

Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

Walk Title	Great Chesterford to Newport, via Saffron Walden	Walk No.	354
Area	N Essex	Type	Linear
Date	Tues 29 March 2022		
Distance	10+ miles		
Timing	4 hours + hours walking time + travel + refreshment stops Allow 7+ hours		
Meeting up & travel	<p>Walk starts from Great Chesterford station (on the Greater Anglia line between Liverpool Street and Cambridge) and returns from Newport on the same line.</p> <p>Meet at Tottenham Hale national rail station to catch the 9.40 (final destination is Cambridge North) to Great Chesterford. Arrives Great Chesterford at 10.35</p> <p>Buy a cheap day return to Great Chesterford. £13.70 with FP & SRC</p> <p>Return trains from Newport (after 15.43) are at .13 and .43</p>		
Route	<p>Leaving the station we cross the River Cam to walk through the pretty village of Great Chesterford then head south, following the course of the (largely hidden) Cam through open countryside towards Little Chesterford Both Chesterfords boast churches dating from the 13th century, but unfortunately both unlikely to be open. Continuing across open fields with wide views, we reach the interesting market town of Saffron Walden where we will have lunch. Saffron Walden was the centre of the saffron crocus industry in the middle ages and today still retains many of its medieval buildings. We enter the town via the elegant Bridge End Gardens, a good picnic spot for non pub goers. After lunch we leave the town and cross into Audley Park which surrounds the impressive stately home of Audley End (English Heritage), although a short side detour is necessary to catch a glimpse of it. The walk continues through Audley End village before turning south through meadows, woods, across streams and fields to our final destination of Newport.</p>		

Lunch/coffee	Lunch stop in Saffron Walden will be at the Kings Arms pub Please sign up by latest midday Monday 28th if wanting a place in the pub and note this on the sign up form.
Dropping out	At lunchtime in Saffron Walden, by taxi or possibly by bus to Audley End station about 2miles from the town. Alternatively, around half an hour after lunch when we reach Audley End village, it is possible to take a detour to walk 2 km to Audley End station. Note: if taking this option, the leader will have written directions, courtesy of Saturday Walkers Club, but has not personally followed them. This route does include some road walking.
Suitability	Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker. Comfortable waterproof walking shoes/ boots. Waterproof jacket. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain. Wear, or carry, an extra layer.
Facilities	No loos at Great Chesterford or Newport stations, so use those on the train.
Walk source	Saturday Walkers Club No 130 www.walkingclub.org.uk/walk/great-chesterford-to-newport/ See Saturday Walkers Club website for full walk details and list of points of interest along the way.
Maps	OS Explorer 195 & 209
Leader & contact details	<u>Walk Leader:</u> Rowena Mobile 07741 311531 Text or leave message