Chelmsford treats and riverside retreats Chelmsford and Maldon routes

Total distance of main route is 92km/57miles



Short rides

- A 13.5km/8.4miles
- **B** 28.6km/17.8miles
- C 18.2km/11.4miles
- D 20.4km/12.7miles E 14.5km/9.1miles
- **F** 19.9km/11.2miles
- **G** 8km/5miles

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Attractions along this route

- 1 Pleshey Castle
- 2 Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation Paper Mill Lock
- 3 Ulting Church
- 4 Museum of Power5 Combined Military Services Museum
- 3 Combined Milliary Services3 The Moot Hall
- 7 Topsail Charters
- 8 Maldon District Museum
- New Hall Vineyard Purleigh
- 10 Marsh Farm
- Tropical Wings
- RHS Garden Hyde Hall
 Essex Wildlife Trust Hanningfield Reservoir Visitor Centre
- Stock Windmill
- 15 Hylands House and Estate
- 6 Chelmsford Museum
- 1 Moulsham Mill
- (B) Chelmsford Cathedral(D) Civic Theatres
- Civic mediles

Accommodation

for details see overleaf

- County Hotel
- 💪 Bury Farm
- 3 Channels Lodge
- 4 The Limes
- 5 Greenwoods Hotel Spa & Retreat

Places to eat

- Barda restaurant Tel: 01245 357799
- www.barda-restaurant.com The White Horse Tel: 01245 237281
- www.thewhitehorsepleshey.co.uk The Queen's Head Tel: 01621 854112
- www.thequeensheadmaldon.co.uk y4 Springstep Dairy Tea Room
- Tel: 01621 740357 www.springstep-dairy.co.uk
- The Bear Restaurant and Bar Tel: 01277 829100 www.thebearstock.com

This map is intended as a guide only. Please refer to relevant OS Explorer maps for specific details.

Key

- Cycle Route 5 Short rides Traffic-free section
- Place of worship
- Telephone in rural area
- Public House
- 🛤 National Rail
- Restaurants

Cycle repair:

- Cycles UK 39 Victoria Road Riverside Retail Park Chelmsford CM1 1AN Tel: 01245 264477 www.cyclesuk.com
- Cycle King 76-78 Springfield Road Chelmsford CM2 6JY Tel: 01245 346064 www.cycleking.co.uk



From the bustling town centre of Chelmsford, to the relaxing historic maritime town of Maldon, there's certainly plenty to see. Taking in unspoilt countryside, charming villages and the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation, there is no better way to discover this part of Essex.

Getting to Chelmsford

Arriving by Road

Travel on the A12 if travelling from London or the south. Use the A120 if arriving from the west or the M11.

Arriving by Train

Chelmsford, the county town of Essex is served by a regular service by National Express East Anglia www.greateranglia.co.uk directly from London Liverpool Street

Getting to Maldon

Arriving by Road

Travel on the A12 to Chelmsford if travelling from London, the south or east, then take the A414 or B1019

Accommodation

1 County Hotel ★★★★ Hotel Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2PZ Tel: 01245 455700 www.countyhotelchelmsford.co.uk

2 Bury Farm ★★★★ B&B Bury Road, Pleshey, CM3 1HB Tel: 01245 237234 www.burybarncottage.co.uk

www.visitessex.com



The nearest stations are Chelmsford and Hatfield Peverel, which are served by a regular service by Greater Anglia Continue the journey by bike

3 Channels Lodge

 $\star \star \star \star$ Gold Award – Guest House Belsteads Farm Lane, Little Waltham, CM3 3PT Tel: 01245 441547 www.channelslodge.co.uk

4 The Limes ★★★★ Guesthouse 21 Market Hill, Maldon, CM9 2PZ Tel: 01621 850350

www.thelimesguesthouse.com 5 Greenwoods Hotel Spa and Retreat ★★★★ Hotel

Stock Road, Stock, CM4 9BE Tel: 01277 829990 www.greenwoodshotel.com

www.visitmaldon.co.uk







Chelmsford

Once called Caesaromagus - the market place of Caesar and known as the birthplace of radio, Chelmsford is a vibrant and cosmopolitan county town. It has much to offer the visitor; with an abundance of things to see and do locally, it also provides an ideal base from which to explore. Situated in the heart of Essex, Chelmsford is only 35 minutes from central London by train or a 30-minute drive from Stansted.

Chelmsford offers some of the best shopping in Essex with a traffic-free High Street linking two bustling, covered centres where top name stores complement specialist individual shops in Moulsham Street. Add to this the international restaurants, cafés, wine bars and pubs (some with live music), and the appeal of Chelmsford is obvious. Situated in the heart of the town centre is the country's historic 15th century Cathedral.



8. Maldon District Museum

Traditional Museum within Promenade Park housing a changing exhibition of objects associated with the area and people of Maldon. The collection's origins were in the pre-war Maldon Borough Museum. Tel: 01621 842688

9. New Hall Vineyard - Purleigh

This 37 hectare English vineyard is one of the oldest and largest English wine producers in the country and was first established in 1969. Annual wine festival first full weekend in September.

Tel: 01621 828343 www.newhallwines.co.uk

10. Marsh Farm

A working farm where children can get close to farm animals and play safely. Spend time walking through the country park, which boasts excellent coastal views of the River Crouch. Activities and events throughout the vear.

Tel: 01245 321552 www.marshfarmcountrypark.co.uk



Visit the magnificent Hylands House, the rooms have been restored to their appearance during the Georgian and early Victorian periods may be viewed. Hylands Park is the perfect backdrop for the renowned 'V' concerts that have provided the best of contemporary rock and pop music live over one weekend in August each year since 1996.

Further attractions include the Essex County Cricket Club, Chelmsford Museum in Oaklands Park and other parks with riverside walks.

Picturesque villages each with their own charm and history surround Chelmsford.



11. RHS Garden Hyde Hall

www.rhs.org.uk

Hyde Hall is a palate of sumptuously rich and varied colours providing inspiration for the novice and keen gardener alike. Tended by the Royal Horticultural Society, Hyde Hall offers plenty of variety. Whatever time of the year you visit it will always be a wonderful experience. Each season offers its own inspirational beauty, from the frosty mornings of winter to the first flush of spring, the heady delights of summer and the shedding of autumn leaves.



Maldon



Visitor Centre Tel: 0)1268 711001 www.essexwt.org.uk 14. Stock Windmill

turning.

delightful cottages revealing traditional Essex plasterwork; Pleshey has thatched cottages Tudor chimneys grace the beautifully restored Guildhall on the edge of the churchyard.

The riverside town of Maldon is a wonderful place to chill out and relax with its maiestic Thames Sailing Barges moored at the Hythe Quay. They were once an essential means of carrying goods to London from the estuaries and ports of the East Coast, but are now mainly used for leisure. Despite its lazy riverside pubs and lovely Promenade Park, Maldon retains its traditional maritime links with activities such as barge repairing, boat building, sail making and oyster fishing. Maldon Sea Salt, harvested from the Blackwater Estuary since pre Roman times

Chignall St James and Chignall Smealey have and is world renowned. There are important nature reserves in the salt marshes and most of the coast is an undisturbed abundance and a castle mound; Great Waltham is where of wildlife. Walkers, birdwatchers and artists meander along the network of public footpaths throughout the area, some following ancient scenic routes.

> Follow the Maldon Town Trail to discover the fine historic buildings in the riverside town. Admire the 15th century Moot Hall which has dominated civic life for over four centuries and has many interesting features for visitors. All Saints' Church has a monument celebrating the Saxon Earl Bryhtnoth and Lawrence Washington who was the great, great-grandfather of George Washington is buried here. The triangular tower, built in the 12th century, reflects the French connections of the church and is unique in England.

13. Essex Wildlife Trust Hanningfield Reservoir

Set in 100 acres of mature woodland ideal place to admire the wildlife and countryside. Enjoy the incredible views over an island that is popular with wildfowl.

Early 19th century tower mill on five floors, with excellent late 19th century machinery. Restored to working order. Subject to wind, guided groups may be able to see sails

15. Hylands House and Estate

A beautiful Grade II* listed neo-classical villa set in over 500 acres of Repton landscaped parkland and gardens. Diary of special events available. Pre-booked auided tours of house and garden available. Visit the Stables Visitor Centre, including Huttons Courtyard Café, gift shop and artist studios.

Tel: 01245 605500 www.chelmsford.gov.uk/hylands

16. Chelmsford Museum

The museum is set in a Victorian House, with permanent displays on the story of overlooking the Hanningfield Reservoir. It is the Chelmsford, natural history and geology, coins, art and social history. There is also a temporary exhibition programme and a busy special events programme. Set in a park with children's play area. Tel: 01245 605700 www.chelmsford.gov.uk/museums

17. Moulsham Mill

The existing wooden building dates back to 1819 with substantial repairs carried out over the years. For centuries it functioned as a water mill, with grain being transported from Maldon along the rivers Blackwater and Chelmer. The mill houses a variety of crafts and small businesses including a tea and coffee shop Tel: 01245 608200

www.moulshammill.co.uk

18. Chelmsford Cathedral

The smallest cathedral in England, this 15th century perpendicular Gothic church is light and colourful with its own jewel-like quality. It became a Cathedral in 1914 and the Bishop's throne, 'Cathedra', prominently placed under the East Window, testifies to that. Amongst its special features are a 15th century porch with memorial windows to USAAF based in Essex 1942-5 and an early 15th century semicircular fan arch. Tel: 01245 294489

www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

19. Civic Theatres

The Civic and Cramphorn Theatres situated in the heart of Chelmsford's West End offer a varied programme including professional and amateur theatre, classical concerts, dance, jazz, opera and film. Tel: 01245 606505

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres

Attractions along the route: 1. Pleshey Castle

An 11th century motte and bailey castle wit extensive outer walls surrounding the town. It was dismantled in 1158 but was then rebuilt at the end of the 12th century. Most of the castle was pulled down for building material in 1629, leaving just the large fifty foot high motte surrounded by a deep ditch and an outer bailey. Viewing by appointment only. Please ring 01245 360239 at least 2 days in advance. Charge £2.00 per person.

2. Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation - Paper Mill Lock

The Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation has a long unbroken history. Today you can take canal cruises along the unspoilt navigation aboard the Victoria or the Caffel. You can also hire a row boat and explore the area yourself. Round off your visit with refreshments and home made cake from the tearoom open daily from 10am throughout the year. Tel: 01245 225520 www.papermilllock.co.uk

3. Ulting Church

Ulting Church sits in peace alongside the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation. It is one of the many hidden delights of the area.

4. Museum of Power

The museum is housed in a former steam pumping station and features one of the original pumping engines. The displays are power related, including steam, water, nuclear and muscle power. The museum is set in attractive riverside grounds with a picnic area and a small tea room. A miniature railway gives rides on one Sunday a month. Child friendly exhibits and activities. Tel: 01621 843183

www.museumofpower.org.uk



5. Combined Military Services Museum

The Museum has collections of British military artefacts and a number of the items on display are of national importance for example: the only surviving MK2 'Cockle' canoe as used in the "Cockleshell Heroes" raid. There are excellent displays of civil war armour, as well as fully equipped models of paratroopers from Arnhem, Suez and the Falklands. Tel: 01621 841826 www.cmsm.co.uk

6. The Moot Hall

15th century early brick building with spiral staircase, Dickensian well court and Georgian dado panelled council chamber. Excellent views of Maldon from the roof. Tel: 01621 857373

7. Topsail Charters

Sailing Barges "Thistle" and "Hydrogen" were once the East Coast's traditional cargo vessel. A gentle cruise on one of these vessels allows you to enjoy the beautiful and peaceful rivers of the East Coast in a memorable and interesting way. Tel: 01621 857 567 www.top-sail.co.uk

