



Lent 2026 Termcard

Hello and welcome to Cambridge University Rambling Club! We run walks of around 10-30km around the countryside of East Anglia and occasionally further afield. Details and contacts for all the walks are included below. You do not need to sign up in advance apart from for the March March March after the end of term (details can be found below). Simply turn up at the meeting point (usually outside the train station or Drummer Street bus station) at the given time.

You should bring a packed lunch and water. Boots or other sensible walking shoes and waterproofs are also recommended. Your only expense will be the bus or train fare (given below) and our annual £1 membership fee. To utilise the GroupSave discount for trains, all tickets will usually be purchased by the walk leader who can then be paid back via bank transfer.

If you have any questions, email the club's president, Alfie, at rambling@cambridgesu.co.uk or the relevant walk leader (emails in walk details).

Sunday 25th January: Quick Walk Around Fulbourn Fen

Fulbourn Circular
Distance: 12km / 7mi
Leader: Balint (yellow.oil1947@dratini0.hu)

After crossing Fulbourn Fen, we turn north, reaching the town of Great Wilbraham. We then quickly reach Great Wilbraham Common, one of the largest remaining areas of species-rich grassland in the county. After passing by a farm, we reach the beautiful bank of Little Wilbraham River (truly a marvel of the locals' naming sense). We will then finish off with a brief stroll along a narrow path by Caudle Ditch, looping back to Fulbourn by the road.

Meet at 09:35 at Emmanuel Street bus station for the 09:49 bus to Fulbourn.
Return: Back in Cambridge by 15:52.
Cost: £6 (two single tickets).

Saturday 31st January: Reaching Reach

Dullingham to Burwell
Distance: 19km / 12mi
Leader: Jasper (jnw35@cam.ac.uk)

Setting off from the excitingly named Dullingham, we walk to Woodditton where we turn north-west onto the Devil's Dyke, a 1500 year old Anglo-Saxon earthwork whose course we will follow for most of the walk. As we walk the Dyke, its elevation will give us good views of the surrounding countryside including the site of a Roman villa, a decommissioned railway, the Newmarket race courses, and several stately homes. When we reach Reach at the far end of the Dyke, we will then head to the neighbouring village of Burwell where we will catch the bus home.

Meet at 08:45 at the train station for the 09:00 to Dullingham.
Back in Cambridge by 17:57.
Cost: £7.50 (£3 bus ticket to Burwell, £4.50 single to Dullingham).

Sunday 8th February: Thetford Forest

Thetford to Brandon

Distance: 16km / 10mi

Leader: Kiarn (kt506@cantab.ac.uk)

CURAC returns to our favourite forest. We begin from Thetford station, following the River Little Ouse for the first few kilometres through the forest before heading slightly deeper into the forest. About halfway through, we'll cross to the southern side of the river where there are some more open fields as well as more of the woodland paths. We will then reach the village of Santon Downham and its quaint stone church before returning to the river to head to Brandon where we finish the walk.

Meet at 10:00 at the train station for the 10:19 to Ely.

Back in Cambridge by 17:45 (or an hour earlier).

Cost: 12.25 (return to Thetford).

Saturday 14th February: Tewin (finitly) and the Ponds

Welwyn North Circular

Distance: 19km / 12mi

Leader: Alfie (aw2041@cam.ac.uk)

From Welwyn North train station, we head south-east towards the village of Tewin, passing by its picturesque church. Soon we reach Panshanger Park and we follow the river and wetlands (excellent for birdwatching) before cutting back north-west to Bramfield Woods. We continue through Tewin Wood and then head back down to the station accompanied by a good view of the Welwyn Viaduct.

Meet at 10:05 at the train station for the 10:24 to Welwyn North.

Back in Cambridge by 18:05 (or an hour earlier).

Cost: £10.80 (return to Welwyn North).

Saturday 21st February: Palace, Planets & Ponds in the Kent Downs

Otford Circular

Distance: 20km / 12mi

Leader: Kiarn (kt506@cantab.ac.uk)

This year's lent term North Downs walk takes us to the Kent Downs National Landscape around Otford & Shoreham where we will find a ruined palace, a scale model of the solar system, a grade II listed pond and of course plenty of hills. Starting from Otford station we follow the North Downs Way up to Otford Mount which at 204m provides good views over the valley. We then continue along the North Downs Way to the Kemsing Downs nature reserve where we find Shore Hill (208m). We leave the North Downs way at Otford Manor, heading through Great Wood to Romney Street. The terrain here is fairly undulating until White Hill from which we descend back into the valley and into Shoreham. We cross the River Darent on our way through Shoreham before heading up to and around the Shoreham cross, carved into the chalk hillside in 1920 as a memorial for the first world war. We then head through Meenfield wood and Pilots wood descending via Polhill Bank Nature Reserve into the fields where we will find Pluto signalling our return to Otford. In Otford, we will encounter the other planets, Otford Palace and the grade II listed pond in the middle of a roundabout before returning to the station to head back,

Meet at 08:40 at the train station for the 08:59 to London Liverpool Street.

Back in Cambridge by 20:07

Cost: 29.30 (off-peak return to Otford).

Sunday 1st March: Feet of Clay

Whittlesey to Peterborough

Distance: 16km / 10mi

Leader: Jasper (jnw35@cam.ac.uk)

From Whittlesea station, we will head west along the Briggate river to King's Dyke, a former clay mining pit, now converted into a nature reserve. The local clay is famed for its fossils including many reptile findings. We will walk through the nature reserve and, conditions allowing, we may be able to spend some time looking for fossils. Departing the nature reserve to the north, we will join the river Nene and follow along its bank to Peterborough where the walk will end.

Meet at 10:00 at the train station for the 10:19 to Ely.

Back in Cambridge by 17:45.

Cost: £16.55 (off-peak return to Peterborough).

Sunday 8th March: Circuitous Routes to Unimpressive County Tops

Newport to Audley End

Distance: 28km / 17mi

Leader: Balint (yellow.oil1947@dratini0.hu)

Cambridgeshire's and Essex's county tops lie just a few kilometers from one another, at 146m and 147m respectively. This walk will take us to both by following the Harcamlow way out of Newport, and returning on some country lanes overlooking a rather-steep-for-Cambridgeshire valley. We finally get back on the train at Audley End station. I have tried to make sure we get back well before nightfall, but just in case, please bring lights.

Meet at 08:00 at the train station for the 08:18 to Newport.

Back in Cambridge by 18:21.

Cost: £6.95 (return to Newport).

Saturday 14th March: Peninsula Perambulations

Manningtree to Harwich

Distance: 24km / 15mi

Leader: Alfie (aw2041@cam.ac.uk)

Starting at Manningtree Station, we walk along the estuary, joining the Essex Way at Mistley. After passing the Stour Estuary RSPB nature reserve, we turn inland and head across the peninsula through the villages of Ramsey and Little Oakley, eventually reaching the North Sea. The coastal path along the promenade takes us to Harwich where we catch the train back to Cambridge from Dovercourt Station.

Meet at 08:30 at the train station for the 08:48 to Ipswich.

Back in Cambridge by 20:37.

Cost: £22 (return to Dovercourt).

Saturday 28th March: March March March

March to Cambridge

Distance: 53km / 33mi

Leader: Colin (colin@ps116.org.uk)

From the March March March website (www.marchmarchmarch.org.uk/):

"The March March march is a long, flat, pointless walk across the Fens from the town of March to Cambridge, a distance of about thirty miles. It takes place, of course, in March, often but not always on the last Saturday in March. It has no purpose other than to be called the March March march. It was invented by Jonathan Partington in 1979, apparently because it seemed like a good idea at the time."

Details of the route and more information can be found on the website. **If you would like to go, please email Colin at the above email address and say that you are from CURaC.**