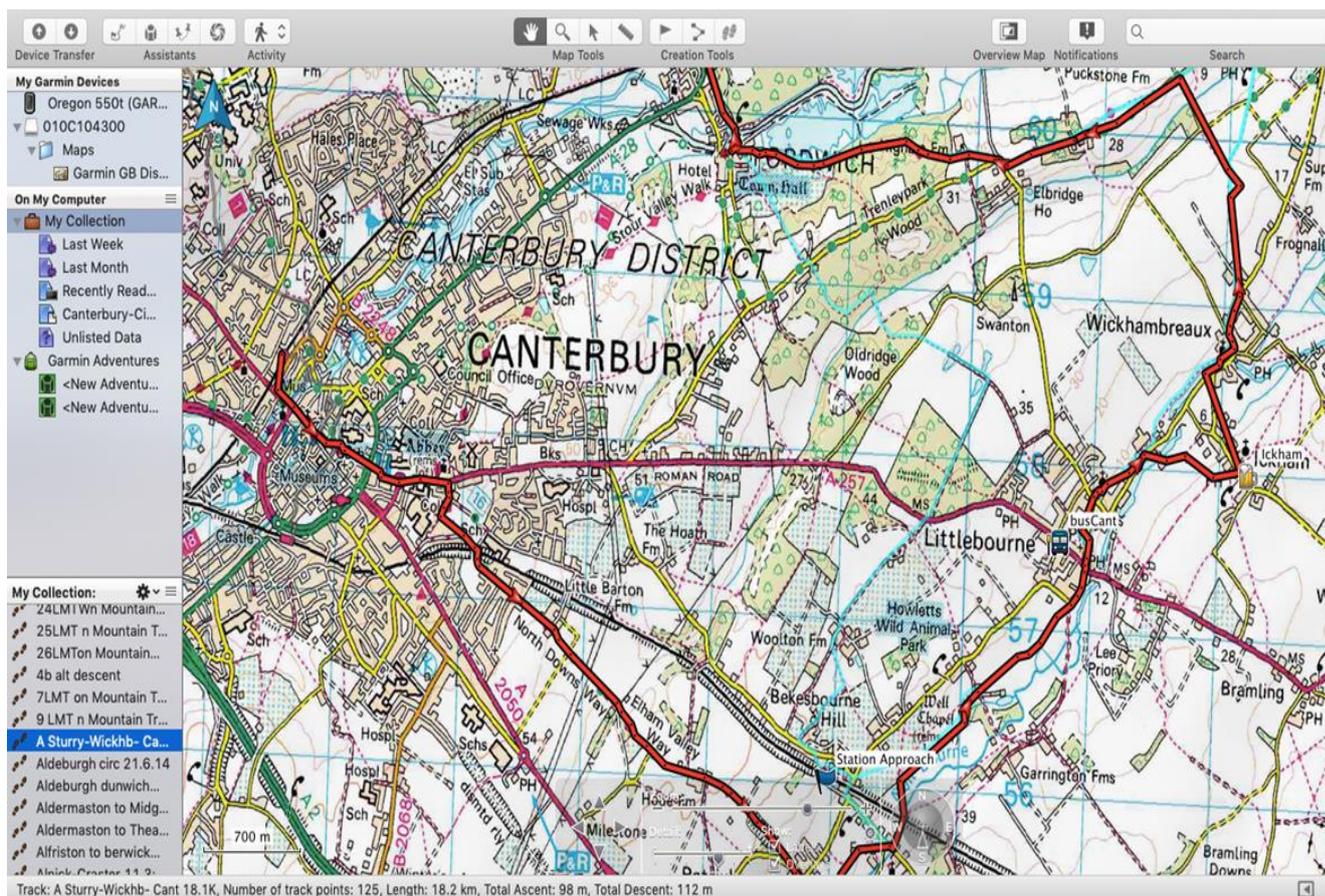


Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

Walk Title	Sturry to Canterbury	Walk No.	344
Area	Kent	Type	Linear
Date	Thursday, 20 January 2022		
Distance	11.5 miles (18.5 km)		
Timing	4.5 hours walking time; + travel + lunch stop. Allow 9.5 hours at least.		
Meeting up & travel	<p>Meet at St Pancras at 9.55am for 10.12am train, direction Margate; change at Ashford; take slow train direction Margate, arrive at Sturry 11.31am.</p> <p>Recommended ticket: St Pancras - Sturry off-peak day return £23.85 if bought on Southeasternrailway.co.uk (no boundary stations allowed on this high speed route). Trainline.com came out with much higher prices when I looked. Return from Canterbury West at 17.03 (or 18.03...) or Canterbury East 17.17 (or 18.17).</p> <p>Or go from Victoria Station at 9.25am arr 11.31 Sturry; lower prices but be aware that some tickets are fixed singles so only valid on fixed trains with no refund if you fail to board that train. Returns as above.</p>		
Route	Sturry to Canterbury via Wickhambreaux, Ickham, Littlebourne and Bekesbourne.		
Lunch	The Duke William at Ickham after 4m		
Dropping out	<p>Bus after lunch at Littlebourne about 4.5m into the walk at 08, 28 and 48 min past the hour to Canterbury bust station. Close to Canterbury East, with trains to Victoria at xx.15 (5 min change at Faversham) and xx.47(direct). Alternatively walk to Canterbury West for direct trains at xx.26 to St Pancras.</p> <p>Or train at Bekesbourne 8m into the walk at xx.11 and xx.41 via Canterbury East to Victoria.</p> <p>Correct as of 14.01.21 but please check yourself on the day before if you plan to drop out.</p>		
Suitability	<p>Health: attendees apart from being fully vaccinated, in addition should consider taking a LF test.</p> <p>Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker. There are no particular difficulties.</p> <p>Terrain: fields, paths, country lanes.</p> <p>Possible obstacles: probably mud & some stiles.</p> <p>Comfortable waterproof walking shoes/ boots and sticks for stability in muddy terrain. Waterproof jacket. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain. Wear, or carry, an extra layer.</p>		
Facilities	There are toilets on the trains, the pub in the middle, in the precinct of the cathedral and at the end at Canterbury station. Plus the green room.		
Walk source	Saturday walking Club SWC 121		
Map	Landranger 179, Explorer 150 Links: walk notes Canterbury C. (note that we will walk from Sturry, via Stodmarsh to Ickham for lunch; see map below).		

Leader & contact details	<p><u>Walk Leader: Pia Rainey</u></p> <p>phone: 07775 782860 (text or whatsapp)</p> <p>e-mail: piarainey@icloud.com</p>
Interesting facts	<p>This is a beautiful walk through a quiet corner of Kent, taking in a series of ancient villages, each with a similarly ancient church and passing a series of charming rural pubs. The village of Wickhambreaux in particular is quintessentially English.</p> <p>The terrain is mostly flat, with only a few gentle hills, but there are still some good views just after Stodmarsh. There walk has a variety of landscapes, from woods to arable fields, and from a farm growing strawberries in polytunnels to fields with grazing cattle.</p> <p>This walk is also a delight for lovers of ancient churches, with no less than four passed on the main walk, and a fifth if you take the diversion to Ickham. Note the immense 13th century tithe barn next to Littlebourne church, apparently originally attached to a monastery, and in Wickhambreaux church don't miss the Tiffany-style art nouveau stained glass window. Stodmarsh church, meanwhile, has a wonderful ancient simplicity, and tiny crosses supposedly carved by knights on their way to the Crusades on the frame of its main door.</p> <p>The walk will finish at Canterbury where you will be able to attend Choral Evensong for free at Canterbury Cathedral from 17.30 to 18.00 in time to catch 18.26 from Canterbury West (Google states 11 min walk).</p>



Littlebourne, Canterbury
Canterbury

Depart at 13:58 Thu, 20 Jan

You must wear a face covering on public transport (exemptions apply).

Send directions to your phone

2:08 PM (Thursday) - 2:21 PM	13 min
2:08 PM from Jubilee Road	
Details	
2:28 PM (Thursday) - 2:41 PM	13 min

