

SIX BRIDGES WALK

Distance 2.9 miles/4.6km

Start: Searsons Farm, Cordys Lane

Trains: Greater Anglia Railways run a regular service from Felixstowe and Ipswich stations every hour and all stop at Trimley Station. This is about a 0.5 km from the start. Turn left out of the station and make your way to the end of the houses in Cordys Lane.

Buses and bus stop: Felixstowe Flyer buses numbers 75 and 77 from Felixstowe and Ipswich stop at the top of Station Road. It is about 1 km from the bus stop walking along Station Road which becomes Cordys Lane after the level crossing. Searsons farm is at the end of the properties in Cordys lane on the left.

Car Park: There is a small free car park opposite Searsons Farm, Cordys Lane.

Eateries: The Mariners pub, High Road. Gullivers Fish and Chips, High Road. Mrs I Crafts is a cafe with drinks and homemade cakes, Wednesday- Saturday. 10am – 3pm. Cordys Lane, beside the railway crossing.

This is a circular route taking in walking by Uniserve (an enormous warehouse), Grange Estate Felixstowe, and the only secondary school in Felixstowe and the terrain is undulating in parts. You will walk on bridleways, pavements, woodland paths, and a road without any pavements. You also go over/under six bridges and there are steep steps over a pedestrian railway bridge. There is a lot to see on this walk. We advice that you avoid being near Felixstowe School around 3pm on a weekday, term time as you will be swamped with pupils coming out of the school.

① From the car park, turn left (north east) along Cordys Lane and go towards the train station.

② 130 metres on your right just after no 47, Cordys Lane there is a bridleway called **Blofield** Track. Turn right here and follow the bridleway. On your left you will see daffodils fringing the wood on your left in early March. The meadow is called Blofield Meadow.

③ After 370 metres from the road you will come to some bollards across the track. Pass through these and continue on the bridleway under the railway bridge. Continue to follow the track. In winter you should be able to see containers on your right through the trees. You then come to an area of water on your right of variable size depending on the season. Continue until the track merges with a tarmac track and then on to Nicholas Road where there is a metal gate.

④ At this point you will need to keep to the pavement on your left. Continue a short distance and you will then see another metal gate on your left with a footpath sign. Walk up the track on your left, which has woods on either side. In winter, where the land falls sharply to your left, snowdrops can be seen.

⑤ At the top of the hill carefully cross over Blofield Road (looking out for lorries) to the tarmac cycle/footpath. Walk along the track with the giant warehouse on your left called **Uniserve**. Continue along the track and over the footbridge over the A14, known locally as the Dock Spur Road. Follow the track round until it reaches Grange Farm Estate.

⑥ Whilst walking through this Estate, you will be going through a maze of tarmac footpaths and you may well get lost as you will not be able to see the name of the roads clearly. To begin with keep the Uniserve building behind you and then later to your left. If you get stuck ask directions to Runnacles Way as you will be able to find the railway bridge from there.

From the footbridge track, you will come to Rendlesham Road. Turn left and follow the road round to the right.

⑦ The road will bend round to the right again. Just before it does, take a path beside a lamppost on the left hand side which runs through houses.

⑧ This path emerges on to Sudbourne Road, walk along this a short way.

⑨ Before the road bends to the right, take the path to the left between the houses. You should be able to see the Uniserve warehouses on your left. This path emerges on to General Mews.

⑩ Turn right here and almost immediately left on to William Booth Way. Walk to the road ahead.

⑪ Cross over Runnacles Way to the footpath opposite. Walk straight ahead towards an open green area. At this point you should be able to see the Secondary School ahead of you. Keep straight and the path merges on to Childers Field which joins Runnacles Way.

⑫ Turn right here on to Runnacles Way and you will see the blue railway footbridge on your left. Make for this, cross over the road and then go over the bridge.

⑬ Once over the bridge, turn left on to the sandy path which runs along the railway track with **Felixstowe School** grounds on your right.

⑭ At the end of the track turn right along the path. On your left is the new Walton Gate Estate. Continue until you reach the entrance drive to the school.

⑮ Cross over here and this path merges into Hawkes Lane. About half way down where there is a gap in the houses on the right hand side, look to the right you should be able to see **Upper Mill**, a smock mill.

⑯ Hawkes Lane joins Walton High Street. Turn left here and walk past the entrance of Walton Gate and the new roundabout. Continue past, **Walton Hall** a large old house on your left and then go over the A14 again. The road now becomes the High Road. Look out for the sign to **Spriteshall Lane**. Just after this on the left hand side you will see a footpath sign.

⑰ Go through the wooden kissing gate and follow the path through two meadows.

⑱ At the end of the second meadow, go through a wooden gate and on to a sandy path under a railway bridge and then along a woodland path. The track goes under another railway bridge and continues along a meandering, undulating path through trees and under another railway bridge. At the end of this path you will come to a private wood, Chapman's Grove, on your right, which in late winter has snowdrops, then followed by daffodils and finally bluebells in Spring. Eventually the path finishes with a kissing gate which you go through.

You are now at point ③ again on Blofield Track bridleway. Turn right here and make you way to point ② on Cordys Lane. Then turn left and return to the car park.

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

