



14 SUFFOLK FRAMLINGHAM

▶ Distance: 7¼ miles/11.5km ▶ Time: 3½ hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



The approach to Framlingham Castle.

PHOTO: PHOEBE TAPLIN

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Car park on Fore Street, Framlingham (fee), grid ref TM282634
Is it for me? Level paths. Some stretches on country roads. Muddy and overgrown in places
Stiles None

PLANNING

Nearest town Framlingham
Refreshments Good choice in Framlingham, including friendly Castle Inn. Old Mill House pub at Saxstead
Public toilets Crown & Anchor Lane, Framlingham
Public transport Buses from Ipswich, Woodbridge, Diss and Saxmundham
Maps OS Explorer 212; Landranger 156



CHOSEN BY...
PHOEBE TAPLIN
Framlingham's magnificent

twelfth century castle is the town's most noticeable attraction, but this walk countryside discovers a whole lot more: historic lanes and ancient woodland, a wildlife-rich lake and Saxstead post mill (with a pub nearby). In spring and summer, look out for long-eared hares sprinting across the fields.

1 Start

From Fore Street car park, turn L and L again onto Station Road and R into Brook Lane. Follow this lane out of town (ignoring footpaths). At the

junction, turn R and immediately L, keeping straight on shady bridleway beside stream.

2 ¾ mile/1.2km

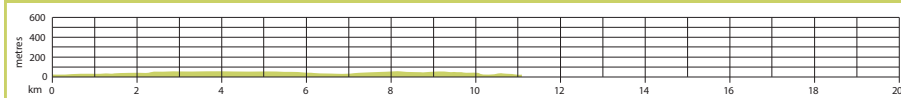
Follow this tree tunnel for ½ mile, as it becomes a field-edge path. Just before path enters another band of trees, turn R and follow grassy track with hedge now on R. Cross wooden footbridge and turn diagonally L across field towards small clump of trees. Turn R in trees and immediately L on bridleway to continue in former direction. At corner of field, turn R towards house and keep straight to reach road.

3 2¼ miles/3.5km

Turn L along Saxstead Rd

to visit mill and pub. Then return along road and continue, past Boundary Farm. When

GRADIENT PROFILE



14 SUFFOLK
FRAMLINGHAM▶ OS Explorer map 212 ▶ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapshop

DON'T MISS...



Framlingham Mere: Baron Bigod, who also built the castle, enlarged this pond in the late 12th century. The flowering marshy meadows around are now a wildlife reserve, attracting butterflies, birds and even otters.

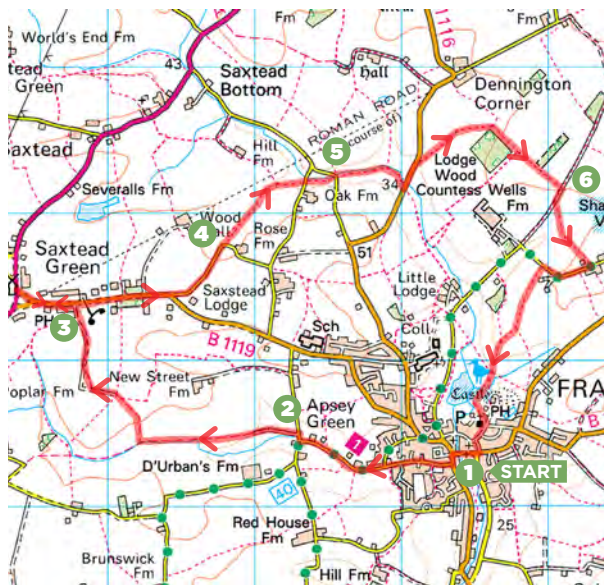
road swings R, keep straight on smaller lane and follow as it curves L. When this lane also swings R, keep straight along unmarked edge of field ahead.

4 **5½ miles/5km**

The path here is hard to see (and can be overgrown), but head for clump of laurels and skirt R round pond behind. Then go straight on again to find, opposite small footbridge, clear path leading diagonally R through field to lane. Cross and continue along curving path on far side, with stream and small wood on L, to reach another lane (Pepper's Wash).

5 **4 miles/6.5km**

Cross and keep straight again, following grassy track beside band of conifers and continue with trees on L. Follow path as it curves R round field edge to emerge on road. Turn L along B1116 for 200m over little River Ore



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and then diagonally R on grassy track with trees on L. Take path diagonally R across next field towards corner of wood and turn R along it, with trees on R. At end of wood, keep straight. At T-junction, turn R on tarmac lane then diagonally L on footpath over two fields to lane at Brabbling Green and turn R (Shawsgate vineyard is short detour to the L).

6 **5¼ miles/9.25km**

Follow lane R and turn L on path. At junction, head slightly R and follow as this path curves L towards church and castle again. Approaching Framlingham Mere, turn L through kissing gate and

up steps onto castle bank. Walk anti-clockwise round castle to lane near entrance. Turn R down lane and road beyond, past pub and church. Reaching Market Hill, keep straight and go through half-timbered Queens Head Alley by Leo's Deli. Follow path L and cross to car park. **CW**



TRAILZILLA ID:
TZID31195

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memory-map



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