

Points of interest

Heybridge chunker

By the Holloway Bridge over C&BN, you see on the left the "chunker", a modern version replacing the earlier wooden chunker that takes a natural stream underneath the navigation, round the Heybridge Mill House, and beyond the Mill to Heybridge Creek. Heybridge Mill last worked in 1942, and was demolished in 1955 but Mill House survives.



Heybridge Basin

From the mid-1600s there had been a growing need for a canal to be built to supply Chelmsford, where the growing population needed coal and other goods brought in by sea to Maldon. The opening of Heybridge Basin, connecting the River Blackwater via the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation, provided a small port.

Heybridge Basin pubs

The first pub was the Jolly Sailor in 1793, to attract sailors from the ships anchored at Colliers Reach. The Old Ship was next, now Myrtle Cottage, and the third, in 1799, was the Chelmer Brig, renamed the Old Ship in 1906. A further three pubs were opened in the early 1800s - the Exchange, Carpenters and Live and Let Live, but are now homes.



St Andrew's Church

Built 1160 to 1181, to replace an earlier wooden church, St Andrew's was constructed from flint rubble, boulder clay and puddingstone. The tower base is wider than the nave, and has a massive buttress, showing that the tower was originally taller. In 1450, severe flooding caused damage to the church foundations resulting in the tower collapsing.

Refreshments

Old Ship	01621 854150	@oldshipheybridge
Jolly Sailor	01621 854210	thejollysailorheybridgebasin.co.uk
Tesco Café	0345 6779459	tesco.com

More locations available at visitmaldondistrict.co.uk/food-and-drink

CHELMER AND BLACKWATER NAVIGATION

Heritage Walk

This beautiful walk follows the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation as it meanders through Heybridge Basin and back on the seawall



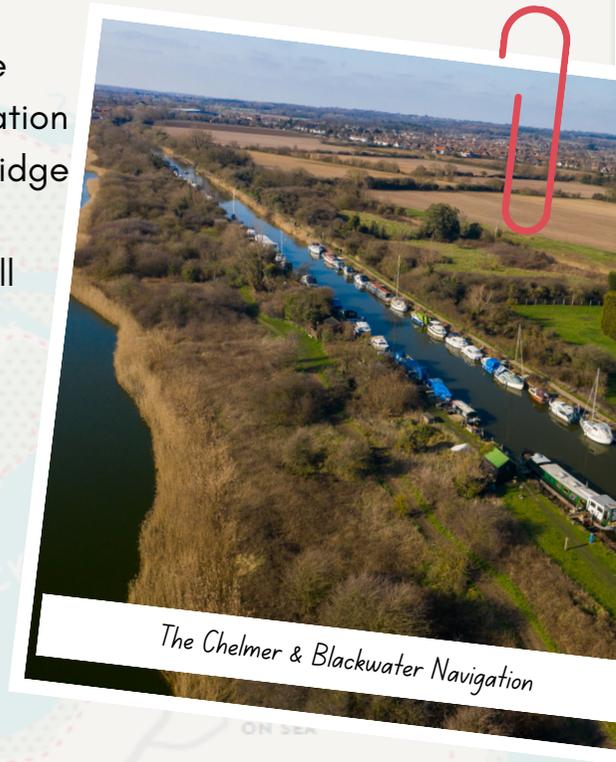
Easy, level walk but can be muddy so wear stout footwear



2 hours



4.9 miles



The Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation

How to get here



Tesco, Fullbridge, Maldon CM9 4LE
(customer parking only, maximum 4 hours)



288, 73, 75, 90, 95, D1, D2 and DaRT 99A



Explorer 183 | Grid ref: TL 849 075



received.reassured.compound



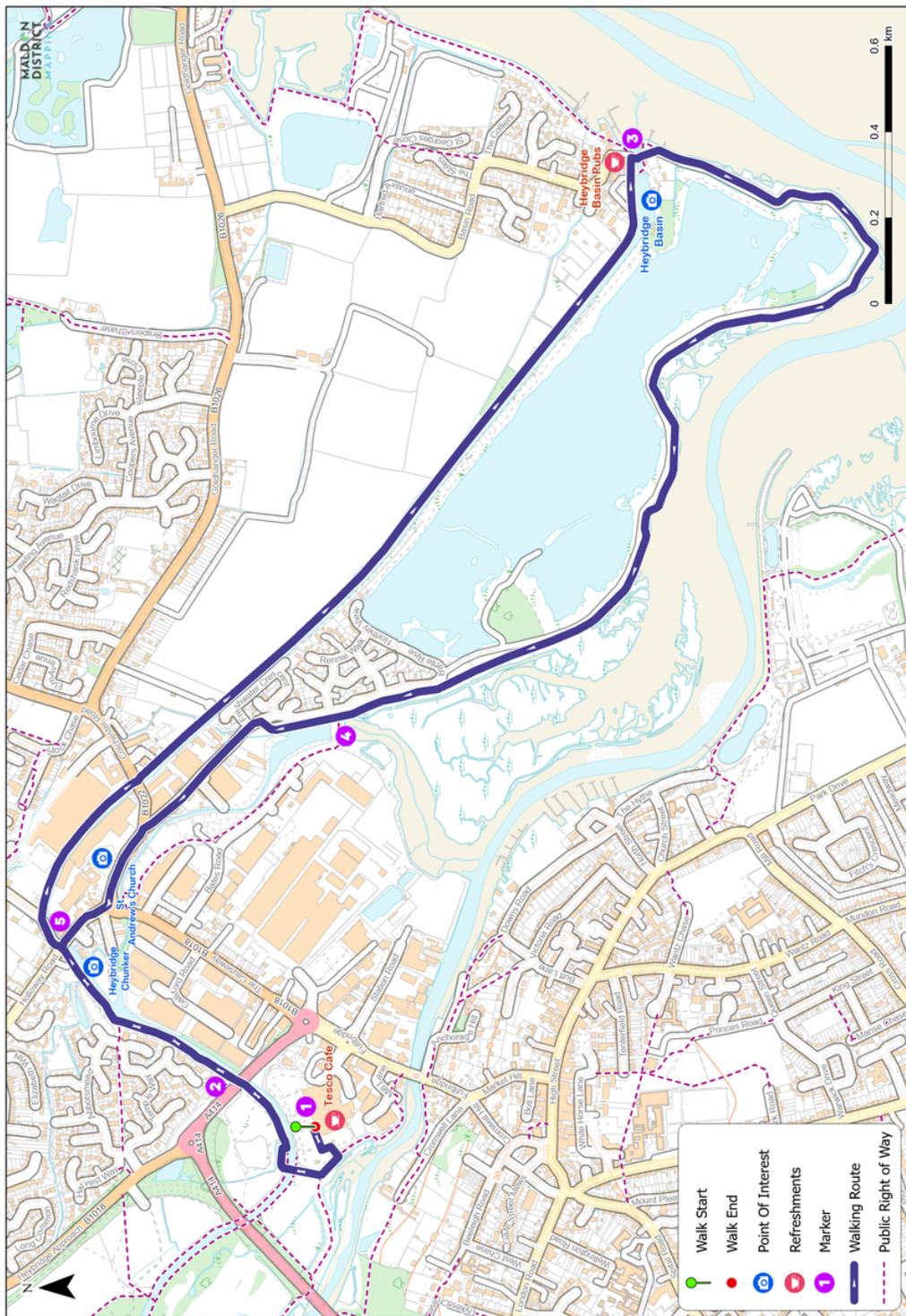
Discover the Maldon District



visitmaldondistrict.co.uk/walks



@visitmaldondistrict



Route

1. Ascend the steps on the eastern side of the supermarket car park to reach the foot/cycle path running along the River Chelmer. Turn right and after 60 yards ignore the grassy path ahead and follow the foot/cycle path as it bends right towards a footbridge over the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation (C&BN). Go over the bridge, and at the end of the railings, turn right for 10 yards to join the towpath of the C&BN, and continue ahead. If the towpath is very muddy, you can opt to stay on the tarmacked path, as this runs parallel with the towpath, but you will miss the views of the navigation. The path goes under the A414 road. Eventually, the two paths will meet up (100 yards before another road bridge over the navigation).
2. Continue ahead on the tarmacked path; after passing under the road bridge, the towpath soon becomes a dirt track again. Follow the towpath for 1½ miles. Initially you will be passing industrial units and a couple of old canalside cottages. The path then goes under the A414 again; after this, look out for the old Bentall's warehouse on the opposite side of the navigation. Go past the attractive Hall Road Bridge (now a footbridge); you will soon see boats moored alongside the navigation. Go past the steps down to the car park for Heybridge Basin and continue to the sea lock gates at the end of the Basin, by the Old Ship pub.
3. Cross over the lock gates by the attractive lock-keeper's cottage. Ascend the slope up on to the seawall and continue along the wide path, initially with the River Blackwater and Northey Island to your left and the gravel pit lakes to your right. Follow the seawall for 1.4 miles as it heads back towards Maldon. Go through a gate and continue ahead, soon reaching the edge of a new housing development
4. Continue along the seawall path, ignoring the footpath which heads off left towards moored boats in Heybridge Creek. Soon after this, look to your left to see the extensive reed bed; this is the original course of the River Blackwater. The path eventually emerges from the seawall onto Hall Road. Turn left here and follow Hall Road past the Maltsters Arms. On reaching The Street (B1022), turn left. After 140 yards, use the zebra crossing to cross over. You are now outside St Andrew's church. Turn left and continue ahead, keeping the roundabout to your left. Go past Le Bouchon Brasserie and go over the bridge across the C&BN.
5. Turn right immediately after the bridge then take a sharp right turn onto the towpath to go under the bridge you have just crossed. Retrace your steps along the towpath for ½ mile, crossing over the footbridge which heads towards Tesco.