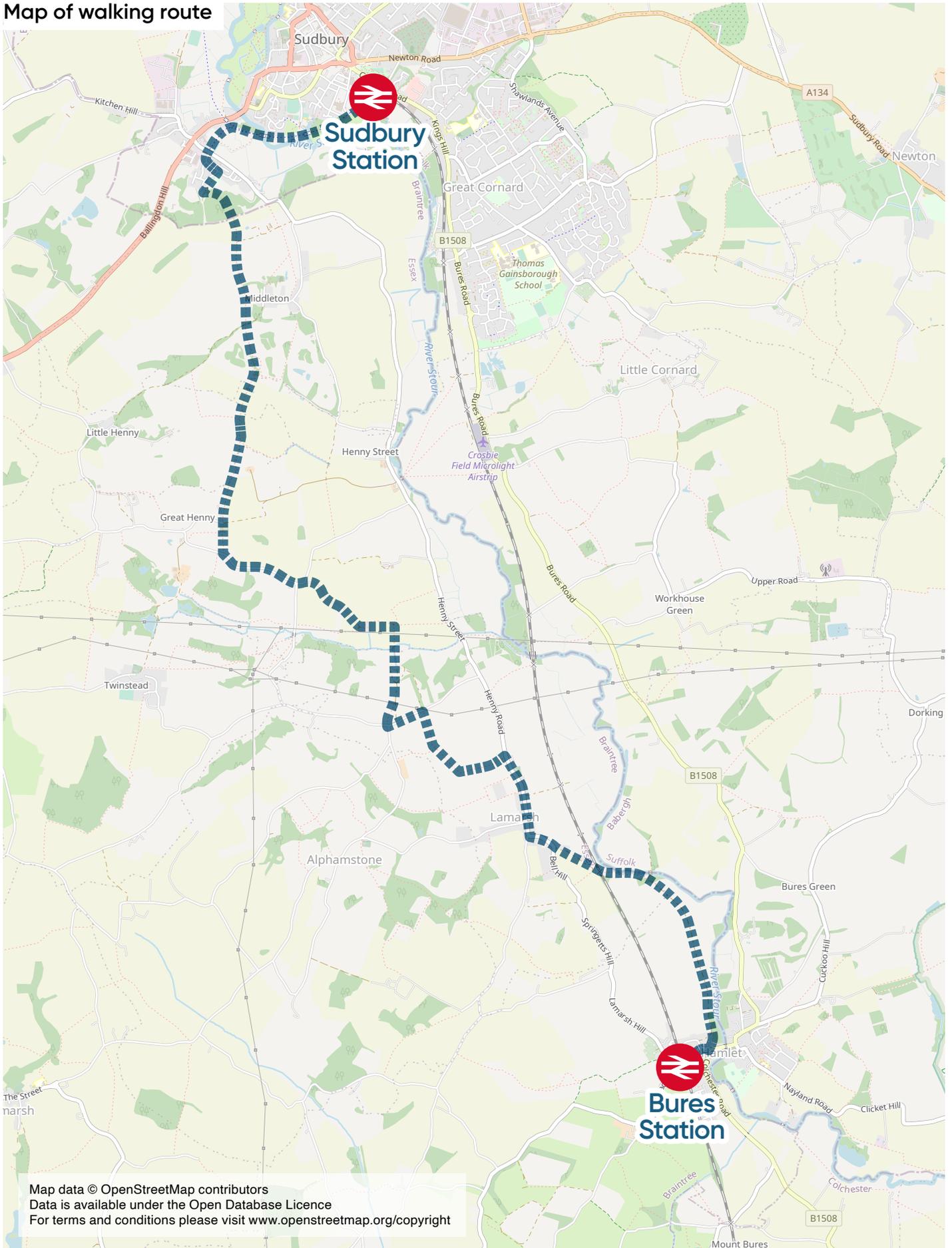


# 6

## Bures to Sudbury

Map of walking route



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This is a beautiful walk on the wonderfully well way-marked Stour Valley Path through the quintessentially English scenery which inspired Gainsborough and Constable.

## Planning Your Walk

- Approximately 7 miles, allow 4 hours.
- The walk is on Green lanes/byways, field-edge and cross-meadow paths, some tarmac roads or pavement. Steps, gates, stiles. Waymarked – (St Edmunds Way) Stour Valley Path.
- Refreshments at Bures and Sudbury.

## Directions

1. Start at Bures Railway Station. Turn left out of Bures Railway Station. Go right down Station Hill.
2. Just before the T-junction with Colchester Road, take the footpath left down a wide drive by a house (chimney with door in it!), waymarked St Edmund's Way and Stour Valley Path (SVP). This leads along a wall, then turns right to become a broad track with meadows (left). Where the track bends sharp right, follow footpath straight ahead. Walk alongside the Stour, but don't be tempted to go over the bridge.
3. The path leads up the slope past a WWII pill box to the single-track railway line.
4. Cross with care. Join the small lane, down past thatched cottages to a junction. Bear right along road signposted for Sudbury. Go past the Lamarsh Lion community pub (left) and turn right at junction to head through the village to reach Holy Innocents Church.
5. Soon after the church, follow SVP way-markers on the left to go steeply uphill, stopping to enjoy views back to the church. The path bears right at top of incline, where there is a bench. Follow it to meet a lane at a gate. Turn left. Walk along to next footpath (right) opposite a road junction.
6. Admire the views towards Sudbury before going through the gate and heading diagonally across the bumpy field to another gate in bottom righthand corner. Turn left at farm track, past paddocks and Valley Farm. Follow the track straight ahead to footpath in the left-hand corner which goes first to a footbridge (left), then turns right to follow the field edge before going across the field very much uphill to steps which lead through a hedge-gap.
7. Turn left (ie. Ignore the footpath straight ahead) to meet a track at Great Hickbush. Turn right and enjoy the magnificent views towards Sudbury by the pair of great oaks and of Henny church spire from Little Hickbush before reaching the road.
8. At road junction go straight ahead, taking the road until you reach the footpath to the church (right – still SVP).
9. The path leads through the churchyard, crosses a lane, goes down alongside garages belonging to The Old Hatchery and finally opens out into a field. Follow the field-margin path straight on, cross a footbridge and continue straight uphill (hedge on left). At the top of the hill, at the



Lamarsh Church

junction between two fields, ignore the path that crosses and proceed straight on downhill along a wide track, so that the hedge is on your right. At the bottom, pass large farm buildings on your right and continue straight ahead across the field up to the brow of the hill and crossroads of paths.

10. Go straight ahead, first downhill along a slightly sunken path then up across a field and follow path through a wooded area, high above Sudbury. Take care – path is narrow with tree roots and potential drops. It eventually comes out in housing. Bear right along a road with a play area to your right. Turn left at the junction and then almost immediately right, briefly downhill to the next T-junction. Turn right and you will see a fenced alley across the road with a small sign indicating a public footpath. Follow downhill emerging through a flight of steps to the road at the bottom of the valley. Cross the road and turn left, walking with a meadow on your right partly hidden by a fringe of trees. After a few hundred metres, you come to the entrance to Kone Vale Park on your right. Enter and follow the path through the park.

11. Walk some distance through the park along the path. Finally, you reach an old railway embankment. The path swings round to the right to continue towards some water meadows but instead go left to climb up the path, with metal handrails, to reach a broad path along the old railway embankment.
12. Turn right along the path for views across the water meadows and town. You cross above the River Stour with bucolic views, before reaching a small canal which connects some original commercial wharfs with the River Stour and which now also houses Sudbury Canoe Club. Continue onwards soon arriving at the leisure centre and railway station to your left.