



# The Hundred Parishes

## Quiet Lane Walks – number 325

### Duddenhoe End – 1.4 miles (2 kms)

This walk is entirely within the administrative parish of Elmdon, Duddenhoe End and Wenden Lofts, passing through the village of Duddenhoe End and exploring nearby lanes. The clockwise route is on high ground but quite flat. It passes the unusual thatched Hamlet Church.

Nowhere along the route offers refreshment.

You can, of course, join this circular walk anywhere along the route.

**Start and finish:** The route description starts and finishes at Duddenhoe Village Hall, about one mile south of Royston Road, B1039. Walkers visiting the village are invited to park here - Ordnance Survey Grid Reference: TL459367 - Postcode: CB11 4UU (a large area) - what3words: violin.down.workroom.

The route can be followed on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 194.  
A diagram of the route is provided at the end of the description.

This route is mostly on quiet lanes, but please follow the usual safety precautions: keep to the right so as to face oncoming traffic, crossing occasionally to the left if this offers a clearer view around a right-hand bend. Drivers and cyclists may be as surprised to see you as you are to see them!

We leave the car park by the way we drove in, turning right along the lane.

Almost immediately, we cross a road junction with a notice on the right welcoming visitors to Duddenhoe End. We go straight ahead, signposted towards Chrishall, Elmdon and Saffron Walden.

We soon pass a house called Woodmans Acre on the right.

In about 300 yards, we reach a tiny hamlet, Upper Pond Street.

The two thatched houses on the left date from the 17th century. The first has a collection of straw finials along the ridge – two hares and then a cat chasing chickens. Upper Pond Street Farm on the right, with a red-tiled roof, is from the 18th century.

Shortly afterwards, the main lane turns left to descend into the valley, but we go straight ahead on the minor lane, signposted to School Lane and Hamlet Church.

In about 300 yards, we pass a wooden gateway on the right and 10 yards later we come to a smaller gate. Through the gate are the Hamlet Church to our left and 17th-century Lantern Thatch straight ahead. If the church is open, we should pay a visit – through the gate and diagonally along the path across the lawn. The church was once an ancient barn. It was converted into a church in 1859. It is the only thatched church in the Hundred Parishes.

Immediately opposite the church, a lychgate leads into a cemetery.

From the church, we turn right to continue along the lane, soon passing a seat on the left.

Quite soon, we reach a junction where our lane bears left, but we turn right. There is no signage.

The lane descends gently. After about 200 yards, we pass Arboric on the left, a 17th-century thatched house with a number of outbuildings.

Immediately afterwards, Adamsfield, set back on the left, dates from around 1700 AD.

Further along, we reach a road junction – again with no signage. This little hamlet is called Bridge Green. Ahead of us is The Old House, an 18th-century dwelling that was once a terrace of several small cottages.

We turn right and almost immediately cross a stream called Wicken Water.

After about 200 yards, we reach a junction with a signpost. We turn right, heading towards Duddenhoe End, Langley and Chrishall.

We are immediately welcomed to Duddenhoe End, a village within the single administrative parish of Elmdon, Duddenhoe End and Wenden Lofts.

This main village street has no pavement but it does have an interesting mix of old and new properties, ten of which are listed for their historic or architectural significance. Most of the thatched houses are listed and date from the 17th or 18th century.

Note the straw finials in the shape of hares on the ridge of the thatch on Keepers Cottage on the left.

Further along, opposite Brooksies on the left, Woodside House on the right has an impressive-looking dovecote – but are those doves real?

Immediately afterwards, we pass 18th-century The Woodman on the right – a former pub.

Soon afterwards, we reach a tiny green on the left and Duddenhoe End village hall. We take the path to the right of the hall to return to the car park where this route description started.

[If you started somewhere else along the route, please rejoin the route description from page 1]

This route description, last updated 02 September 2024, was downloaded from [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk) There, you can read more about the administrative parish of Elmdon, Duddenhoe End and Wenden Lofts and also find many additional walk routes.

Please email any suggestions for improving the route or the route description to [hundredparishes@btinternet.com](mailto:hundredparishes@btinternet.com).

A diagram of this route, based on the Ordnance Survey map, is shown below. It is published under © Crown copyright 2020 OS 100062498.

