

## WALKS OFF THE STOUR VALLEY PATH

# EXPLORE THE GLEM VALLEY

Walk Length: 9.5 miles (15 km); Glemsford circular walk 4.5 miles (7 km);  
Boxted & Hartest circular walk 5.5 miles (9 km)  
Please use OS Explorer Map numbers 196 & 211



DEDHAM VALE  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
& STOUR VALLEY PROJECT

## An Introduction to the Glem Valley Walk

This Glem Valley walk passes through open farmland with panoramic views of the Suffolk countryside. Along the way you will see several Tudor houses built when the area was booming due to the wool trade in the 1400s. The walks encourage you to leave the Stour Valley Path at Glemsford and follow the river Glem, (the first major tributary to join the Stour), eventually arriving in the picturesque village of Hartest. The full walk can also be followed as two shorter circular walks.

### Points of interest

The **River Glem** is approximately 12 miles long (19km) and joins the River Stour between Long Melford and Cavendish. Its source is at Stradishall. Glemsford sits on a small hill overlooking the Glem and the River Stour, with good views across to Essex too.



River Glem

**Glemsford** was recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086, thriving later on the silk, horsehair and coconut matting industries in the 19th and 20th centuries. Silk from Glemsford was used in HM Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation robe. A Glemsford manufacturer produced the largest coconut mat ever made in 1906, covering the great arena at Olympia in London.

The Manor of the Peverells, on Tye Green, was a very small manor of only thirty acres and in the 11th century belonged to Ranulf Peverell, but was primarily 15th century built. It is now a Grade II\* listed medieval manor in a traditional Suffolk hall house style. It is said that, on a clear day, from the top of Glemsford church tower it is possible to see as far as Harwich on the Essex coast.



**Hartest** has a delightful green with a 'coronation' row of trees across it, and on its south side a 14th century church, an 1822 rectory and a 13th to 15th century pub. The small All Saints church has a curiously shaped nave, seeming wider than it is long. The Lady Chapel is

separated from the Chancel by a modern glass screen making it glow with light. From the top of Hartest Hill – the steepest in Suffolk! – you have a great view of the area.

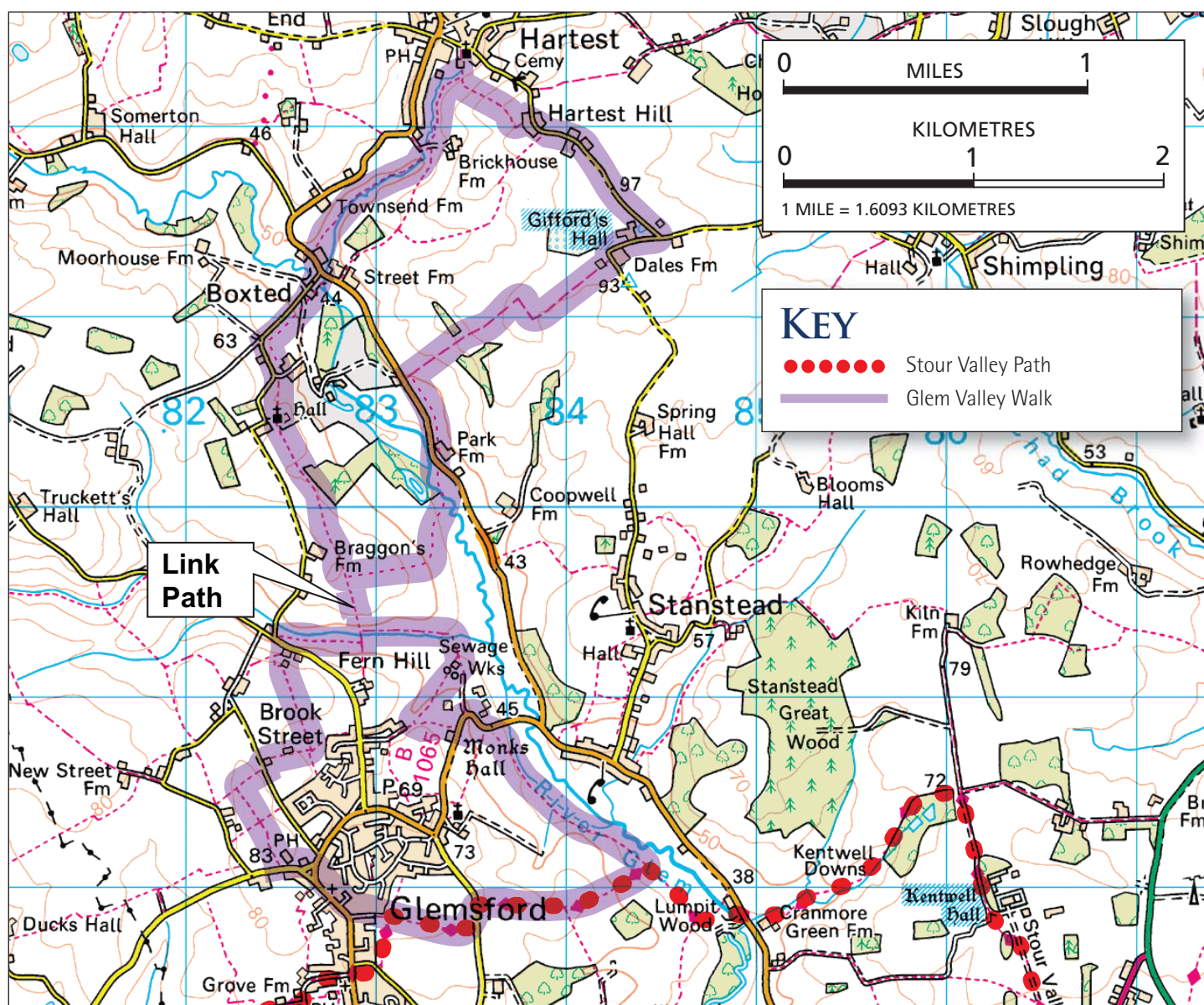
**Boxted** village is mentioned in the Domesday Book at which time it had a population of 25. **Boxted Hall**, an ancient moated farmhouse in classic English parkland, has been the home of the Poley family since the early 15th century. Holy Trinity Church at Boxted has a delightful rural setting and is one of the better known churches in Suffolk. It's unusual looking from the outside due to red brick features and chapel with few windows on the north side. It is full of monuments to the Pooley family in wood, stone, brass and alabaster, two of which are jet black and one with a dog at the foot.

Further information on the churches can be found at [www.suffolkchurches.co.uk](http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk)



Boxted Hall





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**Terrain:** The routes include public paths and  
bridleways along field-edges and across  
cultivated land which may be muddy. Expect  
some stiles on grazing land. Use is also made of  
farm tracks and minor roads where care is  
needed even if traffic is light.



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### Refreshments

Refreshments are available in Glemsford. Please carry water and a snack with you.

### Car Parking

Parking is available in the villages, please park considerately.

### Transport

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

**Train:** Sudbury has a train from Marks Tey. Colchester and Marks Tey are on the London Liverpool Street-Norwich main line.

**Bus:** The Sudbury-Haverhill bus stops at Glemsford. There are bus connections to Sudbury from Colchester and Ipswich. A less frequent direct bus goes from Bury St Edmunds to Glemsford and Hartest.

An on-demand bus service operates in the area.

Advance booking must be made.

[www.suffolkonboard.com/suffolk\\_links\\_demand\\_responsive\\_transport](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/suffolk_links_demand_responsive_transport)

### Please follow the Countryside Code

- Be a responsible dog owner
- Protect plants and animals, prevent fires and take your litter home
- Leave things as you find them and follow any signs

