

### Self-guided walk no 15. Hatfield Heath 5.8 miles.

Distance: 5.8miles. Easy walking with 1 stile, on quiet roads, farm tracks and field edges.

Start: Hatfield Heath Car Park. Chelmsford Rd, Hatfield Heath, Bishop's Stortford CM22 7EB

The paragraph numbering relates to the numbering on the map. The instructions should be read in conjunction with the map.

1. Exit from the back of the car park, and pass between two houses. Turn R on "The Shaw". At the end of the road, cross over the Hatfield Heath to Hatfield Broad Oak road and turn L. Stay on the pavement facing the oncoming traffic.
2. At a foot path sign on R, at Three Chestnuts take the concrete road at first then footpath with horse field on L and hedge on R. Shortly you can just see the top of the tower of Hatfield Broad Oak church. (Photo) The path opens to a wide grassy track, with open field on L and hedge on R. Look out for a concrete footbridge on R. Take this and turn L at end of bridge. Follow the path through some scrubby woods with ditch on LHS. The path comes out to a field edge; continue left with open field on RHS and hedge on L. At 6 bar gate turn half left, passing the gate on LHS. There is now a horse field on L and a row of Poplar trees on R. Pass the Hatfield Broad Oak Sausage factory and at the end of the factory turn L and R at the end of the car park into a road.

- At the end of the road turn L at the T junction. Pass the village hall on L. You are now walking slightly up hill to the centre of Hatfield Broad Oak. (Photo) Where this road meets the main road through HBO turn L towards Hatfield Heath. Keep on the LHS on the pavement. Cross the road bridge over Pincey Brook, and continue on the pavement. The pavement stops, but continue slightly up hill on the grassy verge until the Hatfield Heath road bears left. Cross the road, and take the right fork at the grass triangle. Follow this road, facing the oncoming traffic. It turns left and then right.



- At the right turn there is a single bar gate. (There is a foot path sign but hidden by foliage.) Walk round this and turn R and in a short while turn L. Follow this path with hedge on R and open field on L. At the end of the hedge the footpath and farm track turns R. Follow this path. At about 800M and before an oak tree the track bears L. over a ditch into an open field. There is an old FP sign on the other side of the ditch. In 300M turn R. at way post. The path comes out to a bend in a road. (Ryes Lane)
- At the road turn L. Ignore the footpath on R. Pass round the angular gate. At Ryes farm, opposite the first farm building take the farm track on R, with trees on either side of the track.

- Where the track comes out to the fields, turn immediately L. Pass a dilapidated wooden farm building with a corrugated roof on L. shortly after you can see a pond through gaps in the trees also on L. In a while look out for a concrete foot bridge on LHS. Cross this bridge and enter a small wood. There is a second footbridge in about 200M. Cross this and you now have a large plantation of Christmas trees on R and a ditch with trees on LHS. Just before the end of the Christmas trees look out for an old fashioned concrete way post (photo) marking a footpath on L. Take this and enter a small wooded area.



- As you exit the wood re-join Ryes Lane. Continue down the lane. Pass a triple Dutch barn (photo) and shortly come to the main Hatfield Heath to Hatfield Broad Oak road. (Point 2 on the map) Cross the road and continue on the pavement towards the Heath. Look out for the 30MPH speed limit signs. Take second road on R, "The Shaw". The foot path to the car park is between houses 9 and 11 on LHS.



If you spot any errors or omissions please email [rj.masters@talktalk.net](mailto:rj.masters@talktalk.net). Thanks.

RM 18/05/20. Revised 08/06/20. New map 04/10/20

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