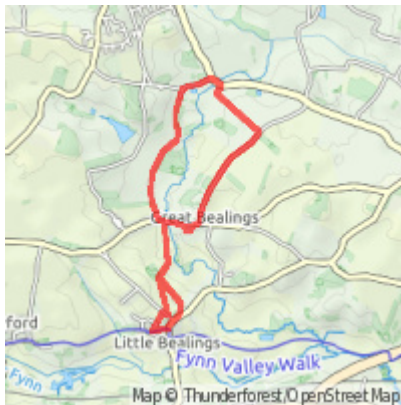




Route Summary

A very pleasant walk of about 4 miles which follows the picturesque countryside around the River Lark, with sweeping views from the "Hasketon Hills".

Route Overview



Category: Walking

Rating: Unrated

Surface: Moderate

Date Published: 8th October 2020

Difficulty: Easy

Length: 6.040 km / 3.78 mi

Last Modified: 23rd March 2021

Description

A very pleasant walk of about 4 miles which follows the countryside around the River Lark. The walk starts at Little Bealings Church and soon heads north along the pasture and fields to the West of the Lark. The walk then clips the edge of Grundisburgh with its beautiful period cottages. We then walk back across the Hasketon Hills, with wonderful views towards Bealings, before taking the easy descent back into Little Bealings.

Local info. Whilst the Lark has largely silted today to look more like a generous stream, trade vessels used to come from Martlesham Creek as far as Boot Street in Great Bealings (roughly to the Bridge near Great Bealings Church). Don't miss looking inside Great Bealings Church, which you pass on this walk, known for its elaborate pew carvings.

To find more photos and maps for this area see the Fynn Valley Walks Group page on Facebook. Look in "Albums" under "Media".

Waypoints

Start Point - Little Bealings Church

(52.08523; 1.25210)

Take the route clockwise, first heading to the West. Take the little path at the SW edge of the churchyard running

between the school and village houses.

1 Narrow path between bungalows

(52.08505; 1.25079)

Take the narrow path between bungalows to emerge at the end of Richard's Drive

2 Path over the field

(52.08577; 1.25137)

Take the path to your left at the Eastern edge of the field just off the Road

3 Holly Lane

(52.08664; 1.25207)

Turn right onto Holly Lane and after a few meters take the path through the hedge to your left, which goes into the field sloping to the North.

4 Path to left

(52.08631; 1.25281)

Proceed diagonally across the field following the path. Occasionally this path is not visible due to ploughing, in which case you can walk along the right hand side of the field turning left at the bottom.

5 Cross the road and go left

(52.09371; 1.25229)

Just a few meters along the road there is a kissing gate to a path into the next pasture.

6 Gate to the left- easy to miss!

(52.09554; 1.25068)

There is a gate to the left here which you need to take to stay on the path, rather than following the farm track straight on. It can easily be missed so look out for it! (At times the fence/gate may even be removed). After taking the gate, turn right and walk along the path at the edge of the field.

7 Gate

(52.09861; 1.25171)

At the end of the field, take the gate to head straight on rather than following the path to the left.

8 Grundisburgh Road

(52.10503; 1.25842)

A short stretch along Grundisburgh Road, which whilst looking like a small country road can have fast moving cars so take care. Turn right and after 100m take the path to your right.

Viewpoint

(52.10268; 1.26111)

This next stretch is known locally as 'Hasketon Hills' with views to both sides of the path running along the top of the hill.

9 Hasketon Road

(52.10075; 1.26459)

Hasketon Road is a quiet country lane with little traffic, with lovely views on the descent into Great Bealings- however still watch out for any vehicles!

10 Tip for the next section

(52.09369; 1.25684)

By crossing the road and entering the field just in front of the church, you can walk along the field instead of along the country road which can be busy. The field was once the grand driveway to Bealings Hall, long since destroyed by fire.

11 Great Bealings Church

(52.09319; 1.25547)

It is well worth pausing to enter the church before moving on, which notably has unusual and impressive carvings on each pew. Locate also the grave with a story in front of the church, of the poor lad who was a cattle herd for a day. Take a moment to look around the churchyard which has benches to rest and enjoy the view.

Rest/viewpoint

(52.09291; 1.25541)

Pleasant views from the churchyard with picnic benches

12 Gate and Style

(52.09366; 1.25359)

Take the gate or style and turn left, walk down the road just a few meters, where straight after the bridge you turn left to rejoin the path you came on.

13 Views to Great Bealings Church

(52.09304; 1.25252)

Look North to see the tower of Great Bealings Church in the distance.

Whilst the River Lark now looks more akin to a generous brook, many years ago trade barges used to come as far as the bridge you have just crossed. Perhaps the strange trenches by the river are remnants of the dock?

14 Continue into the Village Park

(52.08722; 1.25457)



You can then cross the park, walking to the left of the community centre to get to the car park. If you wished to return to Little Bealings Church, this is just 100m down the road to the South on the right hand side.

End Point - Little Bealings Church

(52.08524; 1.25228)

Here you will find a bench to sit and rest at the end of your walk. If you are lucky, our pop-up cafe may be open inside our pretty church!

