

## Walk 10: Audley End and Great Chesterford

Type: Linear.

Distance:  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

Extra Care: This walk involves quite a lot of road walking. Most of this is over narrow, lightly-used roads which have grass verges to which you can retreat to avoid traffic. Extra care is needed, however, at:

Audley End (514365)—no pavement or verges to road.

Catmere End (489395) to (491406)—no pavement or verges to part of road.

Gt Chesterford—some streets do not have a pavement.

B184 (511433) to (509436)—busy road with verges but no pavement.

Start: Audley End Station (516363).

Leave the station and walk towards the ‘T’ junction. At the junction, turn left. After a short distance you will cross the railway by bridge. Walk ahead along Royston Road. 300 yards from the bridge the road will turn sharply to the left. Do not follow the road; instead, turn right to follow the signposted public footpath.

To begin with, the footpath will take you uphill. When you reach the top of the rise you will see a wood ahead of you. Follow the footpath to the left-hand end of the wood. You will have a line of electricity pylons about 500 yards parallel to your left.

When you reach the wood, turn left. The footpath will take you over the M11 and under the line of pylons.  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the M11 you will reach a narrow road (499374). Turn right and follow this road for 1 mile to Littlebury Green.

When you reach Littlebury Green turn left (495386) and follow the road through Littlebury Green. You will pass Howe Hall on your right. You will be walking uphill. As you reach the top of the hill, take the public byway (492386) signposted to your right and follow it through to Catmere End.

At Catmere End, turn left and follow the road for 400 yards, until you reach a junction. At the junction (489395) turn right to Strethall and Ickleton. Follow this road. Ignore the junction to Strethall Church and walk on to the next cross-roads.

Go straight over at the cross-roads towards Ickleton and the Icknield Way. 250 yards from the cross-roads you will find a public bridleway (491406) also signposted “Icknield Way”. Take this bridleway. It will lead you across an open field on a bearing of  $42^\circ$  towards a hedgerow in the far corner. When you reach the hedgerow, follow the waymarked Icknield Way on a narrow path running between hedgerows. The path will take you to a bridge where you re-cross the M11. On the far side of the M11, turn left and walk parallel to the M11 for about 100 yards until you reach the hedgerows on your right. Turn right, walk between the hedgerows, and follow the path to the railway level crossing.

Cross the railway and follow the road to the right towards Gt Chesterford. 200 yards from the level crossing turn left to follow the B1383 along Newmarket Road towards Cambridge. Walk along the B1383 for 300 yards to find Church Street on your right. Follow Church Street until you reach School Street on your left. Follow School Street, cross Carmen Street, and join Jacksons Lane (not named at this point) through to the B184.

Turn left at the B184 (511433) and, keeping to the verges, follow it for 250 yards and look for the road on the right signposted “Park Road” (509436).

Follow Park Road.  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile along the Park Road you will pass Dell’s Farm on your left and after a further mile you will pass Park Farm on your right. 100 yards past Park Farm, look for a waymarker indicating a footpath to the left (523454). The waymarker is about 300 yards before the communications aerial.

Follow the footpath. After 300 yards the path will turn right and then, after a further 200 yards, left. Continue to follow the path to the next farm, which is Abington Park Farm. There turn right and walk on the concrete road for 300 yards. Then turn left, turn right (527461) and follow the farm road downhill towards Abington.

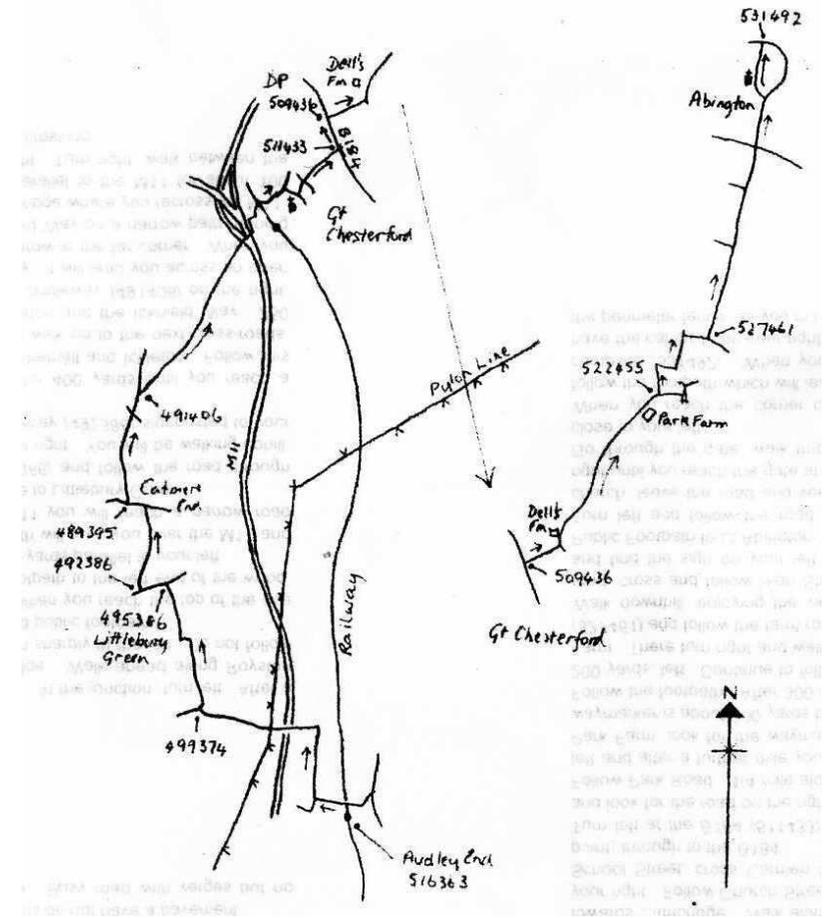
Walk downhill, enjoying the view before you, to Abington. When you reach the road cross and follow High Street opposite. Walk along High Street for  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile and find the sign on your left to “St Mary’s Church Gt Abington”, also signposted “Public Footpath to Lt Abington  $\frac{1}{2}$ ”.

Turn left and follow the road towards St Mary’s Church. As you approach the church, leave the road and veer to your right, keeping close to the fence on your right until you reach the gate at the corner of the

churchyard.

Go through the gate, and walk through the recreation ground, keeping the hedgerow close to your left.

When you reach the corner of the recreation ground, cross the footbridge and follow the footpath which will lead you back to Church Lane and the entrance to the campsite (531492). When you are walking this last section of footpath, you will have the campsite on your right. Please do not be tempted to climb through or over the perimeter fence, as you may cause unnecessary damage.



(Not to scale.)