


Walk 100: Cottered S Loop

 hertfordshirewalker.uk/2020/06/walk-100-cottered-s-loop.html

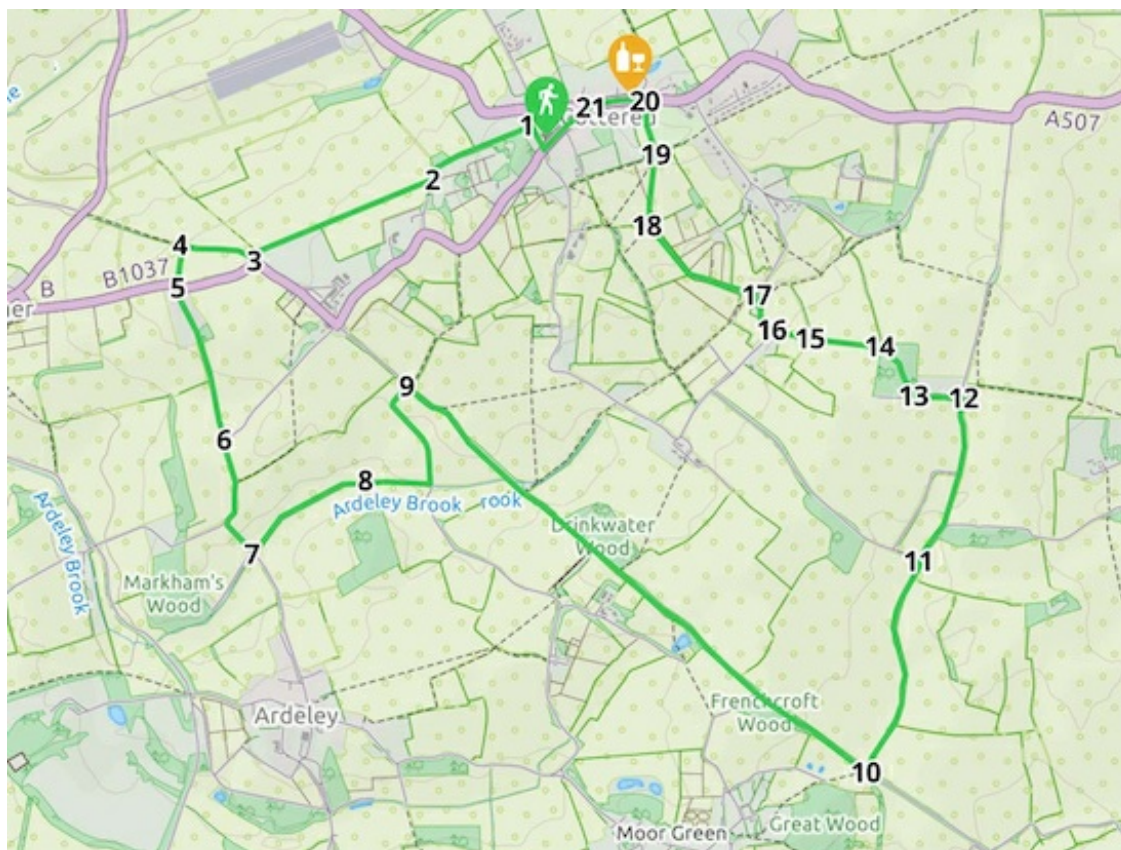
A windmill, Roman road, and wide open views

6 miles (9.6 km)



This is a pleasant undulating walk through some superb north Hertfordshire countryside. Most of it is along well-marked footpaths and byways, with some walking along quiet country lanes. There is a 2km stretch along a Roman road. The route passes [Cromer windmill](#) which is thought to have been built between 1192 and 1222.

Directions



Map for Walk 100: Cottered S Loop

Created on [Map Hub](#) by Hertfordshire Walker

Elements © Thunderforest © OpenStreetMap contributors

Note: There is a larger, more-detailed map embedded at the end of these directions

Park in Cottered village after checking for any restrictions. We found a spot alongside the church on Warren Lane.

1: From Warren Lane take Cottered footpath 26 which heads SW for 410m.



The footpath at the start of the walk, mentioned in point 1 above
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2: Shortly after a wooden bridge take the footpath on your right, still Cottered footpath 26. There is a bench here by the marker. Head SW across the fields heading for the windmill in the distance.



The footpath mentioned in point 2 above

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3: When you reach the B1037, turn right and take Ardeley footpath 49 following it NW and W for 273m until you reach a track on the left leading to the windmill.



The windmill viewed from Ardeley footpath 49

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- 4:** Turn left on this track and follow it up to the B1037.
- 5:** Cross the B1037 and head SSE down the lane directly opposite. Continue down this quiet lane for 580m until you meet Blind Lane.
- 6:** Turn right and follow the lane S for 440m until you reach a footpath on the left just before a bridge over Ardeley Brook. This is Ardeley footpath 36.



Ardeley footpath 36 and the bridge mentioned in point 6 above
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7: Turn left on this path and follow it NE along the N side of Ardeley Brook.



The oak tree on Ardeley footpath 36 mentioned in point 8 below
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8: After 460m and at a point just past an oak tree, there is a marker pointing left across the fields. We intended to take this path, but on the day we walked this route the path had been covered by crops and we decided not to damage what was growing, but, instead to continue heading E along the track before following it as it bends left and uphill heading N before bending to the right and meeting Ardeley BOAT (byway open to

all traffic) 10.



Ardeley BOAT 10 mentioned in points 8 above and 9 below

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9: Turn right on Ardeley BOAT 10, a Roman road, and head SE for 2.1km. Along the way you will cross a small ford with two benches on the right.



A ford and a footbridge on Ardeley BOAT 10 mentioned in point 9 above
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The second ford and a footbridge on Ardeley BOAT 10 mentioned in point 10 below
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10: After crossing the second ford, pictured above, turn left and take Cottered BOAT 47 and follow it NE for 780m to the point where the BOAT bends to the left and you reach a footpath, Cottered footpath 29, heading off to the right.



Cottered footpath 29 mentioned in point 10 above

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11: Take this path and head NNE with the field on your left and hedgerow on your right for 600m until you reach a footpath junction.

12: Turn left on Cottered footpath 18 and head W for 170m looking out for a gap in the hedge on the right leading to a footbridge, which in turn leads into the woods.



The footpath and footbridge leading to the woods, mentioned in point 12 above
Image by Hertfordshire Walker released via [Creative Commons BY-NC-SA 4.0](#)

13: Turn right on this path, cross the footbridge and walk diagonally NW through the woods until you reach a wooden bridge leading to an open field.



The footbridge leading to the open field, mentioned in point 13 above
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14: At this point your way is straight ahead, indicated by signs on the bridge and on a marker, but when we walked this the field had recently been ploughed and the path wasn't clear. Using our [Ordnance Survey mobile app](#) we were able to use GPS to follow the path W across the field for 260m to the hedgerow on the opposite side. For those without an app you should be heading for a gap in the hedge to the left of a tree

and to the right of a fence (see image below).



Cross the field and head for the gap in the hedge mentioned in point 14 above

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15: Continue along this footpath, still Cottered footpath 18, for 130m until you reach a track.

16: Turn right and head NW, walk past a cottage on the left called The Place, cross a footbridge and look out for a footpath, Cottered footpath 10, on your left 10m after the bridge.



Cottered footpath 10 just after the footbridge, mentioned in point 16 above

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17: Take this path, cross a footbridge, and go through a gate. Once through the gate, keep to the right, with the hedgerow on the right and the field on your left, and continue to the end of the field where you will reach a gate. At the end of the woodlands go through another gate and continue into the next field keeping the hedgerow on your right and the field on your left.



The footpath mentioned in point 17 above

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18: After the next gate you cut diagonally NNE across two fields for 260m until you reach a gate and a footpath junction.

19: Go through the gate and head N along Cottered footpath 10 until you reach the A507.

20: Cross the road and turn left walking W, past The Bull pub, looking out for the B1037 on the left.

21: Cross the road and take the B1037 back to the spot where you parked.

Interactive Map

Tips for getting the most out of this site

We have a [walking tips](#) page with some suggestions for what you should take on our walks, the recommended maps you should carry, how to print the directions without destroying too many trees, and how to comment and share your experiences for the benefit of other walkers. We want this to be a mutually-beneficial community project with everyone being able to contribute.
