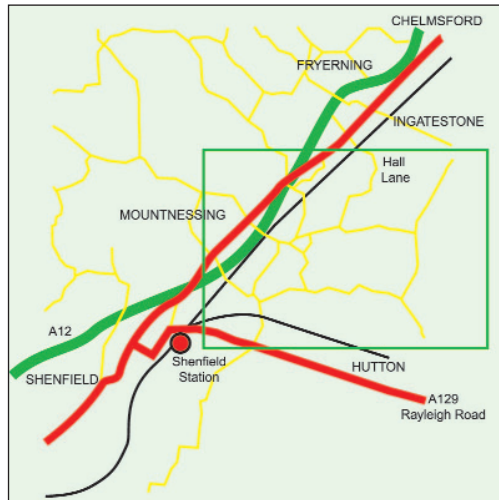


Countryside Walk in Brentwood

Walk your way to a healthy life in Brentwood




Location Map



About the Walk

- Parking:** Parking is available at Ingatestone Hall or Mountnessing Postmill.
- Length:** Approximately 6½ miles for the full circular walk or 5 miles for the shorter loop.
- Terrain:** Open farmland.
- Footwear:** Wear stout footwear as the ground can be uneven or muddy in places.
- OS Map:** 175 *Explorer* Southend-on-Sea and Basildon
167 *Landranger* Chelmsford, Harlow and Bishop's Stortford.

Your Rights of Way

-  Public footpaths - on foot only
Waymarked in yellow
-  Bridleways - on foot, horseback and bicycle
Waymarked in blue
-  Byways - open to all traffic but mainly used for walking and riding
Waymarked in red

Permissive paths - route which landowners allow the public to use, but which can be closed if wished.

Areas of work for the Countryside Department at Brentwood Borough Council include:

- Projects such as tree/hedge planting and pond management.
- Supporting Thames Chase Community Forest.
- Managing Nature Reserves, woodlands and commons.
- Improving access to footpaths and bridleways and encouraging their use.



If you encounter any problems please contact
Brentwood Borough Council
Town Hall, Ingrave Road
Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY
Tel: 01277 312500
www.brentwood.gov.uk



This leaflet is one of a series that has been produced by Brentwood Borough Council. We aim to improve and manage the countryside for wildlife and people.



Ingatestone & Mountnessing

Ingatestone and Mountnessing

This walk crosses countryside between Ingatestone and Mountnessing. It is described in a clockwise direction beginning at Ingatestone Hall. It may also be joined from footpaths linking into the circuit.

From Ingatestone Hall follow the footpath past the barns. William Petre built this hall after buying the previous manor house in 1539. After passing the Hall there are extensive panoramic views as you head towards Buttesbury Church on the hill in front of you.

At the River Wid turn right. In Old English the Wid was known as Writolaburna, meaning to chirp or chatter – a real babbling brook! As you walk along its banks, keep an eye out for Moorhens darting in and out of the reeds. Follow the path alongside the fields and hedges right down to Mountnessing Hall.

The Church of St Giles takes its name from the patron saint of beggars and cripples and stands next to Mountnessing Hall, which is Elizabethan with a Gerogian façade. See if you can spot the false window.

After passing between the house and barn, turn right for the shorter route or carry on straight across the field for the longer route.

The short route crosses a field and continues on to Padhams Green. After reaching the railway turn right towards Bacons Farm, and then follow the road back to Ingatestone Hall.

The longer route crosses several fields before coming into Mountnessing across the A12. You will pass St John's, 'The Iron Church', which opened in 1873 and was built to be close to the village, and then you will approach a postmill.

A windmill was first recorded in Mountnessing in 1580. The present postmill was used regularly until 1924 when the owner started using an oil engine to grind corn. The walk through the open fields from the windmill over to Trueloves Lane commands superb views.

When you reach Trueloves Lane turn right and then left to go over the A12. Cross the main road to Roman Road and then head left towards Rye Walk. At the end of the road turn left and then right to cross the railway (there are no warnings of approaching trains at this crossing, so take care!), then absorb the views as you head back toward Ingatestone Hall to finish the walk.

