

TRIMLEY HISTORICAL TRAIL

Distance 3.2 miles/5.1km

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 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 to the start 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. Roseberry Cottage – Stennetts Community Cafe. Weds 10-1.30 open all year.

This is a circular route where you will pass a number of buildings of historical interest, particularly on the High Road. You will walk on field tracks, bridleways, pavements and a road without any pavements. The route also takes in an equestrian bridge which involves using steps or a gently sloping ramp. There will be attractive views over fields.

① From the car park, at **Searsons Farm** turn left (north east) and go towards the train station.

② A few metres on your left just before the properties there is a bridleway called Keepers Track. Turn left here and follow the track through the trees. On your right you will see some ruined buildings which are the remains of an **Anti-Aircraft Site**. When the main bears right, take the narrower path straight ahead. There are interesting views here towards the **Port of Felixstowe**. In winter you should be able to see the river Orwell. The bridleway goes round **Keeper's Cottage** on your right.

③ At the four way junction, cross over to the lower path opposite, not the farm track. Continue along here until you get to the railway line. There used to be a level crossing into Gaymers Lane here before the line was dualled. Follow the path round to the left along the railway line.

④ When you reach the farm track, cross over and continue to follow the bridleway. There are nice views over the countryside to your left. At the end of the track you come to a four way junction. The building down a long drive on your left is **Grimston Hall**.

⑤ At this junction turn right and take the Restricted Byway to your right towards the green bridge. Continue along the path. The quickest way to go over the bridge is to keep straight on the footpath which goes slightly round to the left and then you go up steps to go over **Bridleway Bridge**. If however you prefer not to use steps, then when you come to a group of trees on your right, take the bridleway marked RUPP to your right. Follow this and then take a sharp left along the railway line which will bring you to the ramp which you use to go over the bridge.

⑥ Go over the bridge and down the ramp which emerges onto a Restricted Byway/Bridleway called **Gun Lane**. Continue along this bridleway, ignoring a path off to the right, until you reach the High Road. Look out for the historic gun on the right hand side of the track just before you reach the High Road.

⑦ As you emerge on to the High Road, opposite you is a large **Holm Oak** which marked the location of a tollgate in the past. Turn right on the High Road and you will pass **Eagle House** opposite Morrison's Daily Store (the **Post Office**). Look out for **Shoemakers Cottage, 201, High Road**, opposite Church Lane. You then pass **The Mariners** pub and the two **Trimley churches** opposite. Next to Trimley St. Mary Church is **The Limes**. Also on your right is Trimley **Welcome Hall**. Continue passing **Street Farm/ Great Street Farm** also on your right. At this point there is a suggestion next to cross the road. However the High Road is very busy and if you feel uncomfortable about crossing it is fine to stay on the right hand side of the road. You will be able to see all the buildings mentioned. You can also find out more about the buildings by checking the Gazetteer also to be found on this section of the website. Whenever you feel it is safe, cross over the High Road and continue. This is so you can see interesting buildings. Just before **Thurmans Lane** is a white cottage called **Lime Cottage**. A little further on, after passing Thurmans Lane there is a building which used to be St Cecilia's Catholic Church, now **Signals** Hi-Fi. Opposite Signals is **The Coachmakers, 173, High Road**. In summer months you may see a trap in the garden. Look out for a sign pointing to Trimley **Free Church**, which will be the next turning on your left. It is worth a short detour to look at this church. Then back on the High Road you will then see a large white house, **Trimley House, 180, High Road**. Cross back over the road.

⑧ Look for the sign to **Stennetts Memorial field** on the right of the High Road. The lane is called Park View. Beside this to the left, is a narrow hard surface path behind the bus shelter. Take this and it will emerge onto St Mary's Close.

⑨ When you come to a junction turn left. (This in fact is still St Mary's Close) Carry on along this and it emerges into The Avenue. Continue along the road until you come to a T junction with Station Road.

⑩ Turn right here and walk towards the station, ignoring Second Avenue on your right. If you wanted a sit down you could go into **Trimley Station** which has benches and well cared for borders and pots. Continue over the level crossing and the road becomes Cordys Lane. There is no pavement here. Continue walking to the end of the road 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.



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