

Stebbing Village Centre

This is a short route that includes the most historic buildings in the village but does involve some railings and awkward steps but it is a fairly short walk which can be shortened at about the mid-way point if you wish.

2.8 miles **1 hour (approx. walking time)**



Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database rights
2021

Starting from outside [The White Hart \(1\)](#) a 17th century inn. Proceed down the High Street past the Bowling Club and the [Friends Meeting House](#), the first built in Essex and the oldest remaining in the county, then cross the new culvert bridge towards the [War Memorial](#), designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield in 1918 and a smaller version of the one at Thiepval in France. **(2)**. You will also pass some of the oldest cottages in the village on the way. Just before the War Memorial is a path on your Left leading to the 14th century Church dedicated to the Virgin Mary (one of many dedicated to St. Mary in this part of Essex and containing the older of only two stone Rood Screens in the country). Turning Right at the road junction walk down the road, with great care, to reach the stone bridge over Stebbing Brook **(3)**. To access the

footpath at the end of the bridge entails climbing over the railings and negotiating the awkward steps (an alternative route is to continue to the corner and take the next path on the Right, but this does entail a short but steep slope – see map) Follow this path, crossing two concrete bridges on the way, to join Mill Lane and shortly after take the steps **(4)** and path into the Mill Lane playing field, where Stebbing Cricket Club have played for many years. The [pavilion](#) was re-built in 2002 and opened by Keith Fletcher, ex-England & Essex captain. Cross the playing field to take the gate at the far side and follow the path passing [‘The Mount’](#) on your Left, Motte castles are medieval fortifications dating back to the Normans and this is the oldest known part of Stebbing. On reaching the drive to [Stebbing Park House \(5\)](#) you can shorten the route at this point by turning Right and following the road back through the village to the start.

If you wish to continue, cross the gravel drive to the kissing gate and take the Right-hand path down the hill and along the long meadow to reach the Mill at the road **(6)**. Turn Right and after pausing to look over the bridge at the mill stream where you might see a kingfisher, follow the pathway to shortly turn Right up the slope (the finger post is on the opposite side of the road) and head straight across the field to reach the Brookfields housing estate. Turn Left out of the cul-de-sac and left again at the road to reach the junction with Brick Kiln Lane **(7)**. Turn Right and follow the lane past the allotments on your Right and Brick Kiln Farm on your Left then bearing Right to enter the Clay Lane Byway **(8)**. Take the first footpath on your Right **(9)** which will bring you along a hedge line (on your Right) and through the new housing estate to reach the road at The Downs. Turn Left and simply follow the road past the [Village School](#), the buildings of which date back to 1876 although a school in Stebbing does go back to 1862, and the [Village Community Shop](#), back to the pub.