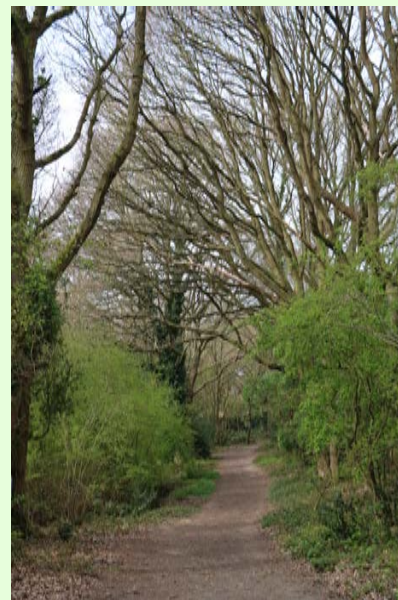


Danbury Walk 6: **Waterhall Meadow**



Distance and estimated time taken:

6.2 miles (10.0 km) approx 3 ½ hrs

Parking:

Danbury Sports and Social Centre (free)
Mayes Lane (free)
Danbury Country Park (charge)

Toilets:

Sports and Social Centre
Danbury Country Park

Maps:

Ordnance Survey OS Explorer 183
Danbury Parish Footpath map
Little Baddow Footpath map

Danbury - Lingwood Common - Blake's Wood - Waterhall Meadow - Lingwood Common - Danbury

Directions:

From the Danbury Sports and Social Centre, walk to the rear of the main car park and proceed up past the Armada Beacon to the radio mast. Walk past the beacon and then turn right and take the footpath towards St. John The Baptist Church, cross Church Green to the A414. With care cross over the road and turn left along the main road past the Griffin Inn. Continue until you reach a house on the right called Griffin Meadow. Take the footpath to the left of the house and follow it past the side of the house, through some trees and then down a hill. Cross over a bridge and turn left at the junction with a concrete track (end of Moores Bridge Lane).

Pass between a bungalow on the left and large house on the right and take the footpath up the hill into Lingwood Common. When you reach a marker post and seat at the top of the hill turn left and head down hill on the bridleway. Carry on straight ahead for while and turn right onto footpath just before a slight rise leading to a seat. Continue on this footpath through the woods until a junction is reached beside a Scout Camp. Turn left and follow the path until Riffhams Chase is reached.

Turn left onto Riffhams Chase and walk a short distance before turning right into Blakes Wood car park. Take the right hand path at the back of the car park and following the 'Wildside Walk' signs cross over a stream turn left and follow the path, passing two more bridges. Still following the 'Wildside Walk' signs turn left over another bridge just after a notice board that refers to the 1987 storm and continue until you reach Belle Vue Farm. Take the narrow footpath on the left just after the farm. Continue on this path until you reach Chapel Lane. Turn left and walk for approx ½ mile along Chapel Lane and Hurrells Lane, negotiating a sharp right hand bend, until a ford is reached. Cross the bridge over the ford and turn left just after the ford into Waterhouse Meadow Nature Reserve.

Follow the path through the Nature Reserve passing through a kissing gate at the end of the meadow. Continue along the path through a wooded area with a stream on your left. Leaving the wooded area take the path to the right of a large hedge opposite that divides two fields. Follow the path until Graces Walk is reached, turn left and continue to the end, passing Great Graces Farm to reach a road. Cross over the road and pass through the kissing gates opposite. Follow the footpath through the orchard until the road is reached. Turn left onto Great Graces Lane and continue until the end of the lane is reached then bear left into Riffhams Chase. After approx 25 yards turn right at bridleway sign into Lingwood Common.

Follow the bridleway, passing a seat on the left until you reach another seat at the top of a slope. Turn right and follow the footpath until you reach a concrete driveway on the edge of Bellhill Wood. Follow this path (Moores Bridge Lane) until you reach the A414. Turn right and with care cross the road and proceed to St. John The Baptist Church. Take the path to the left of the church, turning left after the radio mast, pass the Armada Beacon and return to the Danbury Sports and Social Centre.

