



DISCOVER FELIXSTOWE ITS PENINSULA & ITS STORY

Meet the Suffolk coast classic that's full of new surprises. Edged by superb sand and shingle beaches, award-winning gardens and miles of prom; bookended by wildlife-rich estuaries, military milestones, foot ferries and shipping history, there's a whole world to discover in between!

Savour international flavours, dining al fresco or grazing the town's independent and lifestyle stores. Explore glorious green spaces, dotted with exotic planting and sheltered pews with fabulous sea views. Take the kids for a ride along Ocean Boulevard or count the continental influences on a cliff-top stroll past some of England's finest Arts & Crafts architecture.

Charmingly English, yet gently cosmopolitan, Felixstowe is a mouth-watering 'gelato' and traditional 99 flake treat in one. A place for making memories that will melt your heart.

PORT (& RESORT)

Colonel George Tomline decided that the 1860s fishing village of Felixstowe had a greater destiny. A purpose-built dock and new-fangled railway connections would revolutionize shipping - and he'd also spotted wealthy folk enjoying fashionable fresh air and sea-bathing from new 'sea-side' residences up near the old church...

Tomline bought land to the south, built a hotel, grid of streets (Manor Park), two railway stations and secured his docking basin. Holidaymakers and day trippers soon flooded in.

But Felixstowe's more sheltered, higher ground with its natural springs proved more popular. The Freehold Land Society (FLS) developed terraces nearby. As the population tripled (1881-1891), the resort won royal approval. Gardens, hotels, a town hall, another station, pier and more notable visitors followed.

Constructed swiftly, yet with integrity, Felixstowe showcases late Victorian/Edwardian built-heritage at its finest, fashioned by best-loved local architects, including **Thomas William Cotman** (1847-1925) who retired to Quilter Road and is buried in Old Felixstowe churchyard. Discover Cotman's masterpieces on the Heritage Trail.

The Pocket Guide to The Felixstowe Peninsula has been produced in association with East Suffolk Council and part funded by the European Regional Development Fund.



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First Class Felixstowe

- **Port of Felixstowe** Britain's busiest container port
- **Landguard Fort** One of England's best-preserved coastal defences
- **Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club** One of the oldest in England
- **St Andrew's Church, Felixstowe** England's first concrete church
- **Landguard Point** Site of the Royal Marines' first land battle
- **'Goseford'** (Kingsfleet) Amongst medieval England's top sources of shipping

"Here in the gardens of the Spa Pavilion
Warm in the whisper of the summer sea,
The cushioned scabious, a deep vermillion,
With white pins stuck in it, looks up at me
A sun-lit kingdom touched by butterflies
And so my memory of the winter dies."
From 'Felixstowe, or The Last of Her Order'
by Sir John Betjeman.



Simply Great Green Spaces

Seafront Gardens, Martello Park, Allenbury Park, Langer Park, The Grove. Perfect places to picnic and play!

Heritage Walk includes beautifully restored Grade II listed Seafront Gardens. See on-site info boards for their fab full story!



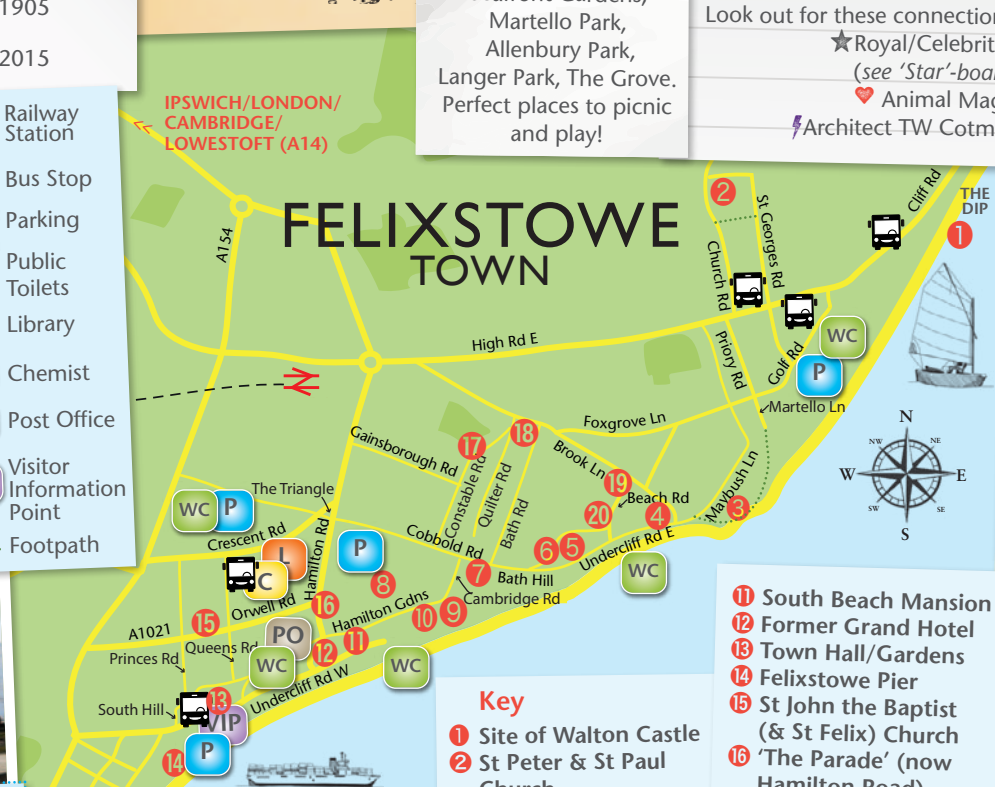
Look out for these connections:
★ Royal/Celebrities (see 'Star'-board)
♥ Animal Magic
⚡ Architect TW Cotman

Markers & Milestones

Fairtrade Town:	since 2009
First Landguard 'Fort':	1543
Martellos:	1805-1812
Port of Felixstowe:	1875
Rail Connections:	since 1877
Seafront Pier:	1905
Grade II Seafront Gardens (Renovated):	2015

- ➡ Railway Station
- 🚌 Bus Stop
- P Parking
- WC Public Toilets
- L Library
- C Chemist
- PO Post Office
- VIP Visitor Information Point
- Footpath

South Beach Felixstowe regularly holds prestigious **Blue Flag** and **Seaside Awards**.



- 11 South Beach Mansion
- 12 Former Grand Hotel
- 13 Town Hall/Gardens
- 14 Felixstowe Pier
- 15 St John the Baptist (& St Felix) Church
- 16 'The Parade' (now Hamilton Road)
- 17 Allenby Park
- 18 Brook Cottages
- 19 Old Livery Stables
- 20 High Beach Crescent

Key

- 1 Site of Walton Castle
- 2 St Peter & St Paul Church
- 3 Cobbold's Point
- 4 Fludgers Arms
- 5 Site of Martello Tower R
- 6 Former Bath Hotel
- 7 Harvest House
- 8 Former Cliff Hotel
- 9 Seafront Gardens
- 10 Spa Pavilion

- **Augusta Viktoria, Empress of Germany, Queen of Prussia** S 1891 South Beach Mansion
- **Her children** S 1891 South Cottage, Hamilton Gardens
- **The Maharajah Duleep Singh, Princess Louise**, Queen Victoria's daughter, **Prime Minister Arthur Balfour** All S

1890s Bath Hotel

- **Mrs Wallis Simpson** S 1936 Beach House during Ipswich divorce hearing, later wife of (abdicated) King Edward VIII
- **Lawrence of Arabia** aka TE Shaw/TE Lawrence L 1933-35 RAF Felixstowe (Landguard)
- **Sir John Mills** aka Lewis Ernest Watts Mills (Actor) L 1914-1926 Performed with the Felixstowe Players. 9 Gainsborough Road
- **Sir John Spencer Login** Maharajah Duleep Singh guardian, brought the Koh-i-Noor diamond to England for the Crown Jewels L Vernon Villa (now Ridley House) R

A Spot of Animal Magic ♥

'Birdman' Percy Edwards MBE (animal impersonator, 1908-1996) aka the sheep/birds on Kate Bush's soundtrack *The Dreaming*; the reindeer in *Santa Claus: The Movie*; the alien in *Alien*. Lived in Trimley St Martin, remembered in the Spa Pavilion.



Helen Oxenbury illustrated the children's classic *We're going on a Bear Hunt* with backdrops inspired by the big skies and mudflat memories of her childhood adventures at Felixstowe Ferry. **Mannings Amusement Park** (by Billy Butlin 1933) originally had a zoo. Its boating lake had a 'Monkey Island' and its lion often enjoyed walks along the Prom!

FASCINATING 'OLD FELIXSTOWE' HERITAGE WALK

Royal residences, hidden Arts & Crafts architecture, café terrace and shopfront secrets; pews, views - even tales of dinosaur poos! Discover a different sort of Felixstowe.

4.7 miles
7.5 kms
CIRCULAR WALK



FROM/TO: Golf Road Car Park, Felixstowe IP11 7NG - or join at Railway station/Felixstowe Pier/anywhere on route! By cliff-top beach huts, look north towards 'The Dip' where St Felix reputedly landed in the 600s and seaweed-covered traces of Walton Castle 1 may be visible at low tide. Bigod's first Benedictine priory site (1097-1307) probably sat alongside. In 1843, 'holidaying' Cambridge Minerology Professor, John Stevens Henslow, first identified phosphatic stones (also thought to be fossilized animal droppings/coprolites) in the cliffs here.

Head inland, over green to **Golf Road**. Cross into **Marcus Road**, then **St Georges Road**. Between Nos. 35b/37, take footpath (left - possibly related to ancient trackway for priory/castle site) to St Peter & St Paul Church 2 ⚡★, Felixstowe's oldest building (1300s), extended (1860s+) with Martello tower bricks!

Turn left (**Ferry Road/Church Road**). Cross **High Road East** to **Priory Road**, possible 'stew' (fish) ponds site, after priory's relocation near Walton Church. Cross **Golf Road** into **Martello Lane**. Keep left, along narrow footpath past late 1800s 'Jacobean' Latimer House. Descend steep steps ('Jacob's Ladder') to concrete path to **Undercliff Road East**, around Cobbold's Point 3, site of England's last seaborne invasion (1667)/Cranmer House, the resort's first (1750s) seafront home (of Lt-Gov of Landguard Fort/Sir Samuel Fluyder); remodelled 'Elizabethan' 1885 ⚡ for Cobbold family. Look right (up Maybush Lane) to 'Tudor' wall/gate beyond 1843 Italianate villa, Ridley House ★ (both once Felixstowe Ladies' College).

Continue on **Undercliff Road East** by 1904 prom. Pass The Fludgers Arms 4 remodelled 'Dutch' 1902 ⚡ (replacing 1833 weatherboarded pub/tea-room/post office/dance hall) and Cotman Hall (1904 stables ⚡). Pass Beach Place (site of Beach House ★); weatherboarded Seagull & Seashell Cottages. Now **Bath Hill**, road passes former Bartlet Convalescent Home 6 (1923-6 incorporating Martello Tower R remains) and former Bath Hotel 6★⚡ (1839), originally Hamilton Arms, famed for warm/cold baths, bathing machines. Its (1892 ⚡) Bath Road stable buildings still survive. Road becomes **Cobbold Road**, passes Harvest House

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, FESTIVALS & EVENTS?

- Spa Pavilion • Landguard Fort
- The Palace Cinema • The Prom
- The Triangle • Beach Street
- Harvest House • Two Sisters Arts Centre, Trimley St Mary
- Indoor & Outdoor Fun for Everyone!
- Classic Vehicle Rally • Carnivals
- Christmas Day Swim • Triathlon
- Re-enactments • Steampunk
- Heritage Open Days • Art on the Prom
- Felixstowe Book Festival • Food & Drink
- Plus Laser Shows, Halloween Fun, Christmas Lights & Craft Markets



Ship Shape

Edward III's 1338 fighting fleet; day-tripper-delivering Belle Steamers; WWI flying boats; HMS Beehive WWII coastal forces; vast container ships, passing cruise-liners, speedy yachts, fishing trawlers and tiny rowboat foot-ferries - Felixstowe has seen them all. A noble Elizabethan circumnavigator of the globe even lived just up the Orwell estuary at Trimley St Martin!

(apartments) 7★ (1903 ⚡, originally The Felix Hotel, then 1950s HQ of Fisons - phosphate fertilizer giant evolved from coprolite industry). Turn left (**Cambridge Road**) past Italianate Rosery House. Road bears right (**Hamilton Gardens**) to 1928 New Cliff Gardens; Cliff House 8 (1906 'French-styled' Cliff Hotel, later WWI military hospital); Nos 9/10/Broadwater/South Cottage★ (1909, Arts & Crafts style).

At red K6 telephone box, turn left into Seafront Gardens 9, passing above Spa Pavilion 10♥ (1907-1936 bandstand/Floral Hall, rebuilt 1957). Descend stairs, passing below South Beach Mansion 11★ (c.1860) to **Undercliff Road West**. Turn right. Pass The Cork (former Grand Hotel ⚡) 12, 1920 war memorial; 1892 Town Hall 13; Felixstowe Pier 14 (1905, originally +/- 85m landing stage for Belle Steamers with own electric tramway). Turn right (**South Hill**).

Road bends right, past Martello Tower Q (now a house). Take second left (**Queens Road**), then left (**Orwell Road**) to St John the Baptist (& St Felix) Church 15★ (1914). Retrace steps, continuing along **Orwell Road** to 1890 bank ⚡ at crossroads with Hamilton Road 16 (formerly 'The Parade' with fine 1890s architecture to right/ahead). Turn left, noting (left) Nos 35-39/53 - Russell Smith; (right) former grocers (now Post Office)/No.72 and adjacent former redbrick stables to Empress of Germany's horses). Pass former formal gardens, 'The Triangle'; 1905/1904 façades (Nos 90-94); No. 128, the old fire station (right). Continue ahead for 1897-8 Felixstowe Town Station/1898 Orwell Hotel, if wished).

Turn right (**Gainsborough Road**) into Freehold Land Society housing (1894-7, with proud street/terrace names). Note No.9 ★; No. 31 (former 'fancy goods' shop). Turn left (**Constable Road**) past views of concrete legend, St Andrew's Church, and Allenby Park 17. Take slight right (**Quilter Road**), then right (**Brook Lane**) for Constable Cottage (left, remodelled Tudor farmhouse ⚡); Nos. 36-42 Brook Cottages 18 (1891 ⚡) and views down Bath Road. At Foxgrove Lane junction, spot thatched Tudor revival villas ahead, but keep right (**Brook Lane**). Take third right (**Beach Road East**), passing old livery stables, 'Clarke's Mews' 19; Tudor revival villas; 1890s High Beach Crescent 20; Atholl House (on corner with stairway tower, 1893 ⚡). Turn left (**Undercliff Road East**) to retrace steps to car park.

Stroll without the Steps

Short firm path detours (roadside pavements, the Prom, Seafront Gardens' Pram Walk) provide easy alternatives to all the Heritage Walk's flights of steps.

Can you find the 9 ships/boats floating around this Pocket Guide?

The Pocket Guide to the FELIXSTOWE PENINSULA

Heritage Seaside Resort & Gardens • Independent Shops
Estuaries, Coast & Countryside • Beaches & Family Fun
Nature Reserves • Military, Maritime & Ancient History
Entertainment, Events & Activities • Walks & Rides



EXPLORE & ENJOY THE FELIXSTOWE PENINSULA

ON THE TRAIL OF
TRIMLEY'S GLOBETROTTER

OS MAP: 197



JUST ONE TRAIN STOP FROM FELIXSTOWE

FROM/TO: Trimley Station IP11 0UB /Trimley Marshes Nature Reserve car park, Cordy's Lane (becomes Station Road), Trimley St. Mary IP11 0UD
TERRAIN: Pavements; cross-field, field-edge, wooded footpaths; bridleways/ firm tracks. Gates, bridleway bridge.
Explore 'The Trimleys' on a town and country discovery walk around the local lands of Elizabethan globetrotting hero, Sir Thomas 'The Navigator' Cavendish, England's third circumnavigator of the world (1586-88). Plot his personal journey from front to front door, tracking down some booty along the (old Grimston Hall carriage) way. Traversing parts of Trimley Estate/Trimley Marshes Nature Reserve with WWII history at Trimley Heath, this is one for the binoculars with easy extensions for further estuary views/brilliant birding at Fagbury Point and along the waymarked Stour & Orwell Walk.

Head (north-east) up **Station Road to High Road** (Trimley St Mary). Turn left. After 0.5 miles/ 800 m pass double set of churches (right) aka 'Two Sisters': St Mary's (arts centre)/ St Martin & St Mary's (Thomas baptised here (1560)/north aisle was Cavendish chantry). Continue ahead. Turn left by upturned French canon (1525-47) into **Gun Lane** (restricted byway). Follow path over fields. Keep right (ignore path to left) to go over **bridleway (equestrian) bridge**. At bottom of bridge steps, turn sharp left on footpath alongside woods (left) with views to Felixstowe Docks. Keep straight ahead (restricted byway) to wide track with Grimston Hall (Thomas' birthplace, remodelled early 1700s) ahead. Turn right (**Grimston Lane**). After a few metres, turn left onto narrow signed footpath alongside meadow (Grimston Hall left). Path bears right to 3-way junction. Keep ahead (tree avenue, right/farm buildings, left/docks ahead). Follow waymarked footpath along track, left through coppice wood, past pond, then gently up Fingerbread Hill along avenue of trees (bench with views). Pass WWII Ground Controlled Interception Radar Station remains (on Trimley Heath left) along wide wooded path to **Cordy's Lane**. Turn left for railway station/right for car park and nature reserve. suffolkwildlifetrust.org/trimleymarshes

3 miles
5 kms
CIRCULAR
WALK

Stay This Way ...

Book a boutique studio break for two, that's all sea views and restored Edwardian style. Plan some family holiday park fun, complete with flume-pool, play places and the beach nearby. Make that friendly B&B or traditional guest house stay a great excuse to dine out and enjoy. With all sorts of self-catering from camping, caravanning and cosy cottages by the fairways, to town houses or even a sumptuous cliff-top villa with pool for that ultimate friends and family getaway, the Felixstowe Peninsula really does have something for everyone.

The Worldly-wise Peninsula Are these Felixstowe factoids true or false?

1. A tower in Corsica was the model for Felixstowe's Martello towers.
2. 'Large Americas' could be discovered off Felixstowe during WWI.
3. Eley (sic) Cathedral towers above Felixstowe Seafront Gardens.
4. Lawrence of Arabia worked near Landguard's 'dunes'.
5. An Old Felixstowe Church chorister first translated the Bible into Eskimo.
6. Hummingbird Hawk Moths fly in to Felixstowe from 'The Med' each year.



Answers: All (probably!) true. South Beach developed 'Large America' flying boats. Carriage manufacturer Mr Eley originally had a taller tower. Felixstowe's naval air station Mansion (aka Eley Cathedral - built for

All aboard!

Don't miss a trip on Felixstowe's fab little foot-ferries:
Felixstowe Ferry » Bawdsey for Bawdsey Beach and Bawdsey Radar, an excellent interactive museum about the world's first fully operational radar station.
Landguard Point » Harwich/ Shotley for unrivalled views of the Port of Felixstowe's great ships and historic Harwich and/or Shotley's beautiful peninsula. Make it a 'fort to fort' day out, visiting **Felixstowe's Landguard Fort and the Harwich Redoubt!**

thesuffolkcoast.co.uk/four-foot-ferries-of-the-suffolk-coast

Attractions

- 1 Site of Roman Fort/Walton Castle
- 2 Felixstowe Pier
- 3 Mannings (Amusements)
- 4 Beach Street
- 5 Martello Tower P
- 6 Landguard Fort
- 7 John Bradfield Viewing Area

- A Play Areas
- B Sports/Leisure Centre
- C Swimming Pool
- D Golf Course

Go on the Nature Trail

Dunes, vegetated shingle, marshes, woods, grassland, wet-meadows, lagoons, heaths; bird hides, boardwalks, river-bank paths – download the trail maps and discover Felixstowe Peninsula's natural treasures.

- **Newbourne Springs** IP12 4NY
- **Levington Lagoon** IP10 0LH
- **Trimley Marshes** IP11 0UD suffolkwildlifetrust.org
- **The Grove/Abbey Grove** IP11 9GA woodlandtrust.org.uk
- **Landguard Peninsula** IP11 3TW discoverlandguard.org.uk

400 YEARS OF COASTAL DEFENCE LANDGUARD FORT One Amazing Fortress

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- Exhibitions • Events
- Self-guided, Audio Tours
- Guided Tours • Ghost Tours
- Royal Marines Room landguard.com



Did you know?

Felixstowe's 'dunes' were man-made as military defences. Landguard Peninsula has over 380 military remains.



OS MAP: 197

Walk This Way Nice & East Does It

Felixstowe » Felixstowe Ferry
 Follow pavements from Golf Road Car Park (IP11 7NG) to The Dip. Pick up the prom to Martello Tower 'T'. The seawall path to next Martello Tower 'U' has loose shingle, but beyond that the path to Felixstowe Ferry quay is firmer.

1.8 miles
2.8 kms
LINEAR
WALK

Estuary & Coast Explorer

Trimley St Mary » Felixstowe Ferry » Felixstowe
 Head out on this station-to-station ramble via Kirton/Falkenham villages towards historic 'Goseford'/Kingsfleet for some serious Deben river-hugging to Felixstowe Ferry, before following the Martello Coast to Felixstowe. Directions/short-cuts/route updates: eastsuffolklines.co.uk/walks

Felixstowe's Point to Point

Landguard Point » Cobbold Point
 Follow easy-going boardwalks/ seafront paths from Landguard's Napoleonic fort to Cobbold Point, returning via cliff tops, streets and former Walton Creek railway-lands, Langer Park. Either way, you'll find Seafront Gardens, Martello Park, all the fun of the fair or seaside slots, plus nature reserve landscapes on route. Directions: discoversuffolk.org.uk

6.5 miles
10.5 kms
CIRCULAR
WALK

What's on your Felixstowe Bucket List?

- ☐ Dodge the splash pad fountains in Martello Park
- ☐ Spot Landguard's basking lizards
- ☐ Bag a bargain at Beach Street
- ☐ Rent a bright and beautiful beach hut
- ☐ Enjoy showtime at the Spa Pavilion
- ☐ See inside Martello Tower P
- ☐ Graze the galleries and artisan studios

GETTING AROUND

By Road: A14 (Ipswich/Cambridge)

A14/A12 (London/Lowestoft)

By Bus: thewaytogosuffolk.org.uk

By Rail: East Suffolk Line (Felixstowe

& Trimley) eastsuffolklines.co.uk;

nationalrail.co.uk

By Water: Deben/Orwell/Stour:

Info/navigation riverdeben.org;

debenestuary.co.uk; hha.co.uk

By Bike: On National Cycle

Network route 51 & Suffolk

Coastal Cycle Route (Regional

route 41). Both use foot

ferries, all carry bicycles.

Cycle Map:

thewaytogosuffolk.org.uk/cycle

OS Maps: OS Explorer 197

On Foot: Suffolk Coast

Path (60 miles/97 kms); Stour &

Orwell Walk (40 miles/67 kms)

discoversuffolk.org.uk

Foot-ferries: thesuffolkcoast.co.uk/four-foot-ferries-of-the-suffolk-coast

Walking/Cycling/Horse-riding:

discoversuffolk.org.uk

Tides Info: tidetimes.org.uk/felixstowe-pier-tide-times

Car Parks/Cashless &

Ticketless

Parking:

myringgo.co.uk

Discover Digital Trails

Let your phone do the directing on an interactive trail around Felixstowe. Download the app and discover. thesuffolkcoast.co.uk

PUT A
SPRING IN YOUR STEP



2.85 miles
4.5 kms
CIRCULAR
WALK

OS MAP: 197

FROM/TO: Newbourne Springs Nature Reserve, Woodbridge Road, Newbourne IP12 4NY
TERRAIN: Tarmac lanes; cross-field, field-edge, wooded footpaths/bridleways. Steps, stiles, gates. Combine a visit to Newbourne Springs Nature Reserve with a gentle walk to Hemley church for some stunning River Deben views. Start by the rising clear waters which once fed spa-resort Felixstowe, exploring wildlife-rich, wooded paths and finish with giant steps, passing the little house with a big story in Newbourne village. All perfectly placed for a picnic or a pub lunch – enjoy!

Turn right out of the Reserve's car park (**Woodbridge Road**), then left at junction (**The Street**). When road bears right, take footpath (left), up steps, across field to **Mill Road**. Turn left, following road (bears right, passes vintage oaks). At sharp left bend, turn right onto bridleway. Beyond Hemley Hall (right) take path into field to meet road to Hemley All Saints' Church (fine Tudor red-brick tower/river views). Turn right (uphill), past phone box. Head left onto footpath at Ivy Cottage. Follow path across farmland, downhill past Ranglins Wood (right) to wet valley (springs/ponds). Cross 2 stiles and stream (wooden walkway) to emerge behind Newbourne village hall and meet **Mill Road**. Turn right. Continue past Tudor Newbourne Hall (left) to junction. Turn left for St Mary's Church (churchyard memorials to Victorian brothers George/Meadows Page aka The Suffolk Giants/stained glass recalls 1987 storm). Retrace steps to junction, turn left. After pub and 'The Giants' House' (with its tiny door for 2.3m/7ft 7" residents!) turn left and left again to nature reserve/car park.

Mooching with your Pooch?

Felixstowe welcomes responsible dog owners.

- Please always clean up after your dog.
- Follow paths, advice and local signs.
- Keep dogs under close control, especially during bird nesting season.
- Please respect restrictions. (Applicable at some beach areas/ reserves – visitfelixstowe.org.uk)

The information in this guide is provided in good faith and is correct to the best of the publishers' knowledge at the time of going to press, but is subject to alteration.

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