



THE TURKS HEAD

**The Turks Head, Low Road,
Hasketon. IP13 6JG**

01394 610343

info@theturksheadhasketon.co.uk

www.theturksheadhasketon.co.uk

Opening times: -

Monday – Thursday 11:00 until 23:00

Food 12:00 – 15:00 and 18:00 – 21:00

Friday 11:00 until 00:00

Food 12:00 – 15:00 and 18:00 – 21:00

Saturday 10:00 until 00:00

Food 10:00 - 15:00 and 18:00 - 21:00

Sunday 11:00 until 20:00

Food 12:00 – 17:00

Cycle Route 2—Easton, Deben Valley and Ufford

A circular cycle route of 28.2 km / 17.6 miles along country lanes to Easton in the Deben Valley, returning via Ufford. Passing through small villages with many buildings of historical interest, belying the tranquillity of

Description

The route will take you from The Turks Head into some unspoilt countryside that has seen much of the history of England made upon its soil. As well as ancient settlements, there are historic houses. Some of these are now hidden behind more modern facades whilst others have been demolished to prevent payment of taxes. Alongside the history of the land there is also the personalities that have lived in the area, from translators of Persian literature to Dukes and other landed gentry. From the bustling cities that we now have across the country it is now hard to imagine that these sleepy lanes were once corridors of power and wealth.

The sleepy tree lined lanes and fields of Boulge could easily be missed by travellers, but the church and cemetery are worthy of a short detour. St Michael's was the estate church of the demolished Boulge Hall. The oldest part of the church is now the 16th Century Tower, the rest having been rebuilt during the 19th Century by the Fitzgerald family. One of this family was Edward Fitzgerald, who translated into English the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam from the original ancient Persian. He is buried in his own grave within the churchyard as opposed to within the family mausoleum. The church itself contains one of only ten black Tournai marble fonts in England.

The Romans established a settlement at a crossroads between ancient tracks from the River Deben to Debach, we now call this place Bredfield. It was here that Edward Fitzgerald was born, prior to the family moving to nearby Boulge. St Andrew's Church is another example of a Victorian rebuilt church, there are a few artefacts that pre-date that time and worthy of a quick look. The ornate covering over the village pump was made by the local blacksmith, they also supplied several gates to large country mansions across East Anglia. This church is particularly renowned for having a peal of 12 bells, which are regularly rung at the Sunday service as well as numerous training, practice and peal ringing.

The village of Dallinghoo hit the head lines in 2009 when a hoard of Iceni coins was found, dating from 40 BC to 25 AD, they have a value of approximately £500, 000. A short detour to see St Mary's church will show an unusual sight. It appears that the tower is at the east end of the building, not the usual west end. However, it was originally constructed as a cruciform structure, but the chancel and transepts have now gone. The pulpit is 17th Century and apparently the tallest in the county with the crest of Henry VII on its reverse side.

You would barely notice Letheringham nowadays, yet it was once a place of influence and is recorded as such within the 1086 Doomsday Book. A mill stood on this site prior to the Norman conquest although the current mill buildings only date from 1740, with 19th Century additions. It ceased operating in 1927, with just the mill wheel remaining.

On the other side of the parish is the site of Letheringham Priory, founded at the end of the 12th Century as a cell of the St Peter and St Paul Priory in Ipswich. This fascinating historical monument includes the priory gatehouse and buried remains of the conventual* buildings as well as part of the monastic church, together with earthworks within what is believed to be part of a 17th century walled garden to the south of the present churchyard. On dissolution the priory was granted to Sir Anthony Wingfield.

Sir Anthony Wingfield was Vice Chancellor to Henry VIII, and Comptroller of the Household of Edward VI. Sir Anthony's family lived at Letheringham Hall. The current building only dates back to the 17th Century, but the surrounding moat pre-dates this. A hunting lodge was built in 1472 at what is now Letheringham Lodge. The building has been changed many times over the years but still retains some original features.

In 1672 Sir Anthony Wingfield moved his Palladian house from Ipswich into parkland at Easton on the opposite bank of the Deben to where his family lived. The house and grounds continued to be developed by the Earls of Rochford one of whom sold it to a younger brother with the title 5th Duke of Hamilton, it was he who had the 'Crinkle Crankle' wall built that can still be seen today. In the late 1800's a mock Tudor house was built within the grounds and the Park Farm developed; a big tourist attraction today. The employees of the estate had houses and cottages built in the surrounding area, along with a school. During WWI the 27-room mansion was converted into a Red Cross Hospital to receive the wounded from the front lines. After the war, due to Government tax demands, the mansion and estate were to be sold Sadly, as there were no purchasers for the house it was demolished in 1924.

The White Horse in Easton, almost adjacent to the old parkland, is a 16th Century coaching inn that would have witnessed many events in the area over the years. Sit back and enjoy some refreshments in the beautiful old building.

Tucked away alongside the Deben valley is Glevering Hall. This estate was purchased by Chaloner Arcedechne in 1791 after he had made a fortune from plantations in Jamaica. John White was used to build the house with Humphry Repton being employed to landscape the grounds. The Hall and grounds were utilised by the Royal Artillery during WWII and a tank depot was built within the grounds.

Although the route bypasses Wickham Market, you might take a short detour to see the town and its eclectic collection of houses and Deben Mill. The mill is in a spectacular setting but is not now operational having closed in 1970 after 85 years. All Saints' Church (along with St Andrew's in Hasketon) are relatively unusual in the fact they have octagonal towers. VI granted the town a market charter in 1440, and a market continues to be held here every Wednesday.

Why is Pettistree called Pettistree? Its parish church of St Peter was built near to an ancient tree that is said to have been sacred to the Norse god, Odin; hence "Peter's Tree"! Most of the current village is relatively new as the old centres near Byng Hall and Loudham Hall moved out following the plague. Archaeological finds near Byng Hall suggest that there once was a Roman settlement in this location. Look out for the 17th Century Dovecote near the end of Thong Hall Road.

The village of Ufford is another that is steeped in history, the name is taken from the Wuffinga family who were the Anglo-Saxon kingdom rulers of this area. The original village centre would have been close to the river crossing and marshes; this eastern part of the village is now a conservation area. St Mary's Church dates to the 11th Century and has a 15th Century hanging font cover. The oldest dwelling within Ufford is the 16th Century Crown Farm House with its very distinctive red brick and timber façade. Just a few metres from this impressive looking house is another coaching inn, The Ufford Crown, where further refreshments can be enjoyed.

Waypoint 1

Leave the 17th Century Turks Head building and turn left up Low Road. At Boulge Road junction turn left up this gentle incline and you will soon be out in the open countryside. (At a sharp right-hand bend, a road to the left provides a short detour to Boulge Church). Remain on the main Hasketon to Bredfield road until reaching a staggered junction where there is an ornate water pump covering. Turn right then immediately left along the road signed to Dallinghoo.

Waypoint 2

Continue through the village of Bredfield passing Moat Farm Campsite then under the power cables to reach a junction with the impressive Dallinghoo Hall; here you should follow the road to the left. Just after Pound Corner House take the left-hand turn; the road becomes considerably narrower at this stage. Turn left at the next junction and pass the reclamation yard until reaching The Old School House where a left turn is made. After a short distance take the small road to the right which will bring you to the B1078, Wickham Market road.

Waypoint 3

Turn right along the B1078. *(Please take care as this can be a busy road with some large vehicles.)* After a short distance take the left turn signed to Letheringham and Easton. As you go up the lane, the building on your right is Letheringham Lodge. Continue up the hill and down the far side. On reaching the T-junction in the centre of Letheringham, **either:** Turn left for a short distance to visit St Mary's Church and the remains of the Priory before returning to the route, **or:** Take the right-hand turn that goes to Easton, passing the Mill (now holiday accommodation) and the Old Hall. Go over the River Deben and turn right at the junction close to Easton Farm Park. At the Crinkle Crinkle wall turn right to the centre of Easton where The White Horse will be found on your left and refreshments can be taken.

Waypoint 4

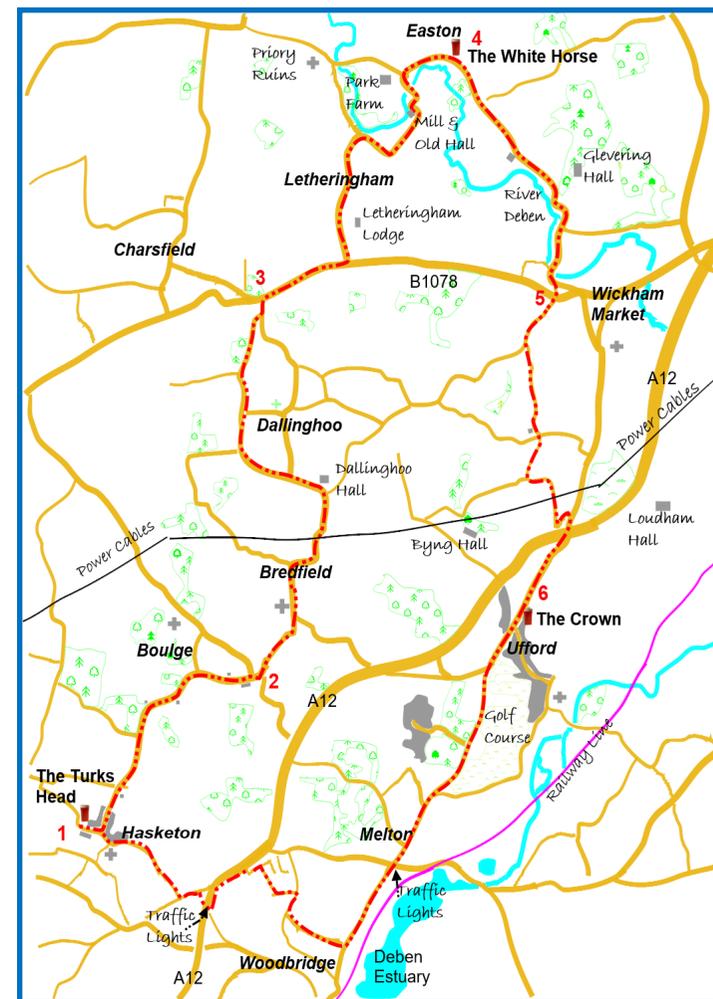
After taking a rest and sustenance at The White Horse the route continues along the beautiful Deben Valley towards Wickham Market. You will see many of the cottages constructed by the Duke of Hamilton for his workers. After leaving the village of Easton, Home Farm and Glevering House will be found on the right. The house dates to the late 16th or early 17th Century. Just after this on the opposite site of the road is Glevering Hall, which is well screened from the road. Go over the River Deben again, then continue up the road leaving the river behind. Take the second small road to the right after the bridge, which will again bring you to the B1078 close to Wickham Market. You might wish to turn left along the B1078 and visit Deben Mill and Wickham Market before continuing straight across the road.

Waypoint 5

After crossing the B1078 you will be going along Thong Hall Road, just a short distance along the road is Glemham Hall. This is a 17th Century house and dairy that has been combined to be one large dwelling. In 1300's the earlier Hall was owned by the De Ufford family before it was transferred to the Campsea Ashe Abbey. Go straight over the crossroads passing Thong Hall, hidden behind trees on your left. Further along it is possible to see the spire on top of the octagonal tower of All Saints' Church on the left. Towards the end of Thong Hall Road keep a lookout to the right to see a 17th Century Dovecote. On reaching Pettistree, cross the main road continuing along the small lane opposite signed By Road. This will change into a road signed to Ufford and Woodbridge. Near the end of the road you will pass Pettistree House behind high hedges on your left then you will arrive at a T-Junction. Turn right onto the B1438 to go over the A12 road and into Ufford where The Crown will be found on the left.

Waypoint 6,

The Ufford Crown is another old coaching inn that faces onto what used to be the main Great Yarmouth to London road. Take a break and enjoy some well-earned refreshments before completing the last leg of your cycle ride. Continue along the main road heading towards the A12 road, then fork left towards Melton and Woodbridge, cross the traffic lights and continue as if heading into Woodbridge. At the top of Melton Hill turn right into Pitches Road, then use Warwick Avenue, Edwin Avenue, Barton Road and Haugh Lane to access the A12 dual Carriageway. Here turn left along the cycleway until reaching the traffic lights, cross over the road and down Russel Close and Manor Road then right into Blacksmiths Lane which will lead you back into Hasketon where the team at The Turks Head will be pleased to serve you some well-deserved refreshments.



Route also available free to follow on Smartphone and tablet at www.ViewRanger.com

Created by www.skyestrolls.co.uk

Contact – paul@skyestrolls.co.uk

