

THE WALKING PARTY

ITINERARY FOR A THREE DAY BLAST OF SUFFOLK

Price : £485

Dates : 16th – 18th and 23rd – 25th April and 19th – 21st and 23rd – 25th July 2010

Distance: 21 miles

Walking : easy



“This is the where I was brought up so it gives enormous pleasure to be able to show you around one of the most beautiful counties in England. Suffolk Pink, Suffolk Punch, the Redpoll Suffolk Cattle and it surely has to be one of the best counties for the gastropub. It is truly a fabulous place to eat. Gastropubs are the pride of the counties these days and Suffolk excels in its quantity of them.

I now subscribe to the East Anglian Daily Times Suffolk magazine as it is so full of what’s going on in the food world that it is a tremendous magazine for foodies! And to work up the appetite some delightful Suffolk walking across the beautifully open landscape favoured by John Constable for his wonderful paintings so influential on the Impressionists back in the early nineteenth century.”

Day 1 You will meet at the Bildeston Crown just off the clock-towered square of the small Suffolk village of Bildeston. Parking is easy behind The Crown. You will be staying here for your two nights. This is a charmingly restored half-timbered pub with an extraordinary chef. Bedrooms are beautifully arranged and all have bathrooms en suite. Dinner at The Crown.

Day 2 After a delightful English breakfast we drive in the vehicles to the pretty village of Boxford where we will set off on foot for the medieval village of Kersey. Kersey was an important weaving village and gave its name to the particular type of broad cloth it produced in the fifteenth century. We will walk through the tiny village of Groton, famous for once being the seat of John Winthrop before he sailed to settle in America. He was the founder of the city of Boston and was elected Governor of the State of Massachusetts in 1629. We cross the ford in Kersey and arrive for lunch at the Bell Inn. After lunch we visit drive to visit the beauty of medieval Suffolk: the village of Lavenham, England’s finest medieval

village. An extraordinary arrangement of crooked half-timbered pastel painted houses. Lavenham (and Suffolk as a whole) has survived its medieval days as there has been no real industry here since then. A short walk then to Bildeston to build up the evening's appetite when we will sample Chris Lee's magical Head to Toe of Nedging Pork which is becoming a Chris Lee trade mark! . Dinner at The Crown. *Walk: 10 miles*

Day 3 After breakfast a drive to the village of Boxford again but this time we set off on foot southwards towards the famous village of Stoke by Nayland. The famous Suffolk painter John Constable loved to paint Stoke by Nayland and sometimes popped in the Stoke by Nayland spire into landscapes that were not of Stoke! He liked this spire! We have lunch here at another pub showing the style and elegance of Suffolk gastronomy and design. In the afternoon we drive to Long Melford to see the famous Lady Chapel of the Holy Trinity church. This is one of the most beautiful churches of Suffolk with an equally lovely position over the green. A walk then in the afternoon to Lavenham before driving to Bildeston for a last drink before we say goodbye. *Walk: 9 miles*



NOTE: The itinerary is subject to change according to local conditions. All mileages shown are approximate.

**For further information and reservations please contact
Jane Robinson on 020 7386 4695**