

Pleshey Retreat House to Chelmsford Cathedral (8.2 miles approx.)

Key: CONT = continue; EP Enclosed Path; FB = Footbridge (normally wooden); FC = Field Corner; FPS = footpath sign (or bridleway) sign; FSD = For Some Distance; Imm = Immediately; KG = Kissing Gate; L = left; R = right; TL = turn left; TJ = T-Junction; TR = turn right; RD = Road; ST = stile; TK = Track; THRU = through; WM = waymark; X = cross over. All distances are approximate.

Start: From Retreat House **TR** and follow main road through Pleshey village (ignore L RD turns) for 850M to reach Anglia Water metal gate, on your **R**, just past 'Mount House'. Go up to gate and **TL** following extremely close by fence then ditch (on your **L**) continue for 450M passing wooden **FB**, **X** ditch on earth bridge, at Essex Way **WM** immediately **TR**, ditch now on your **R**, and **CONT** in same direction ahead on field edges for 1000M (crossing **FB**) until concrete bridge crosses ditch.

1M: **TL** for 50m towards reservoir, **TR** at bottom of reservoir bank following **TK** along bottom of bank. Bear **L** (with reservoir bank) for very short distance then **TR** & **CONT** on **TK** with ditch and then also hedge on your **L**. Follow this **TK** for 450m until just before next reservoir on right. **TR** off main **TK** at **WM** for 50m and **CONT** following on **TK** as it bears **L**. Follow **TK** (bank on **L**, ditch on **R**) for 200M to **RD**. **X RD** to (Essex Way) **MP** and **CONT** ahead, hedge on your **L**, for 800m (ignoring path to **L**) to reach **RD** (Great Waltham).

2M: **X RD**, **TR** along path leading into Great Waltham. Pass Church on **L**, carry on out through Great Waltham, continue & pass stone cross memorial, **CONT** & pass 40 mile signs, **CONT** & pass Rose & Crown on **L**. Just past house named WindMill (on right) look out for **FPS** in left hedge, **TL** through gap in hedge. Bear right **aX** field towards concrete pillar box. **X** earth bridge, continue **aX** field,

3M: **XFB**, up steps to road. **X RD**, down steps, **X FB** and bear **R** on foot path which leads between two houses and at **RD TL**. **CONT** on path, over road bridge, then immediately **X RD** (just before Winckford Close on right). At **FPS** follow footpath (with side road on your left.) **THRU** Gate into **EP**. At field bear **R** towards red dog bin, go through hedge **TR** at **MP**. **TL** over **FB**. Follow footpath (with fence on left) to **KG**. **CONT** ahead and follow footpath with river on right. **XFB**, **THRU KG** and **CONT** 20m **TR** and **CONT** along lower path **THRU** large hedge gap, bear **L** on path **THRU** large hedge gap, **CONT** on path to **FC**.

4M: At **KG Imm TR** (10m), go **THRU** next **KG**, **TL** along path, **CONT THRU** gate to **KG**, over wooden bridge and **Imm TR** (Keep to lower path along with river). **X FB** at Nature Reserve sign, bear **R** along path. Over **X FB** and **CONT** on path in same direction, path bears **R** into next field and goes close to the river along a row of distinctive trees. In field corner **TL** following path away from river.

5M: Path will bear **R** (still with hedge on your **R**) follow path into **FC**, through gap in hedge to side **RD**. **TR** along road, **X** two road bridges to white house (Lady Hope) on **L**. **Imm TL** at **FPS** into **EP** (house directly on **L**). **X EB**, **X** field to **TK**. Continue in same direction **aX** to **MP** (with white top). Continue with Hedge on **R**, though to next field with hedge on **R**, through **EP** continue to **RD**. **TL** (Broomfield Road), pass The Angel pub,

6M: **X** several side roads, to main **RD** Traffic lights. **TL** (into Valley Bridge road), **X** side **RD**, **X** main **RD** just before road bridge, and go through two gates leading onto path with river on **L**. At **FB** on **L**, up steps **TL**. **CONT** on path with river on **R**.

7M: **TR** at path leading to bridge over river and **Imm TL** with river on **L** and University on **R**. **CONT** on path away from river to Roundabout, straight across roundabout. Continue straight to main roundabout, straight across roundabout. **X RD**. (At this point you can continue straight on New Street back under railway bridge, across traffic lights, to Cathedral)

Or **TR** into Bishop Road, at **TJ TL**, at **TJ TR**, **THRU** bollards, **TR** then **Imm TL**. Follow **RD** and **X** side **RD** continue **TL** (Town Field Street).

8M: **X RD** and **Imm TR** along footpath on the side of the multi storey carpark. **CONT** under bridge and under Railway arch. At main **RD TR**, **TL** at pedestrian crossing, **TR** then **TL** along Duke Street, **TL** into Cathedral.