



07 KENT GRAVESEND TO HIGHAM

▶ Distance: 7¼ miles/12.5km ▶ Time: 4 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate

Walking beside the Thames Estuary near Gravesend.



PHOTO: PHOEBE TAPLIN



CHOSEN BY...
PHOEBE TAPLIN
Gravesend's High Street and industrial fringes contrast with the wild Shorne marshes. This mix of urban and rural sights starts with the opening miles of the Saxon Shore Way – a long-distance route that follows the Kent and East Sussex coasts as they were when the Romans ruled Britain. Heading inland past St Mary's church, to Higham railway station, there are trains back to Gravesend.

1 Start

Exit from Gravesend railway station onto Clive Road and turn R past Thamesgate shopping centre. Turn R on

Stone Street, immediately L into Railway Place and L again down Windmill Street. Cross New Road and under Heritage Quarter archway into High Street. Opposite neoclassical former town hall, turn L into Jury Street. Cross Princes Street and head diagonally R into churchyard of St George's, with statue of Pocahontas.

2 ½ mile/0.8km

Exit from churchyard on far side and continue down Church Street. Cross over West Street into narrow Talbot Place and onto the riverside. Turn R and follow paths near river to town pier and Three Daws pub. Keep on down steps and past red LV21 lightship. Continue along pavement of Royal Pier Road

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Gravesend Station/car parks nearby (or park at Higham and catch train to Gravesend), grid ref TQ646740, postcode DA11 0HP

Is it for me? Linear route. Paths are flat, can be muddy. Off-putting, rubbish-strewn stretch at warehouses near start can be confusing; otherwise, wayfinding is easy

Stiles 2

PLANNING

Nearest town Gravesend

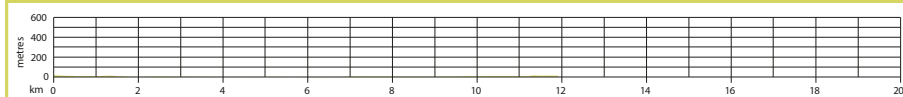
Refreshments Options in Gravesend, including Three Daws pub (01474 566869). After that, only Ship and Lobster pub (01474 324571)

Public toilets Gravesend railway station

Public transport Trains to Gravesend from London/Kent. Trains from Higham

Maps OS Explorer 162 & 163; Landranger 177 & 178

GRADIENT PROFILE



07 KENT
GRAVESEND TO HIGHAM▶ OS Explorer map 162 & 163 ▶ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

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and Royal Pier Road follow it R uphill. Turn L along The Terrace (with option of detouring at end into New Tavern Fort). Head L down Commercial Place to riverside and turn R.

3 1 mile/1.6km
Follow tarmac path over bridge by Gravesend Sailing Club. Continue through dockside buildings. Keep straight along Gordon Promenade East (path between warehouses). Follow fenced path, heading R and then L. Continue to crossroads. Turn L down Mark Lane, following signs to Ship and Lobster pub. Reaching what looks like dead end by wharf entrance, look for narrow path R of gates and follow it to pub.

4 2 miles/3.25km
Continue along riverside path. Climb over concrete steps

L onto grassy embankment and continue for 3 miles, passing Shornemead Fort. Keep along embankment close to water and marshes until it swings R, leaving Saxon Shore Way.

5 5 miles/8km
Go straight on embankment with big lake behind bushes on L and factory beyond. Follow bank L. At start of concrete wall, follow footpath down and double back beside bushes a few steps. Take clear, unmarked footpath near small tree and follow it winding through reeds with water and factory on L.

6 6 miles/9.75km
Cross stile and head diagonally R across field, under pylons, towards church. Cross stile and railway to church (don't miss carved medieval pulpit). Walk on along lane.

Soon after Black Cottages, fork L over field and keep on along next field towards houses. After first house, fork R on path to lane and turn L along it.

7 7 miles/11.25km
Follow Bull Lane and turn R on road at end. Keep on past houses. Turn L into Sandhill Lane. Cross with care and keep straight on Private Road. Just before trees ahead, turn R on path with trees on L. At end of field, turn L onto Chequers Street, over railway bridge and L again into station. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

