

FARM STAY EAST ANGLIA

A DAY OUT AROUND ALDEBURGH AND SNAPE

Leave the A12 at FARNHAM and take the A1094. A detour to SNAPE is very worthwhile. It is famous, of course because of Benjamin Britten and the Aldeburgh Festival, but the Maltings themselves have been converted into a wonderful complex. You are on the river Alde and there are short BOAT TRIPS when the tide allows, but there are also CRAFT AND ANTIQUE SHOPS, art galleries, wine bars, tea shops and THREE PUBS as well as the CONCERT HALL. They have just enlarged their kitchen and the garden shop is quite something!

Return to the A1094 and proceed to ALDEBURGH, a delightful Victorian seaside town, virtually unchanged from the days at the beginning of the last century when the “posh people” came here for sea bathing. Stroll along Crag Path on balmy summer days, or even on invigorating winter ones, visit THE MOOT HALL or Town Steps, or walk down to the Slaughden end and see the MARTELLO TOWER, restored and used by the Landmark Trust. Aldeburgh is a good centre for music and art. Benjamin Britten lived and died here and you will find a beautiful window in THE CHURCH dedicated to his memory.

Good places to eat: PREZZO'S REGATTA, 152 WINE BAR and THE LIGHTHOUSE.

Wander along the sea road north to THORPENESS, passing THE SCALLOP, an interesting sculpture by Maggi Hambling. Thorpeness is a holiday village by the Ogilvie family. There is a row of holiday bungalows along the back of the beach, THE MERE is behind, where you can mess about in boats to your heart's content. The House in the Clouds is a well-known landmark, and you may visit the Windmill beside it. THE GALLERY COFFEE SHOP and CRAFT SHOP will offer you refreshment.

Leave Thorpeness on the B1353 to ALDRINGHAM, where you will find THE PARROT AND PUNCHBOWL, a good stopping place for the hungry and thirsty.

LEISTON is just up the road and, although an industrial town and not one of our county's beauty spots, it has a very interesting Museum, THE LONG SHOP. Leiston was the home of Garretts, famous steam engine makers, and the museum shows this off very well. SIZEWELL POWER STATION is a mile down the road with interesting walks along the beach and Sandlings Heathland.

The B1122 will take you back to the A12, a little north of where you started.

