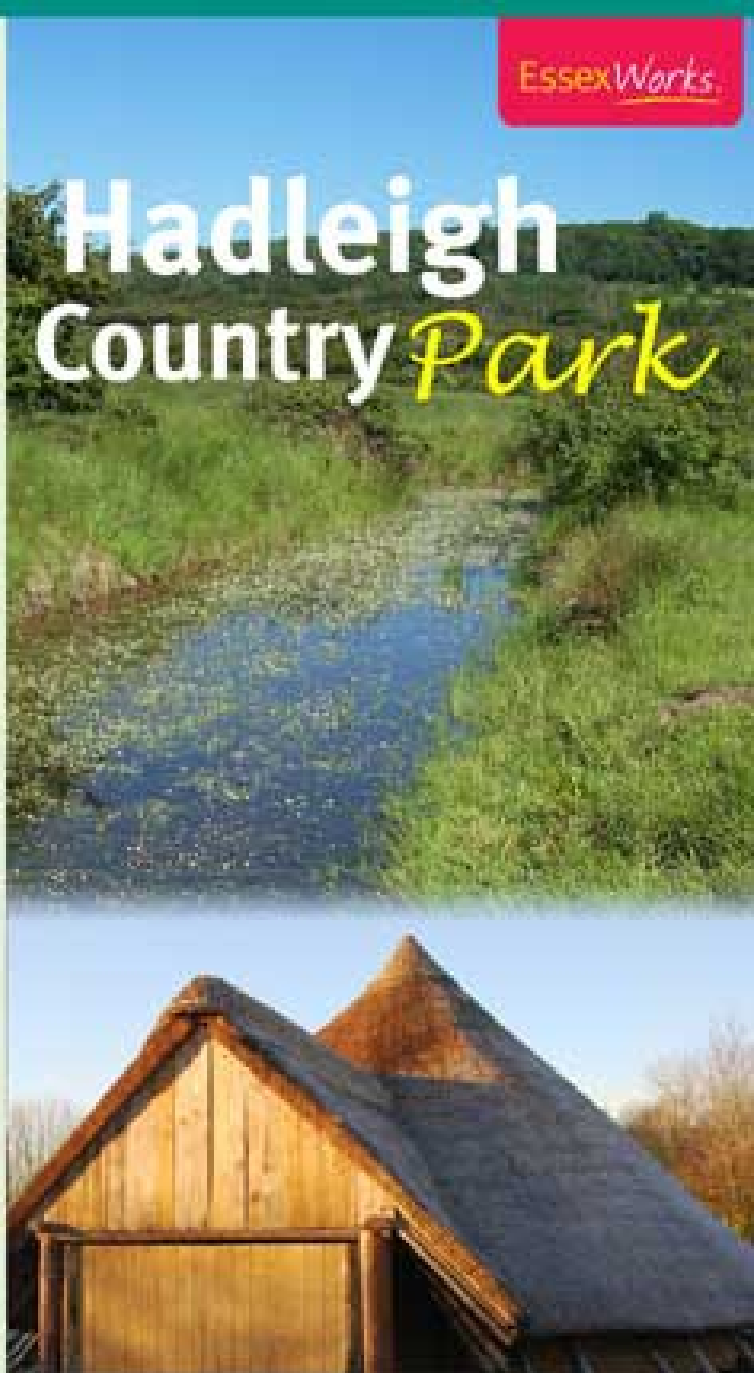


# Hadleigh Country Park



Country Parks - Discover our parks and open spaces

## How to find us

**By road:** The main car park can be found at the bottom of Chapel Lane, which is off the A13 in Hadleigh opposite Morrisons supermarket. Follow the brown signs from the A127 Rayleigh Weir. Car parking charges apply.

**By bus:** For bus routes and timetables phone Essex Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

**By rail:** Closest station is Benfleet on the C2C service from Shoeburyness to Fenchurch Street. All trains stop at Benfleet.

Timetable enquiries phone 08457 484950 or visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

## Enquiries:

Telephone: 01702 551072

Website: [www.hadleighcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.hadleighcountrypark.co.uk)

Email: [hadleigh.cp@essex.gov.uk](mailto:hadleigh.cp@essex.gov.uk)

Salvation Army Rare Breeds Centre: 01702 558550  
[www.hadleighfarm.co.uk](http://www.hadleighfarm.co.uk)



Hadleigh Country Park is jointly owned by Essex County Council and Castle Point Borough Council. The park is managed by Essex County Council's Country Parks Rangers.

## Events

The rangers host many events throughout the year. It could be a storytelling evening in the roundhouse, a glow worm hunt or children's activity day in summer. Details of all the parks events are shown on our website at [www.hadleighcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.hadleighcountrypark.co.uk).

## Groups and Activities

Hadleigh Country Park is a great place to bring a group of people for a ranger-led activity. If your group would like to go for a guided walk, have a tour of the roundhouse or go on a minibeast hunt, then contact the Rangers. For a full list of activities please visit our website.

## Education

Hadleigh Country Park offers a wide range of activities specifically designed to meet national curriculum subjects. A replica Iron Age roundhouse and a mock archaeological dig offers a fantastic setting to cover subject areas about the Ancient Britons and Romans.

The variety of habitats at the country park makes it a wonderful place for environmental education. Activities include looking at mini beasts, pond life and sensory walks full of hands on experiences.

Information for all of our education packages can be found on our website.



# Welcome

Hadleigh Country Park is one of the largest parks in Essex. Whether you want to explore on foot, bike or horse, this leaflet will help you discover more about where to go and what you can see.

## Hadleigh Castle

Hadleigh Castle, an impressive ruin of a fortress built over 700 years ago, is a 15 minute walk from the Country Park. The Salvation Army Farm, close to the castle, has a tea room, toilets and rare breeds centre.



## Park and People

Whatever the weather there is always plenty to do at the park. In spring, the bluebells, archangel and celandine put on a magnificent display, while summer sees the meadows in bloom with scores of butterflies drifting over, making an ideal spot for a picnic. In autumn, the blackberries and sloes are a great attraction and winter brings large flocks of birds to the estuary as well as a chance of going sledging!



## From Leigh or Benfleet

Why not take a walk along the seawall between Leigh and Benfleet. Have a pub lunch and then return by train to your starting point.

## From Chapel Lane

Follow the attractive waymarked trails from Chapel Lane and take in some of the best views in Essex. Where else in the county are Kent, Canvey, Southend Pier, Canary Wharf and the Dartford Bridge all visible from the same place?

## Birds and Butterflies

The mix of scrub, grassland and woodland provides many places for plants and animals to live in the park. You will find lots of interesting wildlife on your visit; a kestrel hovering high above, a flock of geese feeding on the marshes, and if you listen carefully, you may hear the 'laughing' call of a green woodpecker.

In the summer, the park is one of the places in Essex to see butterflies, which like to bask on the sunny, south-facing slopes. Dragonflies and damselflies dart around the ditches and ponds on the marshes.

If you look carefully and walk quietly, you may be lucky enough to see a lizard or snake.



## Iron Age Roundhouse

This impressive building, situated in Chapel Lane car park, was completed in 2007. Built by the Ranger Service staff from timber sourced from Essex, this building is the centre for the park's educational programme about life in the Iron Age. It is fitted out internally as a Chieftan's house with fire pit, private quarters and kitchen area. The roundhouse is open regularly please see our website for more information.

