

# Countryside Walk in Brentwood

Walk your way to a healthy life in Brentwood

## Location Map



## 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.

## About the Walk

**Parking:** There is a small car park opposite Hutton All Saints Church in Church Lane.

**Length:** Approximately 6 miles for the full circular walk or the shorter loop is 3 miles.

**Terrain:** Woods 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



If you encounter any problems please contact  
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[www.brentwood.gov.uk](http://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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## Hutton & Herongate

## Hutton and Herongate

This walk will introduce you to the beauty of the Hutton and Herongate area. The flora, fauna and rolling countryside together with its rich history makes this area one to be appreciated.

The walk may be started anywhere on route but there is some parking opposite Hutton All Saints Church. The Church has a long history with a list of rectors beginning in 1325. It stands on the site of a crossed spring, which suggests pagan rites may have been performed here before the coming of Christianity to Essex.

Standing in the car park, with the church directly in front of you, follow Church Lane to your left and continue around the corner where the first fingerpost can be seen. As you follow the footpath across the fields there are good views to Little Burstead and over rolling countryside to Herongate.

After turning right at the next waymarker, you will reach Creasey's Farm and then pass Primstock Wood where the shorter route turns off right to go along to Bladen's Wood, Hall Wood and then back to the Church.

The longer route continues alongside Little Bladen's Wood which is an old coppiced hornbeam woodland. Hornbeam in Essex was harvested to provide wood, and to supply the furnaces of London. Continue on this path and turn right along a track when you reach the footpath sign heading for Heron Hall.

As you walk along the field edges you will see that some have very large margins between the path and the crop. These areas are conservation strips where the farmers encourage native flora and fauna.

Heron Hall dates back to the 1300's. The hall was originally a large brick building with a quad court in the centre and at the four corners of the moat stood circular towers. Only part of the moat and a few sections of wall remain.

From the hall the route continues past two reservoirs. Soon you will reach Highfield Wood where the track takes you round until you can see the hill. At the top of the hill the walk is almost complete, leaving only a pleasant stroll towards the church in the distance.

