

DISCOVER WOODBRIDGE

River town, market town, up-and-down. Quayside strolls; café terrace cuppas 'n' catch-ups; gallery, antique shop and garden centre grazing. Market Hill fresh flowers, fruit, veg and more. Little lanes, colourful cottages and roses round the door. Independent heritage-quarter stores full of everything you need and inspiration too. History around every corner; boats and birdlife 'round every riverbend.

Mill Hills and glorious green spaces. A rare, living tide mill and a 'longshed', bringing ancient boatbuilding skills back to life.

Royal Sutton Hoo mysteries across the water. Duke of York barracks history up the hill. Timeless streams snaking across the saltmarsh and bright sails billowing in the breeze.

Oh, Woodbridge! You're not just one of a Suffolk kind, but a real breath of fresh air too.

Home-spun Tales & Trades

Sailcloth, rope and baskets were woven locally for centuries. Edward III's fleet stocked up with Woodbridge rope when gathering at the estuary in 1338. The Avenue by Kingston Field was the last place it was made. Look out for other rope walks, osier barns and today's sailmakers as you stroll the streets and quaysides.

UK Firsts & Lasts ...

Tide Mill One of the earliest built/last working commercially
Horse Tramway Last horse-worked route on the British Railways network
Woodbridge Excelsior Band One of the UK's earliest brass bands established
Sutton Hoo Helmet Amongst the most important Anglo-Saxon finds of all time

Relax, Picnic & Play

Elmhurst Park, Kingston Field, Fen Meadow, by the Deben-side bandstand and model yacht pond – what great green Woodbridge spaces will you discover?

Sutton Hoo?

Subject of the acclaimed film 'The Dig', amateur archaeologist Basil Brown excavated mounds on Mrs Pretty's Tranmer House estate on the Sutton hill-spur (or hoo) opposite Woodbridge. In 1939 he unearthed a mighty oak boat, hauled up the hill from the river by Anglo-Saxon ancestors. The ship- burial and its amazing treasures revolutionised our understanding of early England. nationaltrust.org.uk/sutton-hoo

Markets & Milestones

Market: since 1227
Market Day: Thursday
Fairtrade Town: since 2008
Turnpike (Toll) Roads: 1785
Railway: since 1859

Key

- 1 Whisstocks Place
- 2 Tide Mill
- 3 Riverside Cinema
- 4 Old Custom House
- 5 Quay Church
- 6 Site of Priory/The Abbey
- 7 Old Quaker Meeting House
- 8 Seckford Almshouses & Hospital
- 9 Buttrum's Mill
- 10 Tricker's Mill
- 11 Old House of Correction
- 12 Georgian Theatre (Sale Room)
- 13 Seckford Dispensary
- 14 Shire Hall & Town Pump
- 15 St Mary's Church
- 16 Old (Bell & Steelyard
- 17 Bridewell House
- 18 St John's Church
- 19 St Thomas' RC Church
- 20 Turban Shopping Centre

Can you find the 11 mill cogs around this Pocket Guide?

- Railway Station
- Bus Stop
- Parking
- Public Toilets
- Library
- Chemist
- Post Office
- Museum
- Visitor Information Point
- Footpath

Festivals? Concerts? Events?

- Shire Hall • Whisstocks Place
 - Community Hall • Elmhurst Park
 - Seckford Theatre • Riverside Cinema
 - Themed & Festive Markets
 - Maritime, Shellfish, Arts & Music Festivals & Light Shows
- choosewoodbridge.co.uk

GETTING AROUND

By Road: A12 (Ipswich/London/Lowestoft)
By Bus: thewaytosuffolk.org.uk
By Rail: East Suffolk Line (Woodbridge & Melton) east.suffolklines.co.uk; nationalrail.co.uk
By Water: Info/navigation debenestuary.pilot.co.uk River-users code riverdeben.org Moorings woodbridge-suffolk.gov.uk; tidemillyachtharbour.co.uk
By Bike: On National Cycle Network route 1; Woodbridge Cycle Map: thewaytosuffolk.org.uk/cycle
On Foot: Sandlings Walk (59 miles/92 kms) discoversuffolk.org.uk
Walking/Cycling/Horse-riding: discoversuffolk.org.uk
Car Parks/Cashless & Ticketless
Parking: myringgo.co.uk
OS Maps: OS Explorer 212



SHIPS...

Pushing the boat out here for centuries: Saxon longboats setting sail from Kyson Point sands; Men-of-War launched off Lime Kiln Quay in Cromwell's day; Scotland-bound merchant ships, laden with Suffolk cheese; 1780s smugglers' crafts with cargos of tea; time-honoured ferryboats making for Sutton shores; barges, dinghies, houseboats, canoes, rowing skiffs and model yachts...

RAILS...

Now just the ticket for great Deben-side days out, inspired retail therapy and much more. The 1859 antidote to silting harbours brought 'port' to 'town' status-change in its 1882 wake - and had a goods tramway by its side, keeping old-style horsepower alive. Steam trains shook up The Riverside's early 'flicks', but the cinema still survives today...

& SAILS

Not just colourful spinnakers and quays full of tuneful halyards... White sails with 200 shutters grace the beautifully restored (and visitable) Buttrum's Mill – once one of the town's many hilltop windmills. By the quayside, waterwheel-driven stones still grind corn at the tide mill (living museum), although the original mill pond is now a fine marina.



B=Born R=Resting Place V=Visited
S=Stayed L=Lived W=Worked

AND THE SECRET SEVEN

1. **Isaac Johnson** (1754-1835) Topographical artist/surveyor (B Near Wickham Market); L/W Many locally incl. No. 7 Market Hill; R Inside St Mary's Church.
2. **Bernard Barton** (1784-1849) Quaker poet/banker. L Barton's Cottage, Cumberland St; R Quaker burial ground.
3. **Thomas Churchyard** (1798-1865) Lawyer/landscape artist B Melton; L/W Many locally incl. No.6 Marsden House, Cumberland St; R Melton Old Church(yard).
4. **Edward Fitzgerald** aka 'Old Fitz' (1809-1883) Scholar/author-translator of 1861 best-seller/Persian love poem *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayam* (B Bredfield); L/W No. 8-10 Market Hill/The Little Grange, Pyches Rd; V Alfred Tennyson; (R St Michael's churchyard, Boulge).
5. **Roger Crompton Notcutt** (1869-1938) Horticulturalist/garden centre business founder (1897) L/W Old House, Cumberland St.
6. **Margaret Agnes Rope** (1882-1953) Carmelite nun/Arts & Crafts stained glass artist L/W (1923-1938) Church Rd (now Carmelite Place).
7. **Enid Blyton** (1897-1968) Children's author L Seckford Hall (1915-18) Sunday school teacher at Quay Church.

And National Treasures...

John Clarkson (1764-1828) Naval man/banker/abolitionist. Petitioned with brother (Thomas of nearby Playford Hall) for universal peace/Slave Trade Act (1807) L No.4 Church St (1820-28); R St Mary's churchyard

THE GRAND OLD DUKE OF YORK HERITAGE WALK

Explore the ups and downs of Woodbridge – Quayside, Thoroughfare, Naverne Valley, Drybridge (old barracks) Hill and everything in-between! Mills, pews, views, cool café terraces and great little shop discoveries!

INCLUDES FOOTPATHS, HILLS & STEPS!

OS MAP: 212

Look out for the stars (see Famous Five/Secret Seven)

FROM/TO: Railway Station, Woodbridge IP12 4AL

March up to the top of the railway footbridge for Deben views towards Ferry Cliff (old river bathing site)/Sutton Hoo. March down again - river side. Turn left. By level crossing, spot painted mariner on gable-end, possibly sign of Napoleonic navigation school. Turn right to end of **Woodbridge Quay**. Left to Whisstocks Place 1 M, still a boatyard site of sorts with museums and more. Iconic Tide Mill 2 (built 1790s) M (right).

Turn left (Tide Mill Way) over railway, where horses shunted waggons along sidings. Turn left (Quay Side) past old Boat Inn, 'waiting room' for bygone river ferry. At The Riverside 3 (1915 electric theatre, built on historic slipway), cross to continue up **Quay Street**, flanked by The Anchor and former Ship Inn (1568). Pass No. 5 (old Custom House 4 until 1882, when Woodbridge ceased to be a port), The Quay (Congregational) Church 5 (1805), old maltings/Crown Inn. Turn left into 'officers' row' (Cumberland Street M). At little garden (views to old priory/The Abbey 6, now school), detour right (behind raised beds - footpath/Turn Lane) to old Quaker Meeting House/secret wildlife garden 7 M. Site of Carmelite monastery - to left (now Carmelite Place). Retrace steps. Continue down **Cumberland Street**. Turn right (Ipswich Road). Just before Notcutts' fine HQ M/Garden Centre, turn right (Fen Walk).

Path edges school, climbing towards Drybridge Hill. At path junction (Fen Meadow), either turn right (gentler path to Seckford Street) or continue ahead uphill, across grass to bench by cemetery. (Fine views - even towards Sutton Hoo's Tranmer House - foliage permitting!) Take steep footpath (right) down past 'velodrome dell', site of 1950s Wild Cats' cinder cycle track (right) to **Seckford Street** (Seckford Almshouses/Hospital 8 M opposite). Turn right, then left uphill (Queen's Head Lane) to Burkitt Road. Detour left (0.6 mile/1 km return) past thatched school to view Buttrum's Mill 9 (1836), or turn right (Theatre Street). Brick tower mill, Tricker's Mill 10 (1818-1920, now flats) stands in modern courtyard, directly after Box House. Cross to descend **Bridewell Steps** by old House of Correction 11 (1804-42, now houses). Footpath leads right to Bredfield Street, once

an area with mills, market gardens, even a navigable river(!) hence No. 29 was The Plough & Sail. Turn right, passing Queen Anne (1792) Burkitt House (left)/old Waggon & Horses/Oyster Inn (right, now Bridewell House). Continue uphill (Angel Lane). Turn right for arched entrance to Theatre Street Sale Room 12 (right - 1814, former Fisher Theatre) with half-timbered 11a (medieval shop/school/workhouse) opposite. Retrace steps. Turn right along top of **Market Hill** M to officers' pub, King's Head; No. 1 Seckford Street (1662 Grammar School M) and adjacent Seckford Dispensary 13 (1886, Woodbridge's early 'NHS').

By town pump (1876)/Shire Hall 14 (1575, covered market with court room above) take cobbled alley (between The Town House/No. 11) down to St Mary's Church 15 M. Turn left, through churchyard to The Abbey 16 M. Cross **Church Street**. By The Bull, turn right (New Street - new in 1540!), passing No. 70/New Street Market (former 'Bull Ride' stables area); Old Bell & Steelyard Inn 16 (steelyard weighed carts in/out of market until 1880s); half-timbered No. 93/Bridewell House 17 (1587, gaol (including temporarily for 1665 Battle of Sole Bay prisoners)/workhouse/almshouses, now house).

Turn left (St John's Hill) to St John's Church 18 (1846), right (Vicarage Lane) to **St John's Street**. To right is 1850 Mechanic's Institute/Public Lecture Hall, now St Thomas' Roman Catholic Church 19. Turn left to Red Lion/crossroads. Keep ahead (Lime Kiln Quay Road), turning right by Napoleonic cannon to enter Elmhurst Park. Exit is straight ahead.

Turn right (Elmhurst Walk). Turn left (Thoroughfare, dating from 1560s, shopping street home to over 70 listed buildings, backed by market gardens until 1960/70s). The Turban Shopping Centre 20 recalls the Turban vegetable canning factory (1933-1976). Behind No.40 (1846 palazzo-style shoppers' palace) pure fruit wines were produced (1810-1837). Smiling Pulhamite faces on No. 31 opposite maybe remember Edwards' Orange Wine?! At tree/bench, turn left (Doric Place - lane/former rope walk) to **Quay Side**. Turn right to station.

Stroll without the Steps

Short, firm path detours (roads/pavements) provide easy alternatives to all the Heritage Walk's flights of steps – but alas, there's no avoiding Woodbridge's sometimes steep inclines!



The Pocket Guide to WOODBRIDGE

River Deben Town & Boatbuilding Heritage
Independent Shops • Markets & Galleries • Ancient History
Wildlife • Food & Drink • Culture, Events & Entertainment
Fun on the Water • Riverside & Discovery Walks & Rides



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EXPLORE MORE WOODBIDGE (& BEYOND)



Discover an ancient valley and riverscape, bookended by former military airfields, on the inland edge of the Suffolk Coasts & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with its Special Protected Areas (SPA), Ramsar Sites (wetlands) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Wander by a waterway, once lined with boatyards, saltpans and maltings and busy with commercial barges all the way to Melton's Wilford Bridge. Follow forgotten coaching roads and timeless tracks, past decoy ponds and healing springs, colourful cottages and grand estates. These days, it's not 'Phantoms' and 'Thunderbolts' which fly in to land here, but avocets, terns, wigeon and warblers. Do share and enjoy responsibly. Thanks for keeping it special.

Woodbridge » Melton » River Deben CHURCHYARDS, CHAPELS, CASTLES & CORMORANTS

5 miles
8 kms
CIRCULAR
WALK

OS MAP: 212

FROM/TO: Railway Station, Woodbridge IP12 4AL
TERRAIN: Flat with some inclines. River bank footpaths, tracks, tarmac lanes, pavements. Gates.

Returning via Woodbridge's best-loved river walk, discover the forgotten 'castle' quarter of the secret Naverne Valley and more. Take hidden turnpike tracks to Melton's old gaol site - the Shire Hall's 1500s predecessor, where Battle of Sole Bay prisoners languished in 1665. Walk through Thomas Churchyard landscapes/homelands (★ denotes particular relevance - see Secret Seven overleaf) spotting all sorts of chapels, churchyards and crenellations along the way. Excellent for birdwatching - cormorants come guaranteed, thanks to Spadge Hopkin's riverside sculptures!

DIRECTIONS: Cross Station Road. Take Quay/Church Street (passing Cumberland Street ★) to Market Hill. Turn right, past The Bull into Chapel Street. Pass former Beaumont Chapel (1787). Just before The White House/Beaumont House (left), take walled narrow footpath (right - Shipmeadow Walk) to Castle Street. Now 'Mill Hills', four post mills once stood on North Hill to the left here. Turn right. Cross Naverne Meadows (road) to play area to take shady footpath parallel to road (Castle Brewery site/Mr Lockwood's 'castle' demolished 1962) to St John's Church. Turn left (St John's Hill). Continue ahead to meet Sun Lane at Fitzgerald Green. Turn right,

Fancy Something Shorter?

Take the train to Melton Station (one stop) near Wilford Bridge. Enjoy a drink, pub lunch or fish and chips in Melton. The riverside stretch is just 1.5 miles/ 2.5 kms. For more circular walks around Melton visit discoversuffolk.org.uk



Stay this Way...

Book a quayside cottage, an historic sailing barge or tower mill apartment. Take some special time-out at Thomas Seckford's Tudor country pile, or mosey on down to Melton for a more contemporary golf and spa hotel vibe. From homely B&B bijoux in timeless townhouses to boutique hotel rooms with award-winning dining opportunities, countryside campsites, comfortable coaching inns and family-friendly glamping by the Deben reed beds, there's so much to choose from. To top it all, you can even stay right at Sutton Hoo, in Tranmer House itself!

Grisly Goings-on

An 1893 sighting of devil dog, Black Shuck; Tudor martyrs led from the gaol to be burnt at the stake in Ipswich; the horse-thief, Margaret Catchpole; a witchpit and gallows site, 'Mount Misery', even Oliver Cromwell's mummified head - Melton has seen them all. Local lads flocked to see Canon H.R. Wilkinson's grisly family heirloom at Melton Grove, but his son wasn't so enamoured with it and gave it to Cromwell's Cambridge College in 1957.

Nature Watch

By the River Deben, in its woodlands or wet-meadows, what will you spot today?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oystercatcher | <input type="checkbox"/> Cormorant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Muntjac Deer | <input type="checkbox"/> Bluebells |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marsh Marigold | <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Squirrel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egret | <input type="checkbox"/> Orange-tip Butterfly |



Did you know?

Bentwaters Cold War Museum near Rendlesham Forest is the UK's only museum in a former U.S Air Force Wing command post. Visit fascinating exhibitions, the war operations room, battle cabin and chilling decontamination facilities. bcwm.org.uk

1000 YEARS of Milling History TIDE MILL LIVING MUSEUM A One-of-a-Kind Experience

- Working Waterwheel & Mill Machinery
 - Interactive Exhibits
 - Milling Days & Events
- woodbridgetidemill.org.uk



(A12) LOWESTOFT
A1152

Whisstocks Place The Longshed

Re-creating Sutton Hoo's ship saxonship.org
woodbridgeriversidetrust.org
Woodbridge Haven Museum
From boats to bears:
grisly tales and local legends
woodbridgemuseum.com

Did you know?

Gold-work from the Sutton Hoo Anglo-Saxon ship burial, featuring Sri Lankan, Egyptian and European jewels, revolutionised the understanding of early English trade/travel.

Key

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| A Play Area | E Bowling Green (Bowls Club) |
| B Sports Fields/ Recreation Ground | F Boules/Pétanque Pitch |
| C Leisure Centre (Gym/ Swimming Pool) | G Sailing/Yacht/ Rowing Clubs |
| D Tennis Courts (Club) | H Golf |
| | I Skate Park |

➔ Station

..... Footpath

Taste the Place

- Sutton Hoo Free Range Chicken
- Fresh Woodbridge Shuck Shellfish
- Sandlings-grown Asparagus
- Melton 'Bad Boy' Mega Sausage Rolls

Castle Capers

Woodbridge once had a castle - built of 'Roman cement'. Mr Lockwood's Georgian folly home (later the Castle Brewery!) showcased his 'new' Portland-stone material, manufactured Deben-side at Waldringfield. Lockwood's sons designed St John's and the town pump, but his apprentices, the Pulham brothers, made the artificial stone famous, creating 'Pulhamite' rockeries/cliffs at Sandringham/Bawdsey Manor - and cheeky faces on properties around the town!

Ready to Go About?

Want to tack across tidal Deben waters in a sailing dinghy? Looking to launch a canoe, windsurf- or paddleboard? Fancy a taster session out with a rowing crew? Or what about a riverbank ramble with the 'bins' for some serious redshank spotting, lakeside hours with the fishing rod or time-out on the greens, golf club in hand? Whatever drives you or floats your boat, you'll find a warm, like-minded welcome at clubs/facilities around Woodbridge. choosewoodbridge.co.uk

Cycle & Discover

Woodbridge to Waldringfield - Pedal out to the Felixstowe peninsula on National Cycle Network Route 1/Regional Route 41 (Suffolk Coastal Cycle Route) for more delightful River Deben views or even a boat trip perhaps. Circular Cycle Explorer Guide route (15 miles/24 kms): suffolkcoastsandheaths.org
Rendlesham Forest - On- and off-road cycling including 2 waymarked forest cycle trails (6 or 9 miles/9.7 or 16 kms) forestryengland.uk/rendlesham-forest

Go on the Nature Trail

Grassland, saltmarsh, mixed woodland and reedy wet meadows; birdwatching, board walks and river bank paths - download the trail maps and discover natural treasures whatever the season.

- Kyson Hill/Point & Broomheath IP12 4DL
 - Sutton Hoo IP12 3DJ
- nationaltrust.org.uk

- Bromeswell Green IP12 2PQ
 - Foxburrow Farm IP12 1NA
- suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Get to the (Kyson) Point

Follow the Sandlings Walk south along the Deben from Woodbridge to Kyson Hill. March up through the old Duke of York Barracks quarter/Drybridge Hill, or (tides/weather-permitting) continue round Kyson Point/via Martlesham Creek. Explorer Guide route: suffolkcoastsandheaths.org

OS MAP: 212

Forest Encounters

Rendlesham Forest (place of 1980 UFO sightings!)
Get on the trails: UFO 3 miles/5 kms
Easy-going (firm surface) 0.75 miles/1.2 kms
Phoenix 3 miles/5 kms forestryengland.uk/rendlesham-forest

Station to Station Walks

DIRECTIONS & ROUTE UPDATES:
eastsuffolklines.co.uk/walks

Deben Valley Explorer

Melton » Campsea Ashe

(Wickham Market)
A countryside ramble via Melton Old Church/historic Ufford/Loudham Hall/Ashe Abbey.

Valley of The Kings Adventure

Melton » Bromeswell » Sutton Hoo

Explore Suffolk's Sandlings, passing pyramid-topped St Edmund's church Bromeswell and the famous place of buried treasures.

A Tale of Two Clarksons

Westerfield » Woodbridge

Follow the beautiful Fynn Valley Walk past Playford Hall, once home to slave trade abolitionist, Thomas Clarkson. Visit his churchyard memorial at hilltop St Mary's, before continuing via Deben-side Kyson Hill to St Mary's Woodbridge, resting place of his like-minded brother, John.

Countryside Code

- Plan ahead. Be prepared.
- Follow paths, advice and local signs.
- Consider the local community/others enjoying the outdoors.
- Be careful with naked flames/cigarettes at any time of the year.
- Leave gates/property as you find them.
- Take litter home. Clean up after your dog.
- Always keep dogs under close control, especially amongst livestock and during bird nesting season. Release your dog if chased by cattle.

Discover Digital Trails

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