

## Hoxne circular walk

A circular walk 3½ miles (5 km) long through the village and along farmland footpaths

### Introduction

Hoxne (rhymes with oxen) is one of the larger Suffolk villages. Lying on the Norfolk/Suffolk border, and bounded by the rivers Waveney and Dove, the parish includes wide sweeping water meadows, ancient woodlands and arable farmland.

### St Peter and St Paul's Church

Built mainly from 1350 to 1500 in perpendicular style with a fine tower erected in 1450. Contains wall paintings, a large seven-locked 14th century 'treasure chest' and displays of local history, archaeology, and the St Edmund legend.

### Hoxne in prehistory

In 1791 local antiquary, John Frere, was the first to recognise that flints from Hoxne Brickworks were man-made tools, and very much older than anything previously associated with man. The brickworks, now a Site of Special Scientific Interest, was occupied 400,000 years ago in the Hoxnian Interglacial period.

### St Edmund legend

The legend of St Edmund has been associated with Hoxne for over 800 years. The walk crosses Goldbrook Bridge believed to be the site of his capture in 870 and skirts a field containing a stone cross commemorating the site of his martyrdom.

### Amenities

**The Swan public house**, tel 01379 668275 for more information

**Post Office and Stores**



Leaflet prepared by  
Hoxne Parish Council



[www.discoversuffolk.org.uk](http://www.discoversuffolk.org.uk)

There are several other walks in the area including the Mid Suffolk Footpath and the Angles Way. Visit our website [www.discoversuffolk.org.uk](http://www.discoversuffolk.org.uk) to find out more. On it you will find everything you need to plan a visit or a walking or cycling holiday in rural Suffolk: route maps, visitor attractions and places to stay.



Project part  
financed by  
the European  
Union



East of England Development Agency



An initiative enabled by EEDA

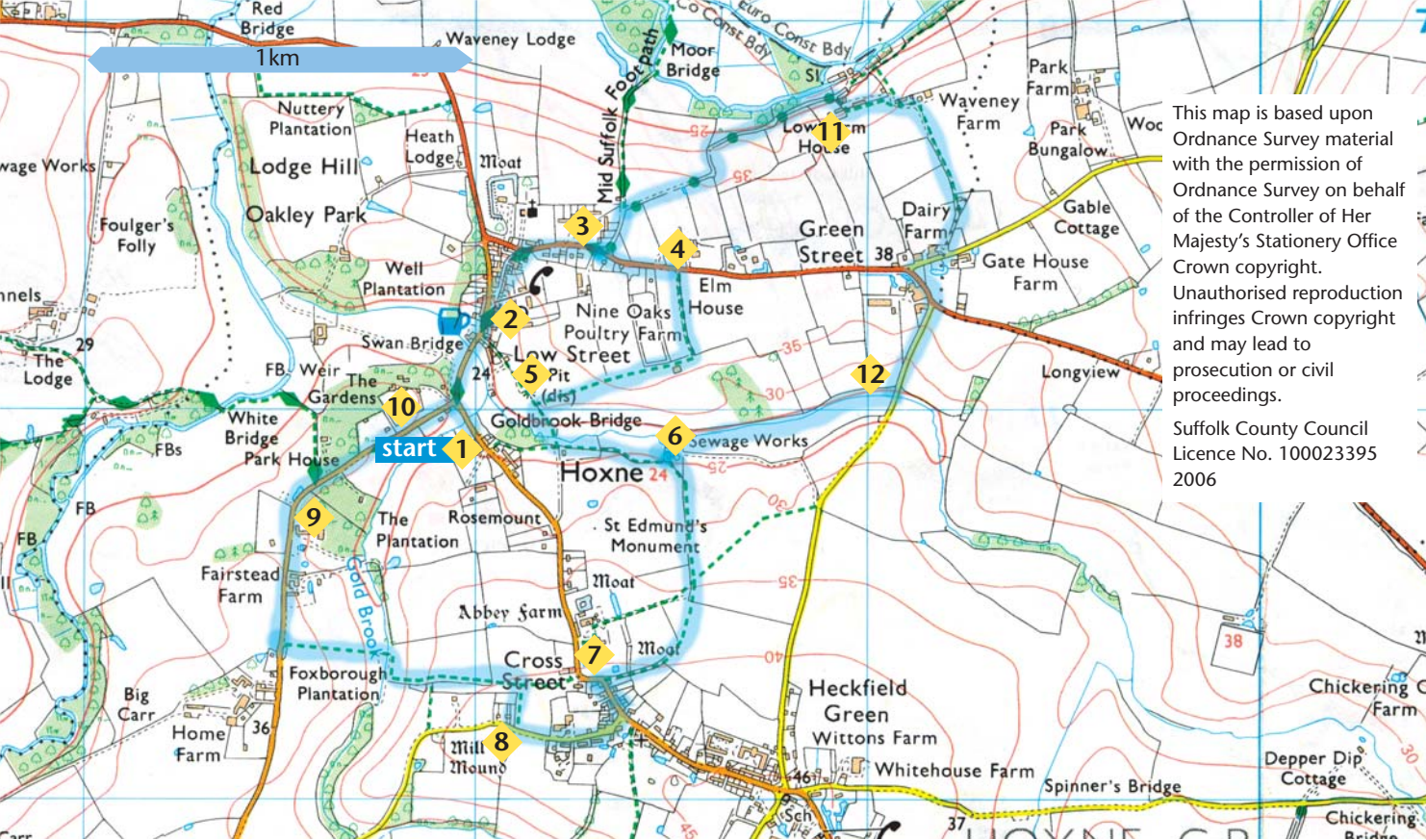


## Hoxne circular walk



a 3½ mile walk around the village





- 1** The walk starts at St Edmund's Hall car park and crosses the Goldbrook Bridge, legendary site of St Edmund's capture by the Danes.
- 2** Low Street with its many picturesque houses around the green including The Swan pub, Post Office and old butcher's shop. Follow Church Hill up to the Stradbroke Road and St Peter & St Paul's Church which has 14th century wall paintings discovered in 1926. Neighbouring cottages were originally almshouses.
- 3** (Here a longer alternative route can be taken past Hoxne Mill and Brakey Wood by turning left at the junction and then right along Mill Lane, as described below at points 11 and 12.)
- 4** Turn right along field edge towards barn, then turn right alongside plantation.

- 5** (From here there is a shortcut back to Low Street.) Follow the path to the left across Downbridge, around Downbridge Farm and along field edges with views of St Edmund's monument (reputed site of his martyrdom) in the field to the right. The 16th century Abbey Farm, built on the site of Hoxne Priory, can be seen from here.
- 6** (The longer route through Brakey Wood joins here.)
- 7** The tree-lined path emerges at Red Lion Corner. (A short detour to the right gives a closer view of Abbey Farm behind the ancient Priory flint wall.) Turn left into Cross Street and right into Nuttery Vale past the old well with its imposing wrought iron weather vane.

- 8** A footpath between houses leads to field edge footpaths which cross the Goldbrook, joining the Eye Road near an ancient veteran oak tree.
- 9** Pass Banhams' brickworks which once supplied bricks for the many houses and ornamental brick walls in the village. This is the internationally famous site where flint axes were found, made by Early Paleolithic man 400,000 years ago. The fabulous Hoxne Hoard of Roman gold and silver coins, jewellery and many precious artefacts was also found close to here in 1992.
- 10** To the left is the Victorian walled kitchen garden once part of Oakley Park. The main hall was demolished in the 1920s but the old stable block has recently been renovated as a private house. Turn right back to the starting point.
- 11** (On the longer route follow the footpath to the right of the Mill House and past a new house to eventually reach the Stradbroke Road. Turn right into Wittons Lane.)
- 12** (The longer route continues through the 17 acre Brakey Wood. This was planted in 1999/2000 as a joint project between the Woodland Trust and Hoxne Parish as a Millennium project. The left hand path passes a larger-than-life carving of a Paleolithic man, complete with spear and flint axe, before joining the circular route at point 6.)

