

4. Bradwell War Memorial

During World War 2 Bradwell was home to an active airfield. Now all that remains is the control tower, some runway and a memorial to pilots who never returned.

Country Walking in Essex

Bradwell Cockle Spit

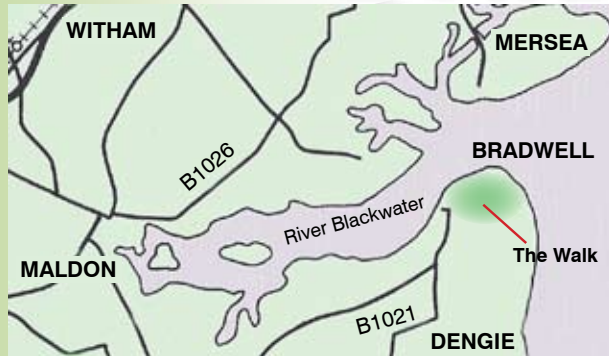
1. St Peter's on the Wall & Othona

St Peter's on the Wall is probably the oldest surviving church in England. It is also the sole monument to Celtic Christianity in Essex (the former kingdom of the East Saxons). The chapel was built by Bishop Cedd around 654AD, almost entirely of Roman material from the fort of Othona (a small display inside explains its history).

Othona was one of the nine Roman forts built along the south east coast to repel Saxon invaders. The fort has long since been eroded by the sea and buried inland.

Healthy Life Essex

www.HealthyLifeEssex.co.uk



2. Linnets Cottage

Linnets Cottage was once home to Walter Linnet, a professional wildfowler, but nowadays you'll need a licence to hunt the ducks and geese. Next door is the more modern bird observatory.

Distance and time taken
6 miles (10 km) – 3 hours.
Suggested direction – anti clockwise from Eastlands.

Going

Easy along the sea wall, with some road walking.

Transport

For details of public transport for this walk, contact the Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.

Habitat types

Salt marsh, scrub, hedgerows, mudflats, dykes and sea walls.

Ordnance Survey Map
Explorer Map 176.

Parking

Small car park just past Eastlands Farm.

Refreshments

Three pubs on route, Two village shops.

Dogs

Under close control.

Main Walk

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5. The Marina

The growth in demand for marinas presents one of the most serious threats to coastal marshes, especially on our estuaries.

Blackwater Estuary

Look out for the traditional sails of restored Thames barges among the modern sailing boats.

6. Bradwell-on-Sea

The village of Bradwell-on-Sea boasts some fine buildings, including the 14th century parish church of St Thomas (inside is a model of St Peter's Chapel as it originally looked). By the south gate are stone mounting blocks and in the south east corner, the 'cage' and whipping post, formerly used to hold local drunks. The King's Head has many old pictures of village life inside and unusual Dengie wildlife in the garden.

3. Salt marshes

Salt marshes provide a habitat for a number of salt tolerant plants. Shrubby sea blight is widespread and an important stabiliser of shingle banks. Other plants of interest include sea holly, reputed to be an aphrodisiac for older men, when dipped in sugar. Please don't try this at home! Sea lavender colours large areas purple in July and August.