



Footsteps of Royalty & Romans

WHERE TOWN &
COUNTRY MEET



Explore
KENT

faversham.org/walking


FAVERSHAM
MARKET TOWN OF KINGS

FAVERSHAM - OSPRINGE - PAINTER'S FORSTAL - BROGDALE

“Everybody knows
Kent – apples,
cherries, hops, and
women”

Pickwick Papers

Where town & country meet

Home of nation's fruit



Brogdale Farm offers walkers a great opportunity to experience the beautiful Kent countryside, sample healthy local produce and visit the unique tourist attraction that is the National Fruit Collections.

Taste seasonal fruits, browse the shops and crafts in the Market Place, enjoy the restaurant's fine range of food and drink and join its year-round festivals and events. Brogdale's plant centre, Grow, offers popular and heritage fruit tree and plant varieties as well as expert advice.

The National Fruit Collections have more than 2,000 varieties of apples, 500 pears, 350 plums, 320 cherries and many bush fruits, nuts and vines.



Green Hairstreak butterfly



Take a healthy bite of Kent's farming history as you follow the Footsteps of Royalty and Romans through the heart of the Garden of England.

Home to the world's largest living library of fruit trees, Kent cider, and the national hop collection, this walk through Faversham offers seductive glimpses of England's rich and colourful farming past and insights into its growing future.

You'll pass stunning Victorian and Georgian buildings, a celebrated Royal 'stop-over', fine manor houses – one the dowry of English queens – and a hoppers' inn on your journey through town and country.

Your walk begins in the bustling brewery town of Faversham, the former capital of the Kingdom of Kent, where the area's regal history is never far away. King James II was detained here when trying to flee the country in 1688.

Surrounded by cafés and historic inns, you set out from Market Place, where street traders have been selling local produce for 900 years. Then, as you leave the town, you follow the lead of legionnaires as you cross the old Roman road into the Kent countryside beyond, where thatched cottages, oasts and orchards greet you.

At Ospringe you'll discover a former royal 'guesthouse' and cross the path of an ancient stream that used to run along Water Lane. Close by is the unique private hop collection retained by Faversham brewer Shepherd Neame, the oldest brewer in the country. More than 100 ancient varieties are grown here, providing an important gene bank for hop breeding programmes around the world.

Your next stop is Painter's Forstal – a village of fine manor houses and an ancient hop pickers' local, The Alma, where candles once shone from its windows to show weary hoppers the way. Today, it provides a welcome place to relax and enjoy local food and beers.

If you prefer cider, you've fallen on your feet in Painter's Forstal. Pawley Farm's cider is made to an age-old, secret family recipe, matured in the traditional way in oak casks. Its fruit juice is also a must - produced using local apples, from the sharp and tangy Bramley through to the sweeter, full-flavoured Cox.

Top fruit orchards surround Painter's Forstal, while the nearby woods bear Kentish nuts and blackberries. The woodlands between Painter's Forstal and Plumford are also a wilderness of wild flowers, including vetch, borage, primula, speedwell and the rare pyramidal orchid.

Then, it's on to Brogdale Farm – home to the family tree of fruit – whose unique collections comprise every known English fruit tree, totalling more than 4,000 varieties. These orchards play an unparalleled role in feeding the world's hunger for ever-better fruit varieties and flavours. You may be lucky enough to chance upon one of Brogdale's special events, celebrating the fruit and Kentish cobnuts produced in this important growing area at the heart of the North Kent Fruit Belt. An orchard tour is another way to explore these unrivalled collections.

Take time to visit the site's shops and its tearoom, which sells delicious home-made produce.

Your walk now takes you back into town, along the Mall with its grand houses, returning to Market Place, the focal point of Faversham's famous Hop Festival each September.

Whether it's rural tranquillity or urban activity – there's much to discover in and around the Market Town of Kings.



Step by step WALKING GUIDE

Planning Your Walk

Feel free to start your walk at any point: as this is a circular walk you'll always return to where you began.

Many sections of the walk end at a spot where you'll find a pub, restaurant or tearoom to help fortify you or provide a welcome treat once you've finished the whole route.

There are several places to leave your vehicle if you are arriving by car, including the Queen's Hall long-stay car park in Faversham near the railway station and a small area at the Alma pub in Painter's Forstal.

If not driving, you can take a train to Faversham.

There are public toilets in Faversham at the car park behind Market Place, and you can also use those at the various 'pub stops' en route.

Use our directory to find a list of local accommodation, food producers, retailers and restaurants. Also, check out the wealth of additional information at Faversham.org/walking.



Faversham Almshouses ...

CATHEDRAL OF PHILANTHROPY



These buildings on South Road are a particularly fine example of Victorian charity in action. Built in 1863, they are one of the largest almshouses in the country. On each side is a long range of dwellings, fronted by a gothic-style *loggia*; the dwellings were extensively modernised in 1982 and re-opened by HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. At their centre proudly stands a magnificent chapel, with colourful Arts and Crafts decoration and stained glass by Thomas Willement. Willement was one of the most important stained glass artists of the 19th century: he lived at nearby Davington Priory and is buried in the parish church there.

MARKET PLACE TO MAISON DIEU

A1. Your walk starts in Market Place in Faversham, where the stilted Guildhall is the focal point on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays for the market selling fresh fish, fruit and vegetables, flowers and local produce. Turn into West Street, passing Barkaways the butcher - famous for its seasonal Game Pie - and the historic Sun Inn.

A2. Turn left into South Road. On your right you will pass the Almshouses, built in 1863 and one of the largest in the country. Continue along South Road as it becomes Ospringe Road.

A3. Turn right into Ospringe Street - part of the old A2 - passing the Ship Inn on your right and cross the road at the pedestrian crossing, turning right and then left into Water Lane; so called because the Westbrook ran here until it was covered over in 1962. A short detour from here is a unique collection of historic hops, privately owned by Faversham's Shepherd Neame brewery. On either side as you enter Water Lane are two medieval buildings, the remains of the Maison Dieu - a former hospital, pilgrims' hostel and Royal 'stop over' between Dover and London.

MAISON DIEU TO PAINTER'S FORSTAL

B1. Walk along Water Lane, passing thatched houses on your right and Queen Court on your left - part of the endowment of the medieval queens of England. Also look out for locals with a passion for home-grown food at work on their allotments.

B2. Continue on to Ospringe Church. Follow the path through the churchyard to the right of the church to the gate in the corner and take the path directly ahead, towards the telegraph pole.

B3. Take the footpath leading left, following the line of telegraph poles through the field. Go through the gate at the end of the field and follow the path ahead.

B4. On reaching the road turn right and almost immediately left, crossing the bridge over the M2 into Painter's Forstal Road. As you walk you'll see the Old House on your right - once the parish workhouse - opposite the oast houses. A little further on, on your left, you'll pass Lorenden manor, now a preparatory school. Opposite is Pawley Farm, where traditional Kentish cider is made to an age-old family recipe from apples grown on the farm and matured in oak casks. If you're lucky, you may find a member of the family to talk you through the cider-making process. The farm also produces fresh apple juice.

B5. Continue to Painter's Forstal. Among the first buildings on your right is the old school. Beside it is a lane worth investigating; here you'll discover Bayfield, an early 17th century building, and Painter's, another old manor house, which gave its name to the village ("forstal" means the place in front of a farm).

When you arrive at the village green, keep to the left and pass The Alma pub - once a hop pickers' local and now with an excellent choice of food and drink.



PAINTER'S FORSTAL TO BROGDALE

C1. Continue past the Alma towards Champion Hall ahead of you. Take the footpath leading alongside the left of the hall and follow this downhill until you reach the road.



“Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I’d still plant my apple tree..”

Martin Luther

Macknade Fine Foods



Macknade Fine Foods is the ultimate local food shop, stocking essentials and delicious extras to give a comprehensive culinary experience.

The success of the shop lies in its vast range of products and friendly, personable service.

Walk into the store and feast your eyes on the fabulous range of products, from local fruit and vegetables to exotic mangoes and pineapples, as well as its fantastic delicatessen and groceries from near and far.

The West Street shop complements Macknade Fine Foods’ flagship foodhall at Selling Road on the edge of town. Both are members of Faversham Rewards loyalty card scheme.

Awards include Produced in Kent’s Best Local Food Retailer 2009.

C2. Turn left and then take the footpath that leads to the right after the three white houses on your right. Climb the stile by a bridge over a stream bed and take the footpath leading diagonally right across the field towards the trees in the distance.

C3. Cross a second stile and then keep on this path, with the fence line on your right. You join a larger track; turn right and follow it downhill. You will soon be walking along the left of an open field with the fence line on your left.

C4. Continue on until the path turns left into woods. Keep on this track.

C5. Take the footpath on your left, turning uphill to the field at the top. Turn right and follow the edge of the wood, with Square Wood ahead of you.

C6. At the corner of the field walk into the next one and continue ahead, with Square Wood on your left. At the end of the field take the path between tall hedges bordering orchards on both sides until you reach Plumford Road. Turn left and follow the road past Plumford Farm. Follow the road downhill until it starts to bend sharp left.

C7. Go through the gap in the verge in front of you and follow the path through the orchard, initially keeping the hedge to your right. Then cross the second orchard towards a gap in the hedge on the far side.

C8. Take care crossing the narrow lane. Follow the enclosed path opposite to Brogdale Road.

C9. Turn right here, watching the road as you emerge.

Walk along until you reach Brogdale Farm on your right – the unique collections comprise every living English fruit tree, with nearly 4,000 varieties. Its orchards also produce Kentish cobnuts, strawberries and quinces. Take time to visit the collections and the tearoom, which sells delicious home-made produce.

BROGDALE TO MARKET PLACE

D1. Walk along Brogdale Road and cross the bridge over the M2.

D2. After about 250 yards take the footpath leading directly across the field on your right (there’s a bridleway to the left) to the hedge, then turn left behind it. Keep on this path, passing Perry Court on your left until you reach the A2. Perry Court farmhouse stands on the site of an ancient manor house recorded in the Domesday Book when it belonged to Odo, William the Conqueror’s half-brother.

D3. Cross the A2 using the footbridge and turn right.

D4. Take the second turning left into The Mall. Continue on, passing the Elephant pub on your right - a great place to enjoy a glass of real ale.

D5. At the end of the road take the subway to Preston Street, with the Railway Hotel and Provenance Restaurant on your right. Continue down Preston Street, past the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre and Tourist Information Centre run by the Faversham Society.

D6. At the end of Preston Street turn left to return to Market Place. While you are here use the opportunity to visit its pubs, cafés, restaurants and specialist food shops and try the local beer, produced just 200 yards away by Britain’s oldest brewer Shepherd Neame.

Royal Peal of Bells ...

OSPRINGE CHURCH



Dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, this imposing building was much restored and extended in the 19th century, but dates from the Middle Ages.

The tower’s Germanic ‘saddleback’ roof replaced an earlier, grander bell-tower that collapsed in 1695 while the bells were being rung to mark the passing of King William III through the village.

Since it was a tradition for bells to be rung when the monarch was passing, and as Ospringe stands on the London to Dover road, the bells had to be rung quite frequently – so perhaps it’s no surprise that the original bell tower simply gave up!

Artefacts on display at Maison Dieu





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English Heritage
 Public house
 Telephone
 Place of worship
 Other tourist feature
 Stile
 Gate
 Refreshments

0 0.5 1
 Kilometres
 0 0.5
 Miles

Walk Overview

Distance: 6.25 miles (10 km); 3 hrs (no stops)
Fitness level: Suitable for all fitness levels (mostly flat)
Toilets: Public toilets in Faversham town centre car park
Refreshments: Restaurants and pubs en route

Transport: Mainline railway station at Faversham
www.traveline.org.uk
Pay phones: Faversham town centre, Painter's Forstal
Parking: The Alma, Painters Forstal. Queen's Hall long-term car park near Faversham railway station
Map: OS Explorer 149

Directory of local businesses

FOOD, DRINK AND PRODUCE

A J Barkaway Butcher, Faversham ME13 7JE
01795 532040. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Lamberhurst Farm Dairy,
Dargate ME13 9ES 01227 751741
[www.cheesemakersofcanterbury.co.uk](#)
Grow, Brogdale Farm ME13 8XZ
01795 531888. [www.brogdaleonline.co.uk](#)
Macknade Fine Foods, Faversham ME13 7JE
01795 534497/53737. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Moor Organics, Deerton Street ME9 9LJ
01795 521341. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Pine Trees Juice, Doddington ME9 0AX
01795 886266. [www.pinetreesfarm.co.uk](#)
Seasalter Lamb, Eastling ME13 0BD
07891 004474. [www.seasalterlamb.co.uk](#)
Snod Farm, Otterden ME13 0DB
01795 890700. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
SW Doughty Butcher, Doddington ME9 0BH
01795 886255. Find us on [faversham.org](#)

PUBS AND RESTAURANTS

Albion Taverna, Faversham ME13 7DH
01795 591411. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Anchor Inn and Crabshack,
Faversham ME13 7BP 01795 536471
Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Ardennes Restaurant, Faversham ME13 7JB
01795 590008. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Black Lion, Lynsted ME9 0RJ
01795 521229.
Courtyard Restaurant,
Brogdale Farm ME13 8XZ
01795 530013. [www.courtyard-restaurant.co.uk](#)
Elephant, Faversham ME13 7JN
01795 590157. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
George Inn, Newnham ME9 0LL
01795 890237.
Osteria Posillipo, Faversham ME13 7LD
01795 590580. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Phoenix Tavern, Faversham ME13 7BH
01795 591462. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Plough, Stalisfield Green ME13 0HY
01795 890256. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Plough Inn,
Lewson Street ME9 9JJ 01795 521348
Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Provenance, Faversham ME13 8PE
01795 539508. Find us on [faversham.org](#)

Read's, Faversham ME13 8XE
01795 535344. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Rose and Crown, Perry Wood ME13 9RY
01227 752214. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Shipwrights' Arms, Hollowshore ME13 7TU
01795 590088.
Spice Lounge, Faversham ME13 8NU
01795 533322. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Sun Inn, Faversham ME13 7JE
01795 535098. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Three Horseshoes, Hernhill ME13 9AX
01227 750842. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
White Horse Inn, Boughton ME13 9AX
01227 751343. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
White Lion, Selling ME13 9RQ
01227 752211. [www.thewhitelion-selling.com](#)
Woodrose Restaurant, Hernhill ME13 9TX
01227 751168. Find us on [faversham.org](#)

ATTRACTIONS

Beech Court Gardens, Challock TN25 4DJ
01223 740735. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Belmont House, Throwley ME13 0HH
01795 890202. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Brogdale Farm, Ospringe ME13 8XZ
01795 536250. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Doddington Place, Doddington ME9 0BB
01795 886101. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Farming World, Boughton ME13 9SP
01227 751144. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Fleur Museum, Faversham ME13 8NY
01795 534542. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Faversham Swimming Pools, ME13 8PW
01795 532426. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Sailing Barge Greta, Standard Quay, Faversham
07711 657919. [www.greta1892.co.uk](#)
Mount Ephraim Gardens, Hernhill ME13 9TX
01227 751496. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
St Mary of Charity Church,
Faversham ME13 8JZ
01795 530599. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Shepherd Neame Brewery Tours,
Faversham ME13 7AX
01795 542016. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Shrine of St Jude, Faversham ME13 7SE
01795 539214. Find us on [faversham.org](#)

ACCOMMODATION

Barnsfield, Fostal ME13 9JG
01227 750973. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Black Lion, Lynsted ME9 0RJ
01795 521229. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Brenley Farm House, Boughton ME13 9LY
01227 751203. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Church Oast, Hernhill ME13 9JW
01227 750974. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Cot-Hoy, Buckland ME13 0TP
01795 535616. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Court Lodge, Oare ME13 0QB
01795 591543. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Fairlea, Faversham ME13 8NH
01795 539610. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Frith Farm Cottages, Otterden ME13 0DD
01795 890701. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Gladstone House, Faversham ME13 8DZ
01795 536432. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Judd's Folly Hotel, Ospringe ME13 0RH
01795 591818. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Leaveland Court, Leaveland ME13 0NP
01233 740596. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
March Cottage, Faversham ME13 8NH
01795 536514. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Old Vicarage, Doddington ME9 0BD
01795 886136. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Painter's Farm Caravan Camping Site,
Painter's Forstal ME13 0EG 01795 532995
Palace Farm, Doddington ME9 0AU
01795 886200. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Railway Hotel, Faversham ME13 8PE
01795 533173. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Read's, Faversham ME13 8XE
01795 535344. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Sandhurst Farm, Newnham ME9 0NE
01795 886854. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Sun Inn, Faversham ME13 7JE
01795 535098. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Syndale Lodge, Faversham ME13 0RH
01795 531488. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Tenterden House, Boughton ME13 0RH
01227 751593. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
Uplees Farm, Uplees ME13 0QR
01795 532133. Find us on [faversham.org](#)
White Horse Inn, Boughton. ME13 9AX
01227 751343. Find us on [faversham.org](#)

Food Trails in this series

- Footsteps of Royalty & Romans (Faversham – Ospringe – Painter's Forstal – Brogdale)
- A Walk on the Wild Side (Faversham – Davington – Oare – Luddenham)
- Syndale Valley Walk (Newnham – Eastling – Stalisfield – Doddington)
- The Peasants' Last Revolt (Boughton – Hernhill – Dargate – Dunkirk)
- The Two Creeks Walk (Faversham – Thorn Creek – Davington – Oare)
- First Fruit (Teynham – Conyer – Lewson Street – Lynsted)
- Earth, Wind and Water (Faversham – Goodnestone – Graveney – Seasalter)
- A Land for All Seasons (Sheldwich – Selling – Perry Wood – Badlesmere)

A Faversham Enterprise Partnership project, working in collaboration with Faversham Area Tourism Association

The Countryside Code

Respect – Protect – Enjoy

If you follow the Countryside Code wherever you go, you will enjoy walking in Kent and help protect the countryside now and for future generations.

Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs. Leave gates and property as you find them. Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home. Keep dogs under close control. Consider other people.

For further information please visit [www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk](#) or Tel: 08451 003298

Remember to always follow the Highway Code.



For walking information: go to [faversham.org/walking](#) Telephone: 01795 534542

Visit: Tourist Information Centre, Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre, 10-13 Preston Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8NS

