

A VOYAGE OF REAL ALE DISCOVERY

THREE  
BREWERY  
TAP ROOMS,  
A MICRO PUB  
& SEVERAL  
TRADITIONAL  
PUBS

# CROUCH VALLEY



WICKFORD - SOUTHMINSTER  
ESSEX



FIVE STATIONS - 16½ MILES



# RAIL ALE TRAIL



ALONG THE SCENIC  
CROUCH VALLEY RAILWAY LINE  
SALTMARSH COAST, ESSEX



A voyage of real ale discovery on the Essex coast. Along the scenic Crouch Valley railway line from Wickford (on the Southend to London line) to Southminster, in the heart of the Dengie Peninsula.

The line is 16½ miles long, and there is plenty to see along the way – the route passes through historic towns & maritime villages, important wildlife reserves and provides views of the picturesque River Crouch.

If you are a fan of real ale, then this specially designed trail is definitely for you. The journey will take in two brewery tap rooms, a micropub and several traditional pubs near various stations along the way. An excellent choice of well-served cask ales will be available at every stop.

**Please note that some of the establishments listed in this guide have limited opening hours and several are closed on certain days. Please phone ahead to confirm opening times or check CAMRA's pub website for details.**

[www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com)



## • TICKET INFORMATION •

A valid ticket is required for your journey on the Crouch Valley Train Line. This can be purchased in advance or on board. A return ticket will allow you to disembark the train and re-join as long as you continue in the same direction of travel. Please note the Crouch Valley Line is a single track line meaning trains may be less frequent than at other larger stations and will travel in both directions from the same platform.

The Crouch Valley Line and connecting services may be subject to engineering works and planned cancellations. It is vital you check for service disruptions, including for your return journey, before travelling.

For more information, including time tables, service disruptions and group discounts please visit:

[WWW.GREATERANGLIA.CO.UK/TICKETS-FARES](http://WWW.GREATERANGLIA.CO.UK/TICKETS-FARES)

# CROUCH VALLEY



WICKFORD - SOUTHMINSTER  
ESSEX



FIVE STATIONS - 16% MILES



## RAIL ALE TRAIL

A VOYAGE OF REAL ALE DISCOVERY ON THE ESSEX COAST



FIVE STATIONS - 16% MILES



HISTORIC TOWNS & MARITIME VILLAGES

WICKFORD • BATTLESBRIDGE • SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS • BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH • SOUTHMINSTER

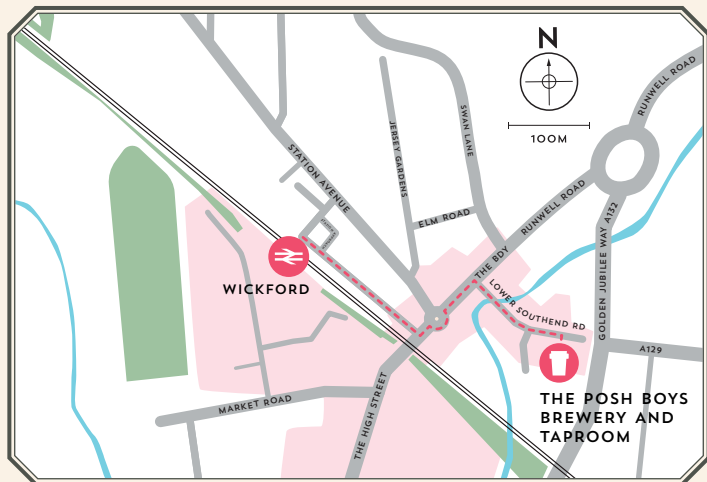
STOP  
No.1

CROUCH VALLEY

WICKFORD

RAIL ALE TRAIL

Wickford is a small commuter town with a direct line to London Liverpool Street. The town boasts a main high street with a range of retail shops, restaurants, pubs and cafes. Markets are held on Friday and Saturday with a wide range of stalls. It is also home to Wick Country Park which has 2km of easy access trails and a 5 acre lake.



## THE POSH BOYS' BREWERY AND TAPROOM

5 MINUTES WALK

A 5-minute walk from Wickford station this relatively new bar is to be found on the first road on the right, immediately past the Aldi supermarket, having headed left downhill out of the exit. Modern in greys and chrome it is the taproom for beers from Posh Boys' Brewery, six of which are normally available along with two guest ales which are usually from Mighty Oak or Brentwood breweries.

RIVERSIDE HOUSE  
8 LOWER SOUTHEND RD  
WICKFORD  
SS1 8BB



PLEASE STAMP HERE

The Posh Boys' Brewery was set up by two friends, initially on a part-time basis, to produce beers in smaller quantities primarily for the take home market. This was prior to the opening of the Taproom in April 2019. Their first two beers were "The Bowlers Hat" and "The Blind Butler". Occasionally, beer festivals can be supplied, but brew-length tends to focus on supplying the Taproom in Wickford.



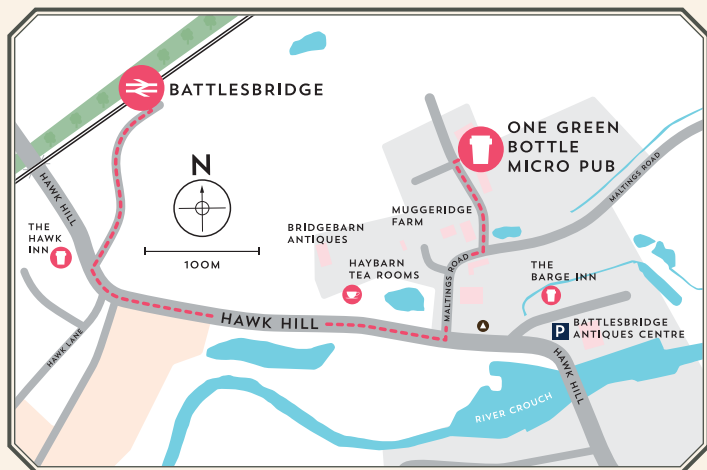
CROUCH VALLEY

## BATTLESBRIDGE

RAIL ALE TRAIL

STOP  
No.2

This village, situated at the tidal reach of the River Crouch, contains the Battlesbridge Antique Centre, which is the largest centre of its type in Essex. Established in 1967, 80 dealers are housed in old buildings and courtyards, one of which is a former mill. The Old Granary, which is just visible from the train, houses five floors of antiques, collectables and reproductions.



## • ONE GREEN BOTTLE •

7 MINUTES WALK

The One Green Bottle micropub nestles within the yard of the Muggerridge Farm area of the Antiques and Craft Centre. Up to four beers from Essex and further afield are served straight from casks racked in the climate-controlled tap room. Lunchtime snacks are served, such as crusty cheese or ham rolls. There is a pleasant outdoor drinking area with comfortable seating.

MUGGERIDGE FARM  
MALTINGS ROAD  
BATTLESBRIDGE  
SS11 7RF  
07779 322339



PLEASE STAMP HERE

• YOU COULD ALSO TRY •

**THE HAWK, HAWK HILL, SS11 7RJ**  
usually three real ales available

**THE BARGE INN, HAWK HILL, SS11 7RE**  
usually three real ales available



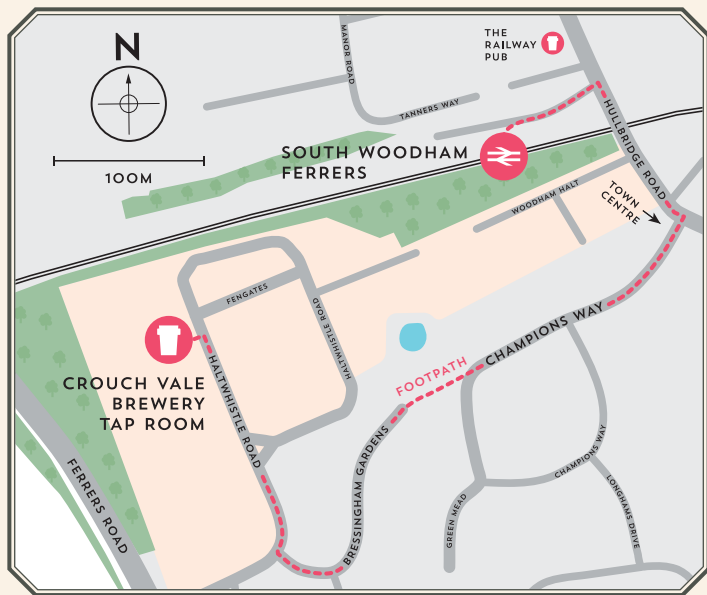
CROUCH VALLEY

STOP  
No.3

• SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS •

RAIL ALE TRAIL

As well as a major store, a choice of smaller shops, and a wide variety of eateries, the country town of South Woodham Ferrers is also home to the award-winning Crouch Vale Brewery and other leading-edge local industries.



## • TAP ROOM 19 •

10 MINUTES WALK

A 10-minute walk through the side streets of the town brings you to Crouch Vale's Tap Room 19. This is a friendly tap room, adjacent to the Crouch Vale brewery. The bar staff are very knowledgeable about the excellent range of (up to six) Crouch Vale beers they serve straight from the casks in the climate-controlled cellar, which can be viewed through a window from the bar. Pleasant outdoor seating is provided on a wooden terrace at the front of the tap room.

19 HALTWHISTLE ROAD  
SOUTH WOODHAM  
FERRERS  
CM3 5ZA  
01245 322744



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Crouch Vale was founded in 1981 and is now the oldest established brewery in Essex. The brewery's flagship ale is Brewers Gold (4.0% ABV), which was the winner of the Champion Beer of Britain award at both the 2005 and 2006 Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Great British Beer Festivals. Seasonal beers are brewed. Bottled beers, some of which are bottle-conditioned, and polypins are available from the on-site brewery shop.

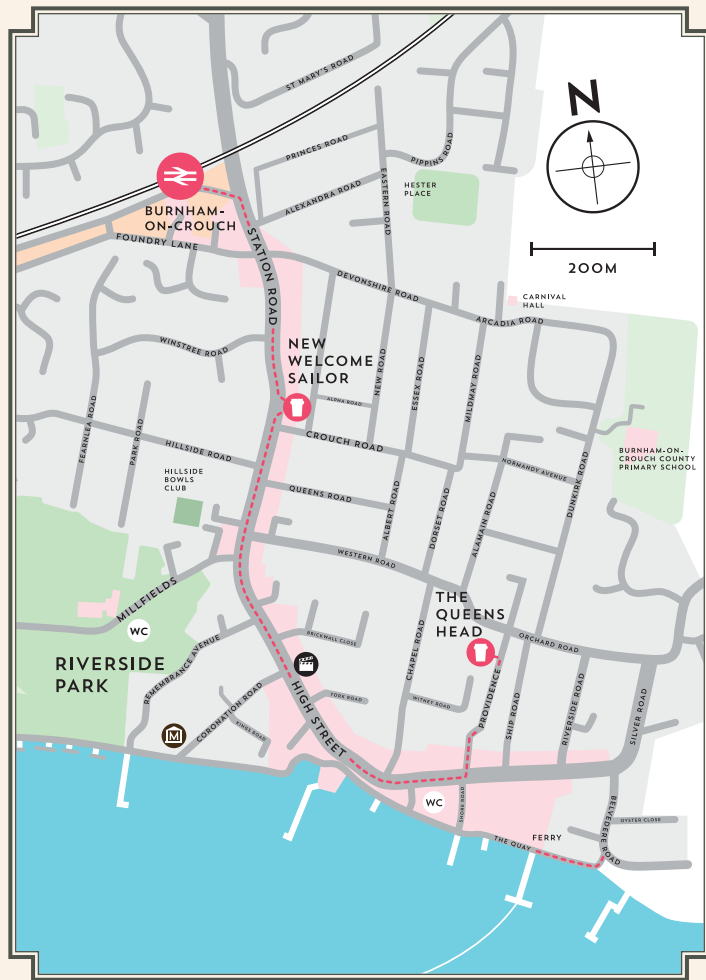
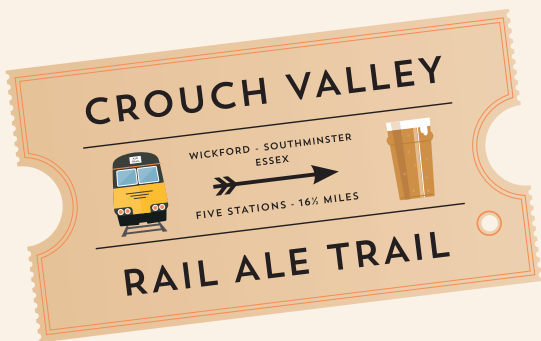
CROUCH VALLEY

· BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH ·

RAIL ALE TRAIL

STOP  
No.4

Burnham-on-Crouch is a small historic town situated on the banks of the River Crouch and is well known for its sailing connections. It is home to five sailing clubs. Along the Burnham quayside are many interesting features including moored houseboats, The Burnham & District Museum and the war memorial. There is a wealth of unusual shops together with hotels, pubs, cafés and restaurants.



TURN OVER FOR THE  
BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH PUBS



CROUCH VALLEY

• BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH •

RAIL ALE TRAIL



STOP  
No.4

## • NEW WELCOME SAILOR •

5 MINUTES WALK

The New Welcome Sailor is a short walk from the railway station. It is a comfortable, tidy and welcoming community local. Two or three real ales are usually on offer. The single-roomed pub offers a range of traditional games such as table skittles and shove-ha'penny; two darts teams play in the local league. There are several tables out front to watch the world go by. There is a small courtyard and spacious function room at the rear of the pub.

No food is served but snacks are available.

STATION ROAD  
BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH  
CMO 8HF  
01621 784778



PLEASE STAMP HERE

## • THE QUEEN'S HEAD •

15 MINUTES WALK

15 minutes walk away from the railway station and tucked down a quiet little lane off Burnham-on-Crouch's High Street you will find the Queen's Head. This is a busy, welcoming locals' pub. An interesting selection of well-kept beer is offered (usually four), plus a selection of ciders. There are no carpets here, just a basic, comfortable pub interior with a wood-fired stove and pool table. No food is served but snacks are available. The sheltered patio-style garden is a delightful place to spend time on a summer's day.

26 PROVIDENCE  
BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH  
CMO 8JU  
01621 784825



PLEASE STAMP HERE

• YOU COULD ALSO TRY •

OLDE WHITE HARTE, THE QUAY, CMO 8AS  
usually two real ales available

STAR INN, 29 HIGH STREET, CMO 8AG  
usually three real ales available

SHIP INN, 52 HIGH STREET, CMO 8AA  
usually three real ales available



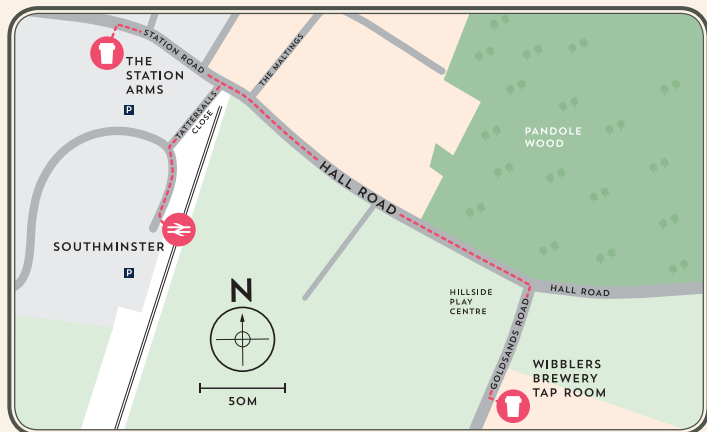
CROUCH VALLEY

## · SOUTHMINSTER ·

RAIL ALE TRAIL

STOP  
No. 5

Southminster has good local services, including a selection of pubs where local ales can be enjoyed. St Leonard's Church was enlarged in the sixteenth century; it is an imposing, heavily built church in cruciform structure, with a small tower housing the only peal of eight bells in the Dengie Peninsula. The Reverend Dr Alexander Scott (Rector 1803-1840) was Chaplain and Private Secretary to Lord Nelson and cradled the dying Admiral at the Battle of Trafalgar.



Wibblers Brewery was established in 2007. Seasonal and special beers are brewed, including Crafty Stoat (5.3% ABV), which won the CAMRA Champion Stout of Britain award in 2015. The brewery also makes a large range of ciders. Bottle-conditioned beers and polypins can be purchased direct from the brewery, and growlers can be filled in the tap room.

## · WIBBLERS BREWERY · TAPROOM & KITCHEN ·

5 MINUTES WALK

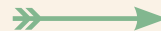
Turn right out of Southminster station and head for the countryside. You will soon come across the Wibblers Brewery Taproom and Kitchen. Adjacent to the restored medieval tithe barn housing the Wibblers brewery, this tap room stocks up to five real ales (and several craft keg beers and real ciders) produced "next door". The expanded bar is pleasantly furnished, with further seating available to the front of the building for those who enjoy their drinks al fresco in warmer weather. Meals are from locally-sourced products wherever possible.

GOLDSANDS ROAD  
SOUTHMINSTER  
CM0 7JW  
01621 772044



PLEASE STAMP HERE

TURN OVER FOR THE STATION ARMS SOUTHMINSTER





## ESSEX & SOUTH SUFFOLK COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP (ESSCRP)

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We were formed in 1998, with the aim to promote and encourage rail travel for residents and business users of the communities along our six branch lines, by way of regeneration, tourism, leisure and community development projects, to enable the communities to increase their economic, social and environmental welfare.

The lines included in the Partnership are:  
The Crouch Valley Line, The Mayflower Line,  
The Gainsborough Line, The Sunshine Coast Line,  
The Flitch Line and The Southend Line.

For further information [www.esscrp.org.uk](http://www.esscrp.org.uk)  
Facebook Essex & South Suffolk  
Community Rail Partnership



Working with Greater Anglia (GA) one of our key objectives is social inclusion and community engagement. This has become very successful through GA's Station Adoption initiative. If you would like to volunteer see contact below.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO  
IMPROVE THE LOOK OF  
YOUR LOCAL STATION?

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If you have a spare hour or so  
a week and are keen to use your  
green fingers please contact us

[stationadopters@greateranglia.co.uk](mailto:stationadopters@greateranglia.co.uk)  
07735 216593



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE



What is CAMRA? The Campaign for Real Ale is an independent, voluntary organisation campaigning for real ale, community pubs and consumer rights.

Maldon & Dengie CAMRA is one of the smallest national branches; small we might be, but we pack a big punch! Our aim is to encourage our local breweries to supply good ale, for landlords to keep it and sell it that way and for pub-goers to make good use of their locals and drink fine ales and ciders.

#### WHY NOT FIND OUT MORE?

[www.maldonanddengiecamra.org.uk](http://www.maldonanddengiecamra.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/groups/MADCAMRA](https://www.facebook.com/groups/MADCAMRA)

Membership Enquiries: [membership@maldonanddengie.camra.org.uk](mailto:membership@maldonanddengie.camra.org.uk)

THE CROUCH VALLEY RAIL ALE TRAIL  
IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE



Essex & South Suffolk  
Community Rail Partnership

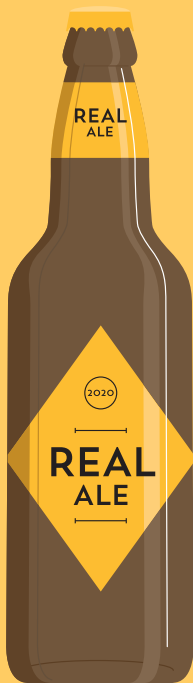


ENJOY RESPONSIBLY!

A VOYAGE OF REAL ALE DISCOVERY

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2020  
EDITION



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[WWW.VISITMALDONDISTRICT.CO.UK/RAILALETRAIL](http://WWW.VISITMALDONDISTRICT.CO.UK/RAILALETRAIL)