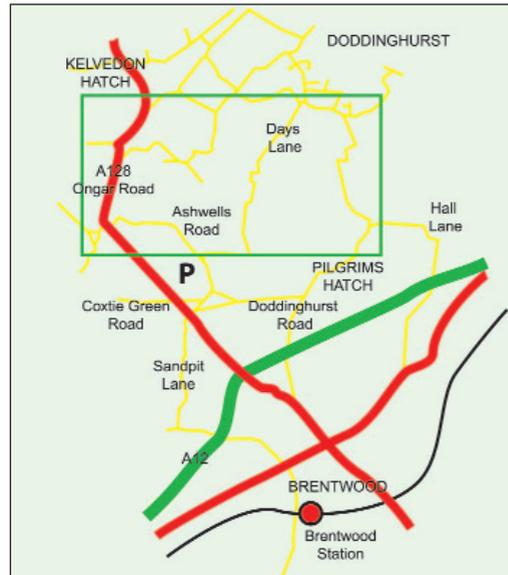


Countryside Walk in Brentwood

Walk your way to a healthy life in Brentwood

Location Map



About the Walk

Parking: Park carefully in roads around Orchard Lane.

Length: Approximately 5½ miles for the full circular walk or 3½ miles for the shorter loop.

Terrain: Woods, roads and open farmland.

Footwear: Wear stout footwear as the ground can be uneven or muddy in places.

OS Map: 175 Explorer Southend-on-Sea and Basildon
177 Landranger East London, Billericay and Gravesend

Your Rights of Way



Public footpaths - on foot only
Waymarked in yellow



Bridleways - on foot, horseback and bicycle
Waymarked in blue



Byways - open to all traffic but mainly used for walking and riding
Waymarked in red

Permissive paths - route which landowners allow the public to use, but which can be closed if wished.

Areas of work for the Countryside Department at Brentwood Borough Council include:

- Projects such as tree/hedge planting and pond management.
- Supporting Thames Chase Community Forest.
- Managing Nature Reserves, woodlands and commons.
- Improving access to footpaths and bridleways and encouraging their use.



If you encounter any problems please contact
Brentwood Borough Council
Town Hall, Ingrave Road
Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY
Tel: 01277 312500
www.brentwood.gov.uk



This leaflet is one of a series that has been produced by Brentwood Borough Council. We aim to improve and manage the countryside for wildlife and people.



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Pilgrims Hatch

Pilgrims Hatch

The walk can be joined by many footpaths linking into the circuit, but description begins from Orchard Lane in Pilgrims Hatch. This area was on the route that pilgrims took as they made their way to Canterbury from the north. The route is described in a clockwise direction.

The walk begins by heading north along Hulleys Lane. This lane, along with others in the area, is an ancient Green Lane. These routes have been used for centuries, and some have become sunken through the passage of thousands of travellers. The banks are often lined with ancient trees which have been pollarded or coppiced over hundreds of years.

After leaving Hulleys Lane and crossing Ashwells Road the walk passes through Bentley golf course. As you leave the golf course you enter the Parish of Doddinghurst. A short walk along the road and then you are out in the gently undulating fields.

When you reach Warren Lane, the shorter circuit follows the road south towards Cowes Farm. This takes you through farmland, across Solid Lane to join Crow Green Road.

The longer circuit passes through farmland belonging to several farms. Many of them have old listed farm buildings, for example Park Farm, Days Farm and Summers Farm. The landscape surrounding this walk changes with the seasons, with each new crop altering the look of the fields.

Hedgerows line the arable fields, keep an eye out for birds darting in and out. In the summer you should see plenty of insects including butterflies that will feed on the flowering plants that grow at the field edge.

Brickhouse Wood is an ancient woodland. Part of the wood is Hornbeam Coppice which is common around Brentwood. Hornbeam in Essex was harvested to provide wood, and to supply the furnaces of London. Many species benefit from the low, dense shrubs that coppicing encourages. After leaving Brickhouse Wood, the walk passes along a section of Beads Hall Lane.

A short walk along another Green Lane brings you back to Hulleys Lane to finish the walk.

