



Michaelmas 2024 Termcard

If you are new, 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 to come on any of this term's walks. Simply turn up at the meeting point at the given time (the meeting point is usually outside the front of the train station or at Drummer Street bus station where the buses are used).

You should bring a packed lunch (except for Freshers and Halloween rambles) and a bottle of water. Strong boots and waterproofs are also recommended. As we move later into term warm clothing will likely be necessary and you may wish to carry a torch in case it gets dark (the walk description should say if this is likely). Your only expense will be the bus or train fare (given below) and our annual £1 membership fee. Usually for trains all tickets will be purchased by the walk leader/another committee member to utilise the Group Save discount then everyone can pay them back on the train journey.

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

Saturday 12th October: Freshers' Ramble

Grantchester, Byron's Pool & Hobson's Park Circular

Distance: 13km / 8 miles

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

Beginning from central Cambridge, we'll follow the River Cam south through Sheep's Green and Paradise Nature Reserve on the way down to Grantchester Meadows. After reaching Grantchester we'll continue southwards to Byron's Pool nature reserve and Trumpington Meadows Country Park. From there we'll follow the busway to Hobson's park before finally following Vicar's Brook back to Coe Fen and central Cambridge.

Meet: 13:00 at Great St Mary's Church

Return: Should be back by 17:00

Cost: Free

Saturday 19th October: Rambling from Waterbeach

Waterbeach to Cambridge

Distance: 13km / 8 miles

Leader: Balint (dratini0@gmail.com)

Starting from Waterbeach, we'll make our way south along the river toward Cambridge, stopping in Milton Country Park for a bit of a wander, as well as a picnic lunch. Finally, we make our way back to Cambridge along the Cam, a section filled with houseboats and punctuated by multiple locks.

Meet: 10:50 at the railway station for the 11:05 train to Waterbeach.

Return: Back to the city centre by ~16.

Cost: £1.75 (single to Waterbeach)

Sunday 20th October: The Woods atop the Chilterns

Tring & Wendover Woods Circular

Distance: 22km / 14 miles

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

Beginning from Tring station we follow footpaths climbing up through fields into Tring Park where we then walk through the woods to the village of Hastoe. From Hastoe we pass through Pavis Wood containing the highest land in Hertfordshire. We then enter Wendover Woods, passing round the hillsides and heading to Bodington hill fort. We pass over the highest point in the Chilterns (267m) then onto one of the two Coombe Hills for a good view. We then leave the woods and head back towards Tring park before making our way back to the station.

Meet: 8:10 at Railway Station for the 8:28 to Finsbury Park

Return: Should be back in Cambridge by 20:00

Cost: £30.45 (day travelcard to London + return from Harrow to Tring)

Saturday 26th October: Norfolk Coast – To Cromer via Mundesley

Gunton to Cromer

Distance: 23km / 14 miles

Leader: Benjamin (bm515@cam.ac.uk)

From Gunton railway station we will make our way towards Mundesley via footpaths and country roads, passing a house with a tenuous connection to John of Gaunt. Upon reaching the Norfolk Coast Path, which runs along the seaside, we will follow the cliff tops and promenade to the Victorian seaside town of Cromer.

Meet: 8:00 at the railway station for the 8:20 train to Gunton

Return: Back to Cambridge by 20:47, or possibly one hour earlier

Cost : £15.85 return to Cromer

Thursday 31st October: What's spookier than Fulbourn Fen at night?

Fulbourn Fen Circular

Distance: 8km / 5 miles

Leader: Balint (dratini0@gmail.com)

We leave Fulbourn at the spooky depths of night (well, around 6 PM anyway) for the Great Wilbraham Common. Here we have to make sure not to wake up the dangerous animals lurking in the grass. (cows) If we made it past them alive, we head back south east, over some rails. For our final test of bravery, we cross over the fen, making sure not to lock eyes with any glowing pairs in the darkness. They might be spirits, or they might just be foxes, but it will surely be too dark to tell.

Make sure to bring (electric) torches/headlamps.

Meet: 17:25 at Drummer Street for the 17:40 bus to Fulbourn

Return: by 21:47

Cost: £4 (2x single bus fare)

Saturday 2nd November: Heaths, Groves & Larks

Thurston to Bury

Distance: 21km / 13 miles

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

We will head south from Thurston through Mill Heath, continuing down to Rougham and then past Colville's Grove. Passing both Little and Great Welnetham and crossing the River Lark in the process, the walk takes us up through Sicklesmere and onto the St Edmund Way which we will follow to the station in Bury St Edmunds.

Meet: 08:30 at the station for the 08:46 train to Thurston

Back in Cambridge by 17:41

Cost: £11.85 (return to Thurston)

Sunday 10th November: 90 Years Later (almost)

Cambridge to Horseheath

Distance: 22km / 14 miles

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

On Sunday 11 November 1934 the first ever walk of CURAC (then officially known as CUWCYHARC) took place. While they got the bus to Red Cross we will walk from the centre of Cambridge as it is not a long way. We'll follow the river down to the end of Coe Fen before following Vicar's Brook down towards Addenbrookes. After walking a short way along the road we'll join the Roman Road which we will then follow for the duration of the walk. This walk is thus largely in a straight line over the hills. We will end the walk in Horseheath where we'll get the bus back to Cambridge.

Meet: 10:30 sharp at Mill Lane Bridge

Return: Back in Cambridge by 17:25

Cost: £2 for the bus from Horseheath

Saturday 16th November: Waters and Woods

Needham Market Circular

Distance: 21km / 13 miles

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

Leaving Needham Market, we will walk through the villages of Darmsden, Baylham and Great Blakenham. After crossing the River Gipping, the ramble heads through plantations and skirts around Shrubland Park up to Coddendam. From Coddendam, we will head back to the river and walk along the Gipping Valley River Path back to the station.

Meet 08:30 at the station for the 08:46 train to Needham Market

Back in Cambridge by 18:41

Cost: £14.25 (return to Needham Market)

Saturday 23rd November: Through the Fens

Soham to Anglesey Abbey

Distance: 23km / 14 miles

Leader: Benjamin (bm515@cam.ac.uk)

We take the train to the town of Soham, whose railway station reopened just a few years ago in 2021. From there we head to the Wicken Fen nature reserve which is home to over 9,000 species, including Konik ponies and various birds. We then follow the quiet back roads, tracks, and cycle ways of the Lodes Way towards Anglesey Abbey. The bus from Stow cum Quy, where we might have time for a drink, will take us back to Cambridge.

Meet: 9:45 at the railway station for the 10:03 train to Soham

Return: Back to Cambridge by 17:34

Cost : £6.55 (single to Soham plus for the bus)

Saturday 30th November: Through Wimpole Park

Toft to Meldreth

Distance: 19km / 12 miles

Leader: Christopher (cet34@cam.ac.uk)

From the village of Toft in the Bourn valley we head across fields to Great Eversden. From there we cross a low ridge and follow the Wimpole Way to Wimpole Park. This extensive estate surrounds the large stately home of Wimpole Hall, now a National Trust property. After exploring the parkland we exit the grounds along the grand Wimpole Avenue before taking the Harcamlow Way to Whaddon and continuing to Meldreth for the train home.

Meet: 08:40 at Drummer Street Bus Station for the 08:55 bus to Toft

Return: train from Meldreth, arriving back by around 16:00

Cost: £5.80 or £4.50 with railcard (£2 for bus and £3.80 (or £2.50 with railcard) for train single from Meldreth)