



PUB WALKS *with Darcy*

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This month Darcy returns to The Queen at Brandeston with a walk perfect for the coming winter months

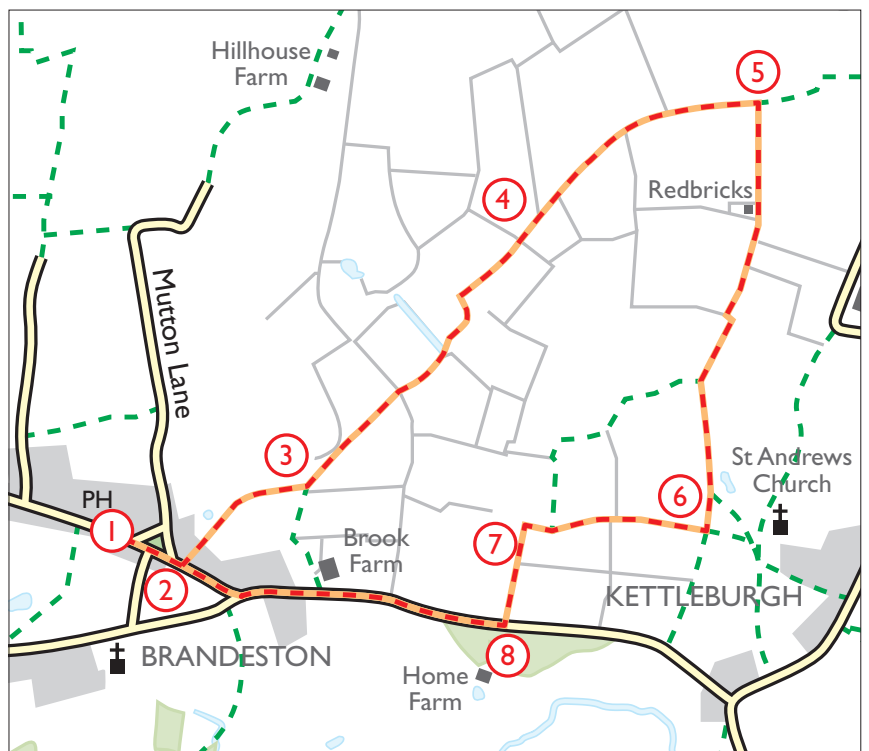
Our first pub walk from The Queen – in our January 2016 issue – has proved to be very popular this year; each month regularly appearing in the top ten (and even top five) of our most visited walks on our website. It is not surprising as this really is a beautiful part of our county, and the dog friendly Queen is going from strength to strength under the leadership of Alexander Aitchison – if you haven't visited yet please do so as the food and relaxed atmosphere are both excellent.

As we head in to the winter months it almost goes without saying that a good pair of waterproof shoes/boots is required for any country walk but we were particularly impressed by this route as after crossing the first couple of fields the rest of the walk is mainly on firm ground. The field edges are well defined as are the paths that actually cross fields. Whoever the landowner is maintaining this area should be applauded.



The route heads east from Brandeston and touches the village of Kettleburgh before returning back to The Queen. There are wide open views that you should take the time to enjoy. Looking back from where you have come is just as pleasurable as looking at where you are heading.

Also – should you care to – before heading back to The Queen to warm yourself by the fireside, take time to look at the Brandeston village sign. On first glimpse it is very pretty but on closer inspection can be seen to depict a slice of 'gruesome' local history. In 1645 Witchfinder General Mathew Hopkins accused the local 80 year old Rector, John Lowes, of "conspiring with two imps to sink ships at sea". After four days and nights of sleep deprivation and beatings the Rector confessed and the village sign depicts his subsequent wrongful execution.



THE WALK

Distance: Approx. 3 miles

Time: Approx. 1 hour 15 minutes

Terrain: Varied. Paths, tracks, field edges, short stretch of road walking.

Stops: The Queen

Ordinance Survey Map: Explorer 212

Start Point OS reference: 249 605

As always please keep your dog under close control and follow any advisory signs. For a printable version of this and previous walks go to: www.essentialsuffolk.com/dog-walks where you will also find more pictures of each walk route.

1. From the pub car park turn left. Walk past the village sign then turn left at the footpath (FP) sign just before the 'Mutton Lane' road sign.
2. Walk ahead then pass through the metal gate, head across the field and pass through the next metal gate.
3. After a short walk you will come to a wooden gate and bridge. Cross over and then follow the track to the left. Keep going straight ahead. The path wiggles a little but ignore all temptation to do anything but walk straight ahead until, after approx. 10 minutes, you will come to a FP marker on a wooden post. At this point follow the path to the left and then straight ahead once again as you round the corner. Continue straight ahead until you reach another FP marker and a three plank wooden bridge in the hedge. Cross the bridge and again continue straight ahead.
4. After approx. 75 yds you will come to another FP marker on your right and a bridge with a hand rail. Turn right here and walk straight ahead keeping to the hedge on your right. After approx. 300 yds you will come to another wooden bridge on your right cross over then turn left through the trees. Walk for approx. 5 minutes until to reach another FP post marker which is in the hedge on your left (keep your eyes peeled for this).
5. At the post turn right. After a short walk the path moves from the left of the hedge to the right. Continue to follow it straight ahead through the next field and then onto the concrete road ahead. Shortly after the concrete section the track leads to a metal gate. Go through it, or around it to the left if locked.
6. After going through the gate pass a double metal gate on your right and then turn immediately right. Continue straight ahead for approx. 275 yds after which you will come to a gap (ignore the wooden bridge on your right just before the gap). Turn right through the gap and then continue down the left hand side of the field ahead of you for approx. 225 yds until you reach a FP post (ignore the first directional FP post you pass).
7. At the post turn left and follow the path through the trees until you reach the road.
8. At the road turn right and follow it back into Brandeston which will take approx. 10 minutes. As you reach the village there is a short stretch of path on your right which takes you briefly off the road. Pass the village sign now on your right and return to The Queen.



Welcome to The Queen at Brandeston, the home of country pub fine dining in the heart of Suffolk



The menu at The Queen is full of fresh and seasonal recipes that change to reflect the abundance of great produce on our door step with all of our ingredients sourced locally or grown in the garden.

As we are lucky enough to be surrounded by nearly two acres of previously untouched land this gives us the freedom to grow herbs and vegetables not typically seen in the area which gives our chef the scope to offer a bit more than the classics.

Our menu regularly changes and there are always daily specials so come in and check the board, you're sure to find something new to try.

Real fires, Family friendly
Wet boots and muddy paws always welcome!

OPENING TIMES

Monday:	CLOSED
Tuesday to Thursday:	8:00 am – 11:00 pm
Friday:	8:00 am – 11:30 pm
Saturday:	8:00 am – 11:30 pm
Sunday:	8:00 am – 10:00 pm

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