

Roydon History

Roydon is a small village located in the county of Essex just west of Harlow. It has about 2000 residents.

Roydon Train Station was designed by Francis Thompson, who is well known for his work on the railways. The station was built in 1844 and in April 1971 the main building received Grade II listed status. The signal box, built in 1879, is one of the two remaining ones of its type.

Roydon has become recognised for the Black Poplar trees in the area.



In the 1200s Roydon was one of the most important of the local villages because of its weekly market. An Annual Fair was also held on 1st August, celebrating the day on which St. Peter was released by an angel from his chains in the prison in the Ancient Greek city of Ephesus.

About the Walk



The River Stort

This walk is approximately 5 miles long and will take about 2 hours to complete.

There is roadside parking along High Road or in a free car park just off Harlow Road. Marked with a **P** on the map.

The footpaths on the walk are in good condition, but they will become muddy after wet weather, so sturdy footwear is recommended. There is a small amount of road walking involved, please take care. Please follow the Country Code. Keep dogs on a lead near livestock and keep to the footpath when walking across privately owned land.

For any footpath queries please contact Essex County Council on 08457 430 430.

Web: www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/countrycare or
Email: contactcountrycare@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
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Our thanks to
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Roydon Country Walk



St Peter's Church



Points of Interest

1. St Peters Church

St Peters church is the only building which would be recognizable in Roydon village from 1450 from the outside. The structure of the church has not changed in 550 years except from the added clock. St Peters Church dates back to the Middle Ages and was given Grade I listed status in February 1967. In 1995 it came to light that the 25 year old Organs (consisting of 1,200 pipes) were in need of repair. The £11,000 needed was finally raised in 2000 and the organs were mended.

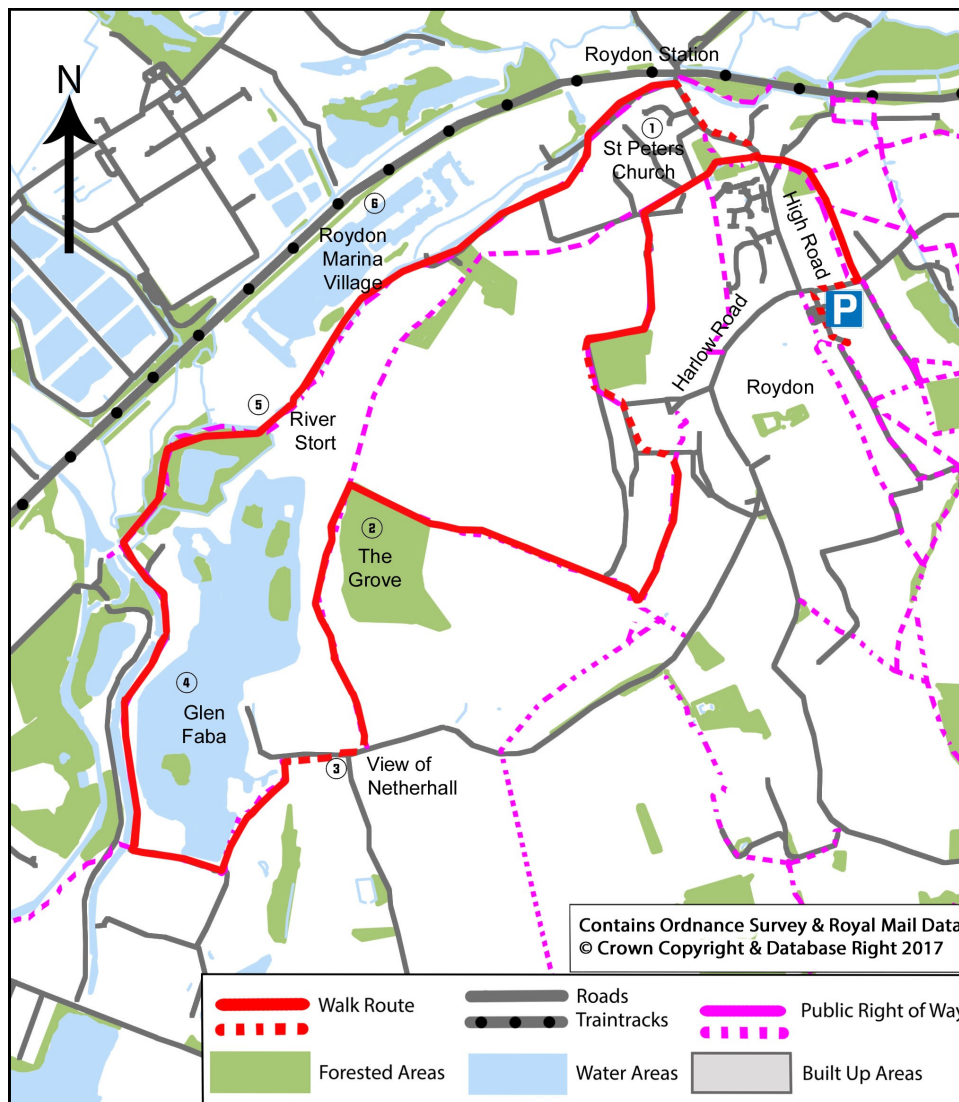
2. The Grove

A small woodland located half way through the walk, on a steep slope. The Grove contains five Hornbeam and five Horse Chestnuts Veteran trees.

3. View of Netherhall



From this point the remains of Netherhall can be seen to the South. The hall was built in the 1400s by the Colt family, as a fortified manor house surrounded by a large rectangular moat. The majority of the hall was demolished in 1773, however the enormous gateway entrance, which is bordered by two hexagonal towers is still standing and is now Grade 1 listed.



4. Glen Faba Lake

The Glen Faba Lake is a man made lake, located in Hoddesdon. It covers 130 Acres with small islands dotted around. It is home to many species of birds including Gadwall, Tufted Duck, Wigeon, and sometimes even a Black-necked Grebe. Bats are a common sight on summer evenings foraging for food along the edge of the lake. Because of its importance for wild fowl and wetland birds it is a designated Local Wildlife Site (Ep 14).

Glen Faba is filled with Carp about 30-40lbs in size, although it has never been officially stocked. Fishing is allowed but restricted in areas where Carp are less abundant to protect the flora and fauna in and around the lake.

5. River Stort

The River Stort is 20km (13 miles) long, starting at Bishops Stortford, passing through Roydon and onto the River Lea. It has 15 locks and a junction for Roydon Marina Village. The Towpath covers the whole of the River Stort. Fishing is permitted in certain areas. The River stocks Roach, Rudd, Bream, Perch, Pike and Carp.

6. Roydon Marina Village

Off the River Stort is Roydon Marina Village, where you can get accommodation from a 5-star luxury lodge to camping facilities. The site has its very own 32 acre lake and the fishing is said to be second to none.

Glen Faba

