

Bures Walks 4: Lower and Upper Mount Bures – about 7k



From wherever you start in Bures, head for Bures Mill. This can be reached from Nayland Road (take the lane opposite Claypits), or via the permissive riverside path from the Millennium Footbridge.

Follow the drive towards the Mill, but once it comes in sight bear right to follow a path, leaving the Mill on your left, to cross the river at a sluice on the site of one of the old navigation locks. This path leads via a gate into a meadow. Do not take the path ahead, but bear left through a smart new wooden kissing gate, and continue across the next meadow to a similar gate. When the path reaches Long Gardens (a cottage to your right) enter a narrow field. The main path continues ahead, but you need to bear half right, diagonally across the narrow field, to cross a new footbridge onto a lane.

Turn right and follow the lane past the new and old pumping stations to join Colchester Road. The verge on the left is very wide, and you can follow the hedgerow round the left hand bend rather than staying too close to the road.

Once round the bend carefully cross the road to enter a minor road, Peartree Hill. After a short while, before you reach the first house, a footpath leaves to the right. Follow this across a couple of fields. Where it crosses a small stream the path turns left, then right, to follow the field boundary, hedge on left. Continue until you go under the railway and then pass a barn (on left) before joining road.

Turn right onto the road, and immediately past Mount Bures Hall turn left towards the church. You can make a short deviation to the right to climb The Mount, which has wonderful views. Otherwise enter the churchyard and pass the church to your right. A gate takes the path into a sloping field. Bear right to follow the path past The Mount (to your right) and down into a dip before rising towards the field edge. Here take steps down the bank into Craigs Lane, onto which turn left.

At the bottom of the hill a gate / stile takes you to the right, onto a lovely track through woodland which emerges near Hobbs Well. Turn right, in front of the house, and follow its drive uphill until it reaches a minor road. Turn right onto this road, and follow it past Master Farm and Bakers Hall until it joins Colne Road.

Immediately to your left you will see some roadside bollards. Follow the path inside these and then join the road for a few yards. A little beyond an archery business cross the road to follow a footpath

which leave to the right. Go down the path with the hedge to your right. Beware of deep rabbit holes which might trip you!

The path enters a small copse, beyond which you cross a stream by footbridge to emerge onto Ferriers Lane which you follow downhill, to your right, back into Bures.

If you find any of these directions inaccurate, or encounter any problems, please let me know at hughturner447@gmail.com. Thank you.