

Longer Walks

To Little Briggens and back

The walk is just under 5 ½ miles (9 km) and at a medium walking pace should take you approximately 2 hours. There are no paths across arable land, they are all on hard surface, grass or field edges.



From the Village Hall turn right along the High Street to the entrance to The Dell Play Area adjacent to number 1 High Street. Follow the path (Hunsdon FP 6) diagonally across the play area to the far corner, through the kissing gate and forward ahead across Tanners Way to the path to the left of the bridge and thence alongside the brook. Go ahead along the field edge with the brook on your right. At the end of the field the path meets Hunsdon RB 3. Turn right for a short distance along this and then turn left at the next waymark post and along a farm track, the continuation of Hunsdon FP 6. Where the track ends at a cultivated field the path divides. Take the right hand path of the two across the field aiming at a tall willow tree in the hedge line. On reaching the tree there is a gap in the hedge and marker post with a pond on your right.



Go ahead following the track between the fields. The initial stretch of path is the site of the old Fillets Farm demolished in the mid-1800s when the new farm was built on its present site. You can still see parts of the old iron boundary fencing and gate post in the hedge. The path now passes into Stanstead Abbots and becomes their Hunsdon FP 6a taking you to a wood called Black Bushes with Newgate Wood across the field on your right. Go along the edge of Black Bushes and at the far corner bear to your right past a small pond. Follow the grass track between the fields to a small copse, Thirsty Spring, then forward along a field edge path with the trees and a subsequent hedge to your right. Go ahead with the stream to your left and field fence to the right until reaching a hedge at the end of the field. Go through the gap in the left hand corner end of the hedge where the remains of a kissing gate can be seen, with a waymark disc on the gate post. Beyond the gate the field edge path runs to the rear of Newlands before passing over a bridge and reaching a bridleway, (Stanstead Abbots BR 18), leading from the B180 at Newlands up to Little Briggens.



Turn right along the bridle way climbing past Little Briggens then at the end of the farmyard bear sharp left following the track for some distance until reaching a cross track. Turn right here onto a further bridleway, (Wareside BR 17), climbing gently, past a pond on your left then following the contours. Shortly before reaching Young Wood on your right you pass into Wareside Parish and the path becomes their Wareside BR 37. Turn right at Young Wood and follow the bridleway (Wareside BR 38), with

the wood and hedge on your left, up the gentle slope towards Moat Wood where just before reaching the wood you again pass back into Stanstead Abbots and the bridleway becomes their Stanstead Abbots BR 4. Look out where the edge of the wood turns sharply to the left and through the bushes you will be able to see the large moat after which the wood was called. Continue along the bridleway until reaching the pond on Hunsdon No 6 path and then turn left and follow the outward route back to the Village Hall.