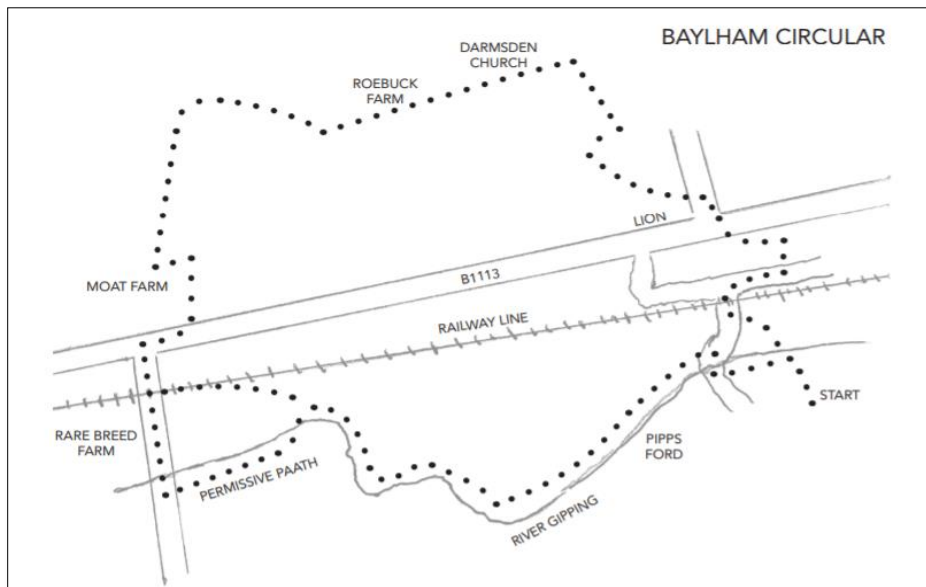


Baylham Circular – 5.5 miles by Derek Magnall



At the time of publishing the footbridge before Creting Lock is closed awaiting repair, please check that the route is open before starting this walk.

From Needham Lake Information Centre, cross over the footbridge towards the lake and turn left. Keep the lake on your right. At the end of the car park turn left to join the road and continue under the railway bridge. Continue on the footpath turning right and after 30 meters carefully cross road B1078. Go through passageway ahead fenced on both sides, and continue along Pinetree Way bearing to the right. Cross the road, go down Limetree Close and at the end bear right along path passing between two bungalows. Carefully cross main road B1113. The Lion pub on your left.

Head up Grinstead Hill and after 30 meters cross the road, turning left at the footpath sign up Mill Lane. Continue along footpath climbing steadily with trees and bushes both sides. After a time the path levels out. Continue along path, which becomes a wide track and continue straight ahead with fields on both sides. Track now splits, take the track on the right, bearing round to the right, hedges on the right, then bearing left. Continue along grass track. Turn left to join wide track dropping down passing under pylons. Pass St Andrews Church, Darmsden, on your right.

At T junction turn left onto minor road. As the road bears left after ~ 50m, turn right on to the wide track to Roebuck Farm following footpath sign.

Continue along track passing telephone mast and three bungalows on your left and farm buildings on your right. After passing farm buildings turn right along path keeping trees on your left. Path drops down to the left through trees. Continue to field edge then continue straight ahead to woods opposite. Climb steadily through the trees gradually bearing to the left until you reach the top. Continue straight ahead on path crossing the field. On reaching hedges and footpath post on your left, turn left. Path drops down, hedges and trees on your left. Bear left, hedges on your left. Pass through hedges on both sides. Turn right, hedges now on your right.

Continue down the path to meet a hedge and tree on your left. At the sign post turn left, hedges on your left, fence on your right. On reaching sign post turn right and follow path down to Moat Farm, fence on both sides. Path becomes a track. As track turns left, bear right along path through hedges onto main road B1113. Cross the road, turn right. Continue along footpath passing bungalow on your left. Turn left down Mill Lane over railway crossing.

* See alternative route below. Turn left along narrow path, railway line on your left. Continue along path for 500m, leaving railway line bearing right to River Gipping. Turn left along path.

* Recommended alternative route, subject to permissive permission is to continue down Mill Lane to the Rare Breeds Farm and Cafe.

Cross the bridge over the River Gipping. Take permissive path to the left. New path gives a better view of the Mill at Baylham. Continue along the path, River Gipping on your left. When you meet the new footbridge cross the bridge and turn right, River Gipping now on your right. Public footpath now joins from the left.

Continue straight ahead along path passing Pipp's Ford Lock. Crossing two footbridges and through a gate, continue along path passing Creting Lock.

Pass through another gate. Continue along path at side of the river eventually passing through another gate and passing Anderson Fishing Lake on your left. Through two more gates leading on to main road B1078. Cross road very carefully and turn right on the footpath over the bridge. At the end of the bridge turn left through the gap with River Gipping and Bosmere Lock on your left. Continue along path through play area to Needham Lake and Information Centre.



Creting Lock, part of the Stowmarket Navigation