



# The Hundred Parishes

## Quiet Lane Walks – number 314

### High Easter and High Roding parishes, hamlets only – 4.3 miles (7 kms)

This circular walk travels anti-clockwise through rural parts of the parishes of High Easter and High Roding, passing only occasional houses. A short stretch near the beginning is also covered on walk number 313, but in the reverse direction.

The route description starts and finishes from the parking area at the Spotted Dog in Bishop's Green, marked **1** on the route diagram on the last page of this description. Please do not park here without prior permission. If you plan to eat here, you are advised to pre-book (in 2024 they did not open on Mondays or Tuesdays) - 01245 231598 or [www.the-spotted-dog-bishopsgreen.co.uk](http://www.the-spotted-dog-bishopsgreen.co.uk)

Alternative starting points at informal roadside parking areas are marked **2** and **3** on the route diagram, respectively at Grid References TL628182 and TL616173. From these, you should join the walk description where these numbers are shown within the text on page 2.

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

**Start and finish:** The route description starts and finishes at the car park for The Spotted Dog, midway between High Easter and Barnston - Ordnance Survey Grid Reference: TL631179 - Postcode: CM6 1NF - what3words: husky.political.drones. If you have not pre-arranged parking, it should be possible to park considerately along the road heading north from the pub – or at one of the alternative roadside locations listed above.

The route can be followed on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 183.  
A diagram of the route is provided at the end of the description.

This route is entirely 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! This is a popular cycling area.

From the car park, turn right past the pub, whose near element was once a thatched cottage, built in the 17th century.

Almost immediately, on the left just before a pond, Bird's Farm stands sideways to the road – it dates from the 15th century, possibly earlier.

We will pass only a few buildings on this walk. We will mention some that are listed for their heritage or architectural significance.

We are in the hamlet of Bishop's Green in the administrative parish of High Easter, an extensive rural parish with the village of High Easter at its centre – we will not see the village itself. *Easter* is a derivation of the Anglo-Saxon word *eowestre*, meaning sheepfold.

Soon, on the right, we pass the long drive that leads to a farm shop at Great Garnetts – a group of ancient farm buildings, out of sight almost half a mile away, that date from the 15th century.

We soon come to a turning on the left. Here, we turn left, signposted towards High Roding. We will follow this narrow lane for a mile or so.

As we turn left, we leave the parish of High Easter and enter the parish of High Roding. This parish is centred on the village of High Roding which we will not see on this route. High Roding is one of eight settlements in this area with the suffix Roding, a name which derives from a local Anglo-Saxon chieftain called *Hroda*. He also gave his name to the River Roding which flows through many of the Roding settlements.

[After a bend to the left, there is an informal parking area at the side of the road on the left. This is marked **2** on the route diagram and is an alternative start point for this walk. We continue heading westwards.]

In about half a mile, we pass a thatched house on the right, Proverbs Green.

It is another half mile before we reach the next buildings. A group of barns or commercial units is followed by a barn right beside our lane with black weather-boarding. It is listed and dates from around 1600 AD, although clearly updated. Just afterwards, we get a view of Barnston House, set back on the right and also about 400 years old.

In another quarter of a mile, we reach a road junction where we turn left, signposted towards High Easter. If we had turned right, we would have reached the village of High Roding within half a mile.

Having turned left, we join National Cycle Network Route 50 for a mile or so.

Next, we pass two houses on the right: Stack Manor – a converted 18th-century barn – and the adjacent Attridge's which dates from the 16th century and has also been updated and extended.

A little further along, we pass an entrance to Broadgates on the left, and then the house itself.

[Soon afterwards, there is an informal parking area beside the road on the left. This is marked **3** on the route diagram and is an alternative start point for this walk. We continue heading south-east.]

On the right, we get a glimpse through a gate of Andrews, 16th-century and set well back. We soon pass the drive to Andrews, and then a range of farm buildings and farmhouse at County Farm on our left.

Our lane meanders for another half mile before reaching the next building. Along the way, we imperceptibly pass from High Roding parish back into High Easter.

The next building is Chimballs on our right. It dates from the 17th century with updates and extension in the 20th.

We soon come to a road junction where we turn left, signposted to Barnston and Dunmow. [If we were to turn right here, we would reach the village of High Easter in about a mile].

A quarter of a mile or so after turning left, we pass a relatively-modern house on the left – Peakins Farm.

In another 200 yards, the house on the right with exposed beams is called Malyons - it dates from the 16th century.

Just afterwards, on the left, Poplar Cottage with the red-tiled roof also dates from the 16th century.

We reach a road junction with a white concrete water tower just to the right. Here we turn left, signposted towards Dunmow – when safe, we should cross to walk on the right as this is a slightly busier lane.

After about 200 yards, we ignore the lane on the right, keeping straight ahead, signposted towards Dunmow.

After about a quarter of a mile, a sign welcomes us to Bishops Green, a hamlet of High Easter.

Soon after, we reach a small group of buildings on the left. The house, standing sideways to the road, is called Mudwall. It dates from around 1400 AD when it was built as a hall house – having a central hall that was heated by an open fire in the centre of the floor. In the 16th century, it was modernised by the installation of a fireplace and chimney and the height of the hall was split by the insertion of a floor to create a second storey.

We pass an entrance on the right to Bishops and then, a little further along, a drive to Little Garnetts, a 17th-century house set back from the road.

Soon afterwards, we reach The Spotted Dog on the right where this route description started.

If you started somewhere else along the route, please continue ahead, perhaps after a pause for refreshment. You can rejoin the route description towards the bottom of page 1.

This route description, last updated 11 July 2024, was downloaded from [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk) There, you can read more about the parishes of High Easter and High Roding 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.

