

Start/finish grid reference:

★ TL 444 57318

Bridge on High Street/The Boot, Aldreth

Distance: 1.8 miles

Time: 45 minutes



Aldreth

Walk in the footsteps of William the Conqueror to explore the Aldreth Causeway and surrounding fenland.



Find out how to become a volunteer

How many bird songs can you hear?



For help with identification see the [RSPB](#)

Be aware!



Livestock may be along the river on this route.

[Safety advice for walking near livestock](#)



Aldreth Causeway

Church Fen

River Great Ouse



Enjoy a walk around Nine Acre wood. The wood was planted by the local community in 1995 and is managed by the [Woodland Trust](#).

Can you spot any boats?



Haddenham Engine

Option: Turn right before the bridge to follow Rothschild Way along the Old West

Photo point!

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I-spy: Cuckoo



A summer visitor arriving from Africa. They lay their eggs in other birds' nests, fooling them into raising their young. They are classified as globally threatened. See [The Wildlife Trusts](#).

I-spy: Common Buzzard



The species had disappeared from most of the country by the mid-20th century. Legal protection and a reduction in pesticides has allowed numbers to more than quadruple since 1970. See [Woodland Trust](#).

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Aldreth Causeway

An ancient road between Cambridge and the Isle of Ely. This route is believed to have been used by William the Conqueror. A wooden causeway was created here but this sank under the weight of the armor and chainmail. With the help of monks, William the Conqueror made it to Ely and captured the Saxon leader Hereward the Wake in 1071.

Haddenham Engine

One of over 70 steam-powered pumping stations installed in the 19th century. These engines were very important and used to drain the Fens allowing agriculture to flourish. Today it is used as a store with electric pumps.



Rothschild Way

Named after Nathaniel Charles Rothschild (1877-1923). Rothschild was a pioneer of nature conservation and created the near-by Wicken Fen, Britain's first nature reserve in 1899. See [BCN Wildlife Trusts](#) and [The National Trust](#).