

Take your pick...

Super Shotley Peninsula outdoor adventures

History and Mystery

Follow in the footsteps of Viking invaders **1**
Visit Bloody Point at Shotley Gate to find out about King Alfred's grisley battle of 885AD.
shotleypeninsulafeatures.com

Search for the heart of a Tudor queen **2**
Cruel Henry VIII had his second wife, Anne Boleyn, be-headed. Legends say that her heart was buried in Erwarton Church. Fact or fiction? Find out at St Mary the Virgin's Church, Erwarton IP9 1LL
onhetudortrail.com

Find fossilised sharks' teeth **3**
Beachcombing on Bloody Point's shingle spit is full of discoveries. Shotley Gate, IP9 1QJ

Enjoy an event in historic surroundings **4**
Churches at Harkstead, Shotley, Chelmondiston and Erwarton hold concerts and events.
shorelinebenefice.co.uk

Discover the story of the Button Boys **5**
HMS Ganges Museum holds the key to Shotley's history as a training school for young sailors. Shotley Gate IP9 1QJ
hmsgangesmuseum.com

Meet Nancy Blackett (the Goblin) **6**
An unusual Shotley Peninsula character. Arthur Ransome called his boat 'the Goblin' in his famous novel, but its real name was 'Nancy Blackett'. See and sail in her today.
nancyblackett.org

Discover even more...

Lead the way Guide your family and friends on a Shotley Peninsula walking adventure. (See overleaf.)
Explore the Arthur Ransome Trail inspired by Shotley's famous, boat-loving children's author. shotleyopenspaces.co.uk
Follow Wherstead, Shotley or Alton Water Explorer Guides for more walking/cycling routes. suffolkcostandheaths.org

fun for all on Ipswich's Shotley Peninsula

Shotley Peninsula stretches south for 9 miles from Suffolk's historic county town of Ipswich. At Shotley Gate the rivers Stour and Orwell meet to flow into the North Sea. It's one outstanding area with so much to explore all year round.
Seal-spotting trips and country walks, skiing, sailing and outdoor sports; swings, slides, bouncy pillows and river beaches; big ships, boats and so many birds to watch.
Which super Shotley Peninsula outdoor adventure will you pick first?

With thanks to Super Shotley Peninsula Supporters:



Shotley Peninsula Local Public Play Areas

Playing Field
Play Equipment
Toddler Play
Football/Goals
Basket Ball
Tennis
Paddling Pool
Outdoor Gym +
Table Tennis
Zip Wire

Down by the Riverside

Head for a river beach **7**
How is Harkstead beach different from 'the seaside'? Walk down Walnut Tree Lane (by the Bakers Arms on Harkstead Street IP9 1BT) to find out more.

Go for a paddle **8**
Launch your canoe to explore the river Stour at Cattawade Picnic Site, Branham. CO11 1QW
riverstourtrust.org

Spot a seal or two **9**
Shotley foot and bike ferry operators, Harwich Harbour Ferry Tours, offer boat trips to watch the seals and their pups.
harwichharbourferry.com
sealwatching.co.uk

Locate the treasure **10**
Discover some or all 12 riverside geocache points along the Stour's 6 mile Arthur Ransome Trail.

Get stuck in **11**
Combine making sticky clay and getting creative with a walk to Holbrook Creek through its park, Harkstead Road, Lower Holbrook IP9 2RJ

Learn to sail **12**
Woolverstone Marina's Neptune Sailing offers courses for children and adults, and for those with disabilities. The registered charity also works with young people/groups eg. Scouts.
neptunesailing.org.uk

Have a quacking good time at Pin Mill's annual Easter Duck Race **20**
thepinmillstudio.com

Get the picture **13**
Are you a budding teenage photographer? Why not check out Anthony Cullen's photographic courses at Pin Mill Studio, Chelmondiston IP9 1JN

Put yourself in the saddle **14**
Go horse-riding at Hill Farm Equestrian Centre, Chelmondiston IP9 1JU hillfarmec.co.uk – or see right for bike hire at Alton Water!

Get a real taste of the place
A river trip on a restaurant boat or barge under sail or power is a real treat. 'Orwell Lady', 'Victor' and 'Allen Gardiner' offer cruises on the Stour/Orwell.
rivercruiserestaurants.co.uk
orwellrivercruises.co.uk
sbvictor.co.uk

By the Orwell's Big Bridge

Go wild at Jimmy's Farm **16**
A working farm and wildlife park with an adventure playground, gardens, theatre in the forest, shops and restaurant. What's not to like? Jimmy's Farm, Pannington Hall Lane, Ipswich IP9 2AR
jimmysfarm.com

Fun times Inside and Out at the Suffolk Food Hall **17** IP9 2AB
suffolkfoodhall.co.uk

Bounce about a bit
Just how high will you bounce on the enormous outdoor children's 'Jumping Pillow'?
Make the coolest cakes ever
Kids club workshops at Suffolk Food Hall's Outrageous Cake Company are absolutely... the icing on the cake.
theoutrageouscakecompany.co.uk

Overcome the obstacles
Check out the Field Fit assault course. fieldfit.co.uk
Puzzle this out
The Puzzle Room's two challenges are ideal for detectives aged 9 - 90. Advance booking essential.
suffolkfoodhall.co.uk/puzzle-room

Go a bit potty
'Starglazing' ceramic painting and clay studio will bring out the colourful, creative you!
starglazingceramics.co.uk

Awesome antics at the **Suffolk Ski Centre**, Wherstead IP2 8NQ
suffolkskicentre.co.uk

Take to the slopes
Skiing, snowboarding, tobogganing, ringo-ing – yes, you can do them all here on the Shotley Peninsula!

Climb high or zip about
Enjoy daring high ropes fun and zipwires thrills.

Go for a drive
Why not check out the mini-golf course or driving range?

Refreshing fun at Alton Water **19**
Discover Suffolk's largest expanse of inland water. Sailing school and watersports centre including windsurfing and canoeing. Great for fishing. Perfect for picnics. Hire bikes and go for a spin. Walks, nature trail with bird hides. Play area.
anglianwaterparks.co.uk/alton-water

fun for all on Ipswich's Shotley Peninsula

outdoor fun for all to enjoy with family and friends



	Branham			Chelmondiston			Harkstead			Holbrook			Shotley			Stutton			Tattingstone			Wherstead		
	Merriam Close CO11 1RY	Gravel Pit Lane CO11 1NZ	Leisure Centre CO11 1NH	Church Lane IP9 1HU	Church Lane IP9 1DG	Reade Field IP9 2QL	Kingsland IP9 1NB	Lloyd Road IP9 1RS	Community Hall IP9 2TA	Primary School IP9 2RY	Church Road IP9 2NA	Bourne IP2 9TA	Park IP2 8LU											
Playing Field																								
Play Equipment																								
Toddler Play																								
Football/Goals																								
Basket Ball																								
Tennis																								
Paddling Pool																								
Outdoor Gym +																								
Table Tennis																								
Zip Wire																								

See also Holbrook Sports Centre, Holbrook Academy, Ipswich Road IP9 2QX ssleisure.co.uk

Includes 2 Super Shotley WALKS to explore

shotleyopenspaces.co.uk

Let's go walking around Shotley

2 Super Shotley circular walks

Shady Shotley trees in summer; colourful, crunchy leaves in Golden Wood come autumn; flocks of migrating geese on Orwell-side frosty fields in winter; springtime blossom and bright, fresh greens by the Stour - there's no better way to get close to nature and a real feel for the great outdoors than on foot.

These two short, clearly waymarked walks are especially designed for younger friends or family to be able to take the lead and help everyone experience and enjoy what Shotley Peninsula has to offer.

How will I know where to go?

Simply guide your group using the easy-to-follow map and instructions included here for each walk. Along the way, look out for pointers like this. They will also help you.

No flip-flops! Good shoes or trainers a must

What should I take?

- ✓ This leaflet – and you might like to make up and wear our 'walk leader' badge. Download at shotleyopenspaces.co.uk
- ✓ Be sure to dress appropriately for the season and weather
- ✓ A towel, bucket and spade (if you're planning to include the river beach)
- ✓ A resealable plastic bag (ideal for carrying shells or other small collectables discovered along the way)
- ✓ Binoculars and magnifying glass if you have them (to get a better look at birds/mini-beasts en-route)

Look out for... Fish and ships

Shotley Pier is over 120 years old. It was a landing jetty for steamships full of visitors. Can you spot the date it was built?

Shotley Gate Lock allows boats to go up and down between the waters of the marina and the estuary. Can you see how it works?

The Port of Felixstowe (opposite Shotley Gate Marina) is Britain's biggest and busiest container port. From a distance the containers on the big ships look like lego bricks. Can you see them being loaded and unloaded? How many do you think one ship can hold?

Harwich Parkeston Quay Cruise Ship Terminal is best viewed from Shotley Heritage Park. The enormous cruise ships are floating hotels – even with swimming pools! What else do you think you might find on board?

Fishing boats, barges, yachts, cruise ships, cargo ships, tug-boats, row boats and canoes... what vessels can you spot on the river estuary?

Catching fish by the river-shores is a popular pastime for people – and birds! Why not have a go at crabbing, or collect shells, once home to little sea-creatures?

Picture this

Create a picture of a ship with interesting finds collected along the river beach (eg. shells, drift wood). Be sure to take a photo of it to share with your friends.

Take away memories
☆☆☆
Leave only footprints

Follow the WALK LEADER (that's me!)

Walk the tip of Shotley's peninsula to take in Stour and Orwell views from both clifftops and river-beaches

Start: Shotley Pier
Distance: 3.1 miles (5 kms)
Time: 1.5 hours
Terrain: Mainly flat with some steps and slopes. Waterside paths. Lock footbridge. Minor roads - keep safe!
Park: Bristol Arms (Bristol Hill, Shotley Gate IP9 1PU) or Shotley Marina (IP9 1JQ)

- With river wall on your right, walk towards Shotley Marina. At control tower, cross footbridge over lock. Walk to end of marina. Turn left, following path by fence, behind marina to a field.
- Go left around field-edge. Continue on path (houses on right) to main road.
- Cross road. Go left for 70 metres, then turn right into alley. Follow the road to find wooden gateway into Ganges Wood (left).
- Enter wood. Follow right-hand path, keeping right at path-junction near houses.
- At road, cross over and re-enter woodland. Keep on path, going left at end of wood as it opens into field with Stour river/Erwarton Bay views ahead.
- At crossroad of paths, follow sign into Shotley Heritage Park. After 30 metres, there's a bench to sit and enjoy the views – or continue along path to the 'Crow's Nest'. Parkeston Quay (Harwich), often visited by cruise ships, can be seen in the distance across the river Stour.
- Leaving the 'Crow's Nest', turn right. Follow path to next signpost to turn right, down the slope (past Quarter Deck picnic area), then down steps to meet riverside path.
- Turn left, along river path back to Shotley Pier.

Wander 'n' wonder to Golden Wood

Discover precious peninsula treasures on a walk through the woodlands and historic village of Shotley

Start: Shotley Village Hall
Distance: 2 miles (3.2 kms)
Time: 1 hour
Terrain: Gentle hills. Some steps/steeper slopes. Footbridge. Minor roads - keep safe!
Park: Shotley Village Hall (IP9 1NA)

- With Shotley Village Hall behind you, cross main road to footpath opposite.
- Turn right past school, then left into Old Hall Lane to spot fab views of river Orwell / Felixstowe Docks through hedge-gaps.
- At bottom of first hill, perhaps peep over woodland gate (marked 'Private!') to discover birds or bluebells.
- Continue up next hill along lane (allotments on left). At T-junction, turn right to visit Shotley Church and its very special churchyard. As you leave, turn right and go straight ahead past the red phone box on the right and historic post box (in wall). The road leads past houses, then Shotley Hall (right) and just after, look out for a footpath sign (left). Follow sign through a tree-tunnel.
- Keep straight on at next footpath junction, then down steps/slope into Golden Wood community woodland. Follow path to find nature board by a 'Poohsticks' bridge/stream.
- Cross the bridge.
- Turn right, then left up path alongside field. At hill-top, turn left to follow path at back of houses and arrive back at Old Hall Lane.
- Turn right into lane to reach the main road, then turn right. This leads past the school back to Shotley Village Hall (left).

A place to remember

Shotley churchyard includes many graves of people who were recruited to or served in the Navy in wartime. Some of the trainee sailors died very young as teenagers.

Look at their ages, names and jobs. Perhaps you have friends or family of a similar age?

Always follow the countryside code

- Plan ahead. Follow signs.
- Leave things as you find them.
- Protect plants/animals.
- Control fires. Take your litter home.
- Ensure that doggy friends are well-behaved, under close control and on a lead as advised.

gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code

Take away memories Leave only footprints

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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Look out for... Curious characters

'Green Oak Man' lives in Golden Wood. Can you spot him?

Goat willow and Crab apple are amongst the 250+ types of tree in Viking Wood. Collect 4 different-shaped leaves and identify which tree they are from. How would the trees and leaves look at different times of the year?

Dragonflies and butterflies are at home in Golden Wood. But what colours are they?

Great fish decorate a large column in Shotley's hill-top churchyard. Can you work out why? What other animals guard this memorial?

Is it a unicorn, a sheep, goat or deer? What animal is above the side door dated 1745 at Shotley Church?

Shotley Peninsula Must-sees and Quick Quiz

- ✓ This Shotley Peninsula leaflet – How many family walks?
0-1 **2-4** 10+
- Orwell Bridge – How many 'spans' or arches?
1-5 6-15 15-20
- Port of Felixstowe – How many quayside cranes?
1-15 16-25 26-35
- Alton Water – How big is the park in acres?
1-200 201-400 401-500
- Shotley Peninsula – How many Arthur Ransome Information Panels?
1-4 5-7 8-10

Answers upside down below

Don't miss Suffolk Walking Festival

every May/June
for more guided/themed Shotley Peninsula walks for all ages
suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk

Pebble Jenga

1. Build a tower out of stones on the river beach. Who can make the highest?
2. Now carefully decorate it, placing smaller pebbles or shells on the tower's ledges.
3. Take it in turns to remove the decorations without making the tower tumble!

Hey, Walk Leader! Don't forget to download your Super Shotley certificate after the walk! Visit

shotleyopenspaces.co.uk