



St Edmundsbury Cathedral



SIGNS OF THE TIMES Bardwell to Bury St Edmunds

A pleasant walk into Bury St Edmunds via local villages

FROM	To	OS MAP	MILES/KM
Bardwell	Bury St Edmunds	OS230/229/211	15/24

Bardwell to Bury St Edmunds

Starting from the windmill, head due west along the road towards Ixworth Thorpe. Turn left and walk beside the A1088 for around 300m, where you cross and take the footpath opposite by a small green. This zig-zags across fields to join Common Lane, where you will find the church of St Mary the Virgin at Troston.



St Mary's, Troston Pause and reflect on the medieval wall painting of St Edmund. Consider the hundreds of pilgrims who have passed this way before.

Continue into the village of Troston and keep going in the same direction towards Great Livermere. The footpath turns right as you enter this village in the direction of the Church of St Peter, also well worth exploring.



St Peter's, Great Livermere In the chancel look for the memorial to MR James, who grew up in the village. He is famous for his ghost stories and for being the Provost of King's College, Cambridge. Thanks to his scholarly research, the Chapter House of the Abbey of St Edmund was excavated and the graves of six abbots re-discovered.

From the church at Great Livermere walk due West across Livermere Park towards the next village of Ampton. You will pass Ampton Hall on the left. Just beyond the church there is a footpath which turns right, cutting off the corner of the road which turns towards Ingham.

Reaching the A134 turn left and turn into the entrance to Place Farm past a series of farm buildings. Keep going due West and you will come out about 130m from the entrance to Culford School on the other side of the road.

From this point you are joining another long distance footpath, the Saint Edmund Way, which runs from Manningtree to Brandon. Walk southwards along the road and you will find a footpath around 400m along on the other side of the road. This cuts through a small wood to reach the road from West Stow. Turn left to walk along the road around 300m before turning right down a track, which takes you to the river Lark. Once there turn left and follow the river past Ducksluice Farm and over the road at the edge of Fornham All Saints to go across the golf course. Keep next to the river until the path turns right onto the Mildenhall Road.

There are various entries possible into Bury St Edmunds from this point.



Approaching Bury St Edmunds. As you approach Bury St Edmunds, look out for glimpses of the Cathedral Tower, which was only completed in 2005. This is the modern day successor of the Abbey. Medieval pilgrims would have seen the towers of the Abbey across the flat East Anglian skyline. This would have assured them that they are nearly at journeys end. How are you feeling now that your journey is nearly over?

If you are aiming for the Cathedral we would recommend that you continue along the St Edmunds Way in the following manner:

Cross the Mildenhall Road and walk up Wordsworth Road, turning left where this joins Gloucester Road and left again up Philip Road. This reaches Tollgate Lane, which you cross to find a footpath opposite which takes you down Northgate Avenue. At the end is a footbridge, which takes you across the A14 with a good view of the sugarbeet factory! From there the path follows down onto the Mildenhall Road opposite the old pilgrim hospital (hostel) of St Saviour's.



The Hospital of St Saviour was one of several medieval hospitals which offered care and hospitality to visiting pilgrims. Founded in 1184 it now stands as a ruin, and is the place where Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Uncle of Henry VI, died (possibly murdered) in 1447.

Cross beneath the railway bridge and over the roundabout to Northgate St.

For a final flourish we would recommend entering the Abbey Gardens through the East Gate entrance on Mustow Street, and coming into Angel Hill through the Abbeygate.