

AROUND AND ABOUT ALTHORNE

COUNTRYSIDE WALK



CIRCULAR WALK

Easy country walk but good shoes recommended.



START
ALTHORNE
STATION



1 HOUR
45 MINS



5
MILES



OVERVIEW

A pleasant 5.02 mile circular walk around the village of Althorne. The walk includes a short stretch along the River Crouch before turning inland through the fields and over the railway line before arriving in Althorne. From here explore the surrounding countryside and take in several classic country pubs and landmarks. The walk has no paved sections and includes several short road sections.

HOW TO GET HERE

Location for the start of the walk:

Althorne Station

OS Explorer Map No: 175, 176

OS Grid Reference: TQ 905 979

Parking:

Althorne Station (CM9 6DG)

Public Transport:

Greater Anglia operates a regular service from Althorne Station where this walk begins. Visit www.greateranglia.co.uk for train times and station information.

Bus routes 31/31B/31X stop at the Althorne Post Office bus stop (CM3 6WJ). This is a 1.5 mile walk from Althorne Station. Visit www.traveline.info for bus times and bus operator information.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

This 14th-century parish church is built in the Perpendicular style, with a tower of black flint and grey ragstone in a trellis pattern. Above the west door is a badly eroded inscription mentioning "Johannis Wylson" and "Johannis Hyll" who paid for the building of the tower, which is thought to have been completed in c 1500. The chancel is 16th century, built from red Tudor brick, with a Victorian window added during a 20th century restoration. The ornately carved octagonal font dates from the 14th century. In the nave there is a brass to William Hyklott (1508) and floor slabs to Margaret Hyklott (1502) and Elizabeth Gordon (1701).



HENRY GILDER DRAKE ALMSHOUSES

The Henry Gilder Drake charity was established over 90 years ago to provide accommodation for older people living on the Dengie Peninsula. The almshouses on Summerhill were built in the 1930s and have some decorative brick features in the wall design.



THE HUNTSMAN AND HOUNDS

A pretty, thatched 16th-century pub set in extensive well-maintained grounds with a small pond and children's play area. Food is available lunchtimes and most evenings. Camping and caravanning is available on an adjacent five-acre site.

THE THREE HORSESHOES

There has been a pub on this site on the Burnham Road for at least 150 years. The old pub was replaced by the current building in the 1950s. Both bars are set out for dining, confirming the strong emphasis on food, which is served lunchtimes and most evenings. There is a large beer garden, with a well-appointed children's play area.

CROUCH RIDGE VINEYARD

This place is owned by the Lonergan family who planted the vineyard on "gentle, south facing slopes overlooking Althorne Creek and the River Crouch". It is spread over ten acres and has two main grape varieties - Chardonnay and Pinot Noir - both best suited to the local climate.



CLAYHILL VINEYARD

Clayhill Vineyard, just outside of the map area, produces grapes for winemakers all around the UK, as well as making their own wines for sale including reds, white and sparkling varieties. They are often open to the public for wine tours and tastings, and there is a popular tearoom. Please note that access on foot is difficult due to lack of footpath on a very busy road.

Tell us what you think of the walk & send us your photos:



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Essex & South Suffolk
Community Rail Partnership

M A L D O N D I S T R I C T

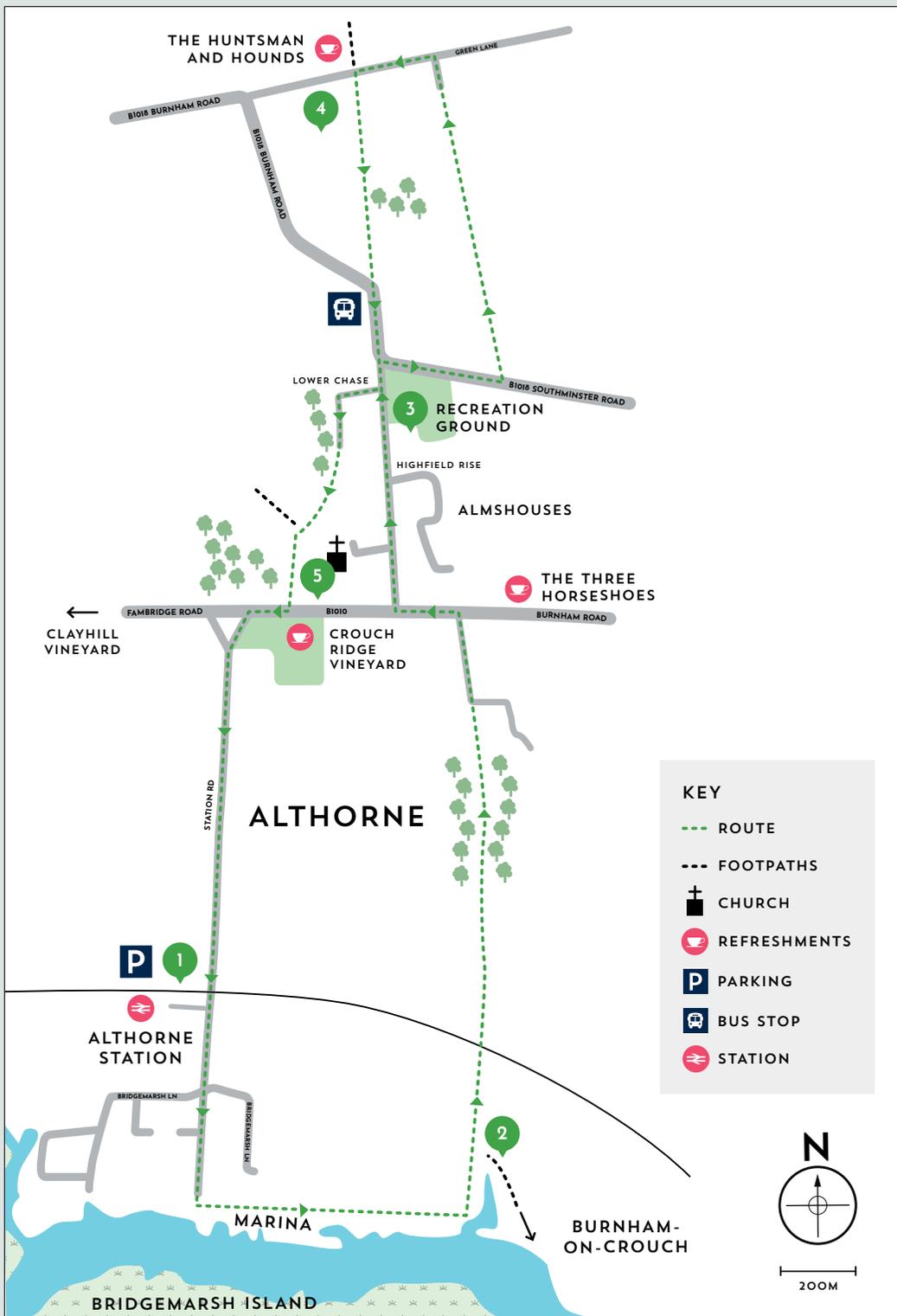


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This walk was developed by Maldon District Council, the Community Rail Partnership & Chris Harvey.



WALK ROUTE

- Starting at Althorne Station, cross over the railway line and follow the road towards the River Crouch. You will soon see the sea wall and the Marina. Turn left and head along the sea wall towards Burnham on Crouch, from here you will get a good view of the Marina and Bridgemarsh Island.
- Continue along the seawall until you reach a water inlet, at this point head straight and you will join the path to Althorne (Footpath 7). Climbing towards Althorne, you will cross fields, woodland and the railway line before arriving on the village outskirts. Don't forget to look back for stunning views across the estuary. Turn left and walk into the village towards the road junction with Summerhill Burnham Road, passing the Three Horseshoes public house. At the junction, turn right onto Summerhill Burnham Road and walk down the road until you reach the Recreation Ground at Southminster Road.
- Cut through the Recreation Ground and join the Southminster Road, continue along the road for 140 yards until you see the footpath sign on the left. There are no pavements, so be careful of passing traffic. Turn left and follow the path across several fields until you reach Green Lane. Keep an eye out for field mice and kestrels on the way! Turn left onto Green Lane and follow the road until you reach the Huntsman and Hounds public house. There are no pavements, so be careful of passing traffic.
- Turn left and cross the stile to take the footpath opposite the public house and follow it back towards Althorne. The path comes out near Windles Cottages on Burnham Road. Turn left and follow Burnham Road back to the Recreation Ground. Then take the first right onto Lower Chase, opposite the Recreation Ground. Continue along Lower Chase, the path turns left and heads south towards the church. Follow the path until you reach Upper Chase and the edge of St. Andrew's churchyard. Bear right and follow the path through the churchyard until you reach Fambridge Road.
- Turn right and follow the road until you reach the war memorial and Station Road. Look out for Crouch Ridge Vineyard on the left. At the war memorial, turn left onto Station Road and continue downhill until you reach the station where you started earlier.

REFRESHMENTS

THE THREE HORSESHOES

3 Burnham Rd, Althorne, Chelmsford CM3 6DP
Tel: 01621 741126
Facebook: threehorseshoesPH

CLAYHILL VINEYARD TEAROOM

Lower Burnham Road, Latchingdon CM3 6HF
Tel: 07771 995460
Facebook: ClayhillVineyard

THE HUNTSMAN AND HOUNDS

Green Ln, Chelmsford CM3 6BJ
Tel: 01621 741126
Website: www.huntsmanandhounds.co.uk

CROUCH RIDGE VINEYARD

Althorne Hall Farm, Fambridge Road, Althorne, CM3 6BZ - Tel: 01621 450450
Facebook: crouchridge