



Pub Walks *with Darcy*



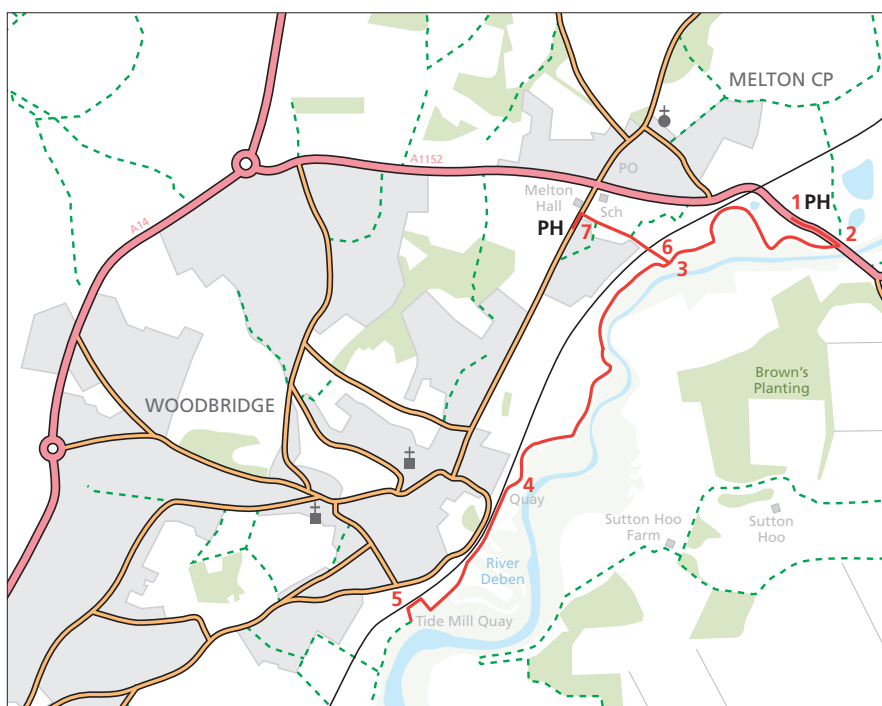
We return to simple pleasures for the New Year and another stunning stretch of the Deben

Q: What could be better than a bracing walk starting and finishing at a dog friendly pub?
A: One with a short diversion to another dog friendly pub along the way! Before Christmas the Wilford Bridge, part of the Deben Inns group, was named in the top ten dog friendly pubs in the country in a national competition so we couldn't resist the opportunity to discover another route for Darcy and Holly to enjoy. With The Coach & Horses, another popular member of the same family, just a short distance away it's worth planning your excursion to include both stops.

From the very start (once you've crossed the road from the pub) this walk takes the well-worn and well signposted path along the Deben. It is part of the Sandlings Trail that runs from Ipswich to Southwold so if you have any doubts along the way just look for the little bird logo on the signposts.

The distance you cover is entirely your choice – this is an 'out and back' route passing through the boat yard at Melton, winding past interesting houseboats moored along the banks and eventually reaching Woodbridge. We walked as far as Tide Mill Quay and although the final approach to Woodbridge is less attractive as the path passes behind some buildings blocking the river view for a while, it's well worth it to reach the picturesque quayside.

On the return leg divert from the path at Melton Boat Yard (point 6 on the map) to visit the Coach & Horses. We advise retracing your steps back to the river path for the last stretch. A final word of advice; if the tide is out keep your dogs close to you – that river mud is tricky to wash off!





the walk

DISTANCE: Approx 3.5 miles

TIME: Approx 1 hour 30 mins depending on your pace

TERRAIN: River path

STOPS: The Wilford Bridge, The Coach & Horses

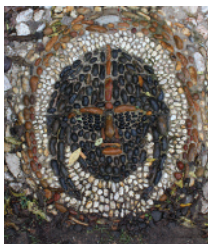
OS MAP: Explorer 212

START POINT OS REFERENCE: 288 254

As always please keep your dog under close control and follow any advisory signs. For a printable version of this and more than 70 previous walks go to: www.essentialsuffolk.com/dog-walks where you will also find more pictures of each walk route.

Always check the map before setting off.

1. From the car park at The Wilford Bridge turn left and follow the pavement a very short distance just to the junction of Brick Kiln Lane. Cross the main road. You will see a footpath sign just before the bridge crosses the river. Check the map if unsure – we're heading downriver towards Woodbridge.
2. Once you are on the river path don't deviate. This first stretch affords stunning views towards Melton Boat yard. Tide Mill Quay is just out of sight around the bend in the river.
3. At the boat yard keep straight ahead. The path is well marked but if in doubt just follow the direction of the river on your left.
4. As you round the corner the path runs closer the railway line. Keep the train tracks on your right as the path heads back down to the left (towards the river) and between the buildings. Again keep ahead following the signs – and notice the clever pebble art in front of the cottages along this stretch.
5. As the path emerges from between the buildings turn left to Tide Mill Quay. We chose this as our turning point. Retrace your steps along the path.
6. When you reach Melton Boat Yard turn left for the additional stop and follow Dock Lane turning left at the top for The Coach & Horses.
7. From The Coach & Horses return via Dock Lane and the river path back to The Wilford Bridge



The Wilford Bridge is located at the head of the navigation on the river Deben and only a short distance from one of Britain's most important archaeological sites; Sutton Hoo. Enjoy local history, take a river walk then come make the most of our welcoming inn.

Dog-Friendly Pub Awards Finalists 2018

Wilford Bridge Rd, Melton, IP12 2PA. T: 01394 386141

COACH & HORSES
MELTON



A fantastic in-town pub with a real country feel. The Coach and Horses in Melton is a lively pub with an atmosphere sure to draw you in; the low ceilings and open fireplace really adding to a sense of history.

Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1PD. T: 01394 384851



a group of
individual inns

Child friendly, dog friendly, well basically just friendly whoever you are and whatever you need. All our pubs are open for all day dining so we are perfect for breakfast to fuel your day ahead or any point in between until you are ready to wind down at night.

www.debeninns.co.uk