Numbering and Waymarking

The numbers in "Directions" refer to the numbers on the map. You should find the corresponding number on a waymark post at that location. Both routes are waymarked throughout.

Local interest

Hartest, Boxted and Somerton are in "High" Suffolk, quite different from the flatter heaths, forests and fens to the north and east of the County. The view walking down from Somerton to the Hawkedon Road can remind you of Devon.

The book "Hartest, A Village History" gives an in-depth account of this ancient village and its surroundings. All Saints Church at Hartest is well worth a visit. How did the huge stone on the Green discovered in a field at Somerton and dragged to its present resting place by a team of horses get there in the first place? The Crown Inn was originally the Moot Hall and like other nearby buildings bears a private fire insurance company mark on its gable end from the days when they had their own fire brigades.

The remnants of a German prisoner of war camp still stand in Somerton and the Church is most interesting. The interior layout of Boxted Church gives one a glimpse of a way of life in bygone days and there has been a Hall on or near the present site of Boxted Hall for at least 600 years.

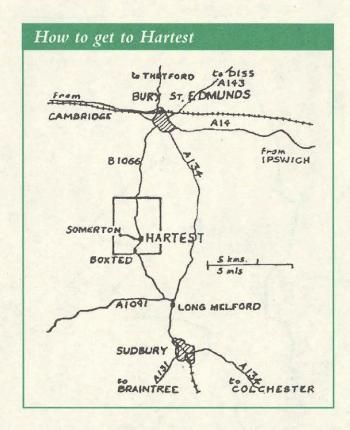
Country code

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.

- Guard against all risk of fire
- Fasten all gates
- Keep your dogs under close control
- Keep to public paths across farmland
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Help to keep all water clean
- Protect wild life, plants and trees
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise

The Walks

Two circular walks are described, Hartest-Boxted and Hartest-Somerton. Each takes about 2 hours, so if you are feeling energetic, you could complete both in a morning and afternoon of walking.



Buses

Beestons and Eastern Counties buses run through Boxted and Hartest on weekdays.

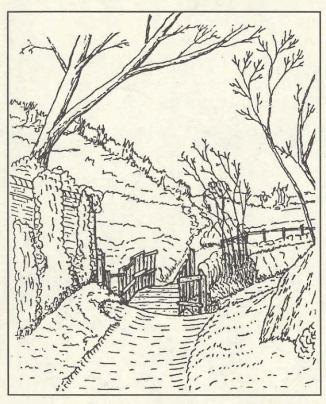
Car parking

Car parking is available behind Hartest Institute. There may be additional space at the Crown Inn with prior arrangement. Please do not park on the Green.

Refreshments

The Crown Public House. Booking is advisable

Countryside Walks



HARTEST WITH BOXTED & SOMERTON – 10 miles

Leaflet produced by
HARTEST & DISTRICT COUNTRYSIDE GROUP

Funded by



Suffolk County Council

PAKISH PAIHS

A COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION INITIATIVE



Directions

HARTEST-SOMERTON - 5 miles

Starting at Hartest Green walk up the Somerton Road at the side of the Institute, opposite the village sign. At the top of the rise (1) turn right down a track (Smithbrook Lane). Walk down to the stream at the bottom, then continue straight on up to the T-junction of the track (2). Turn left and westwards towards Somerton.

Go along this long track, through Manor Farm (3) and onto the lane at Somerton (4). Turn left here and onto St Margaret's Church. About 50 metres further on turn right across a sleeper bridge (5) and turn left. Follow the field edges and waymarks across a footbridge and down onto the Hartest-Hawkedon Road. Turn left (eastwards) (6).

The road is usually quiet but obey the Highway Code and keep to the right. On arrival at an old track called Rogers Lane, turn left along it (7) for about 300 metres and turn right at the waymark post (8) through the copse and onto the fields.

Walk straight on along the hedge line crossing to the north side at the opening. Then turn left (9) (northwards) along a hedge, across a field and onto the Somerton Road (10). Turn right (east) and walk back to Hartest Green.

HARTEST-BOXTED - 5½ miles

Start at the Crown Inn on the south side of Hartest Green (11). Walk down the path between the pub and church, cross the bridge and turnright. Follow the path along the stream to a track running across the path (12). Turn right here, and crossing the stream, turn immediately left onto a field. Follow the field edge and stream on through the paddock and to the road at Boxted (13).

Turn left along the road. Watch out for traffic. After 200 metres turn left again at Street Farm (14) up the track back towards Hartest. Where a deep ditch crosses turn right along the field edge (15). Follow the field edges and then go across the middle of a field to come out on Hartest Hill (16). Walk towards Hartest but turn right after 300 metres along a track by Hill Farm. The route takes you across a field, then turn left before Tower Cottage (17), along to the next house and turn right. Follow the track to the top and go left to the Lawshall Road. Go north for a few hundred metres and turn left (18). Follow this path to the next road (Pilgrims' Road) (19). Turn left and walk back to Hartest Green.