath roundel, and into the yard at Glebe Farm, where another roundel points you to the church of All Saints, Stansfield.

11.7miles/18.9km	330yds/300m	Arrive at All Saints , Stansfield, the completion of this stage of the walk.
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