

British Canoeing East Region Touring Event Felixstowe to Woodbridge on the River Deben 20th May 2018, 10:00am



The Deben is a river in Suffolk, flowing through Woodbridge. Whilst the inland river is small and pleasant, it is the estuary which is famous as a place to go canoeing or kayaking.

The length of the estuary makes for a nice days paddle, using the tides to get from one end to the other. Obviously, canoeists need to be aware of the tide, currents and wind that may be found on the estuary and have enough experience to deal with them.

This will be a one-way paddle using the incoming tide to help you up the beautiful Deben estuary. On a nice day, the sounds of birds will always be with you, curlews, oyster catchers and gulls. Occasionally a seal will check you out if you're lucky.

This is a tidal paddle, and as such can be very serious. Wind and tide do funny things and this is one of those places which always feels windy. Some experience is required.

More Details: <http://www.paddlepoints.net/PaddlePoints.aspx?PaddlePointId=1074>

This Paddle is organised by The Deben Canoe Club for clubs within the Region. Once on the water, the Clubs will be responsible for their paddlers and will be expected to provide their own On Water Leaders as if it was one of their normal club trips.

- Organising Club: Deben Canoe Club - <http://www.debencanoecub.org.uk/>
- Distance: Approx 8 Miles
- Access/Licensing: The River Deben is tidal so no river licence is required. Access is available at Bawdsey Quay (Opposite Felixstowe Ferry) and Woodbridge steps (by the Band Stand) at mid to high water.
- Parking Fees: £2.50 for the day at Woodbridge (Where most cars will be left). There are no charges at Bawdsey Quay.
- Changing/Toilets: There are public toilets both ends. The Deben Watersports Centre can be used for changing at the finish, as long as the groups arrive with a DCC Coach.
- Hazards: The Deben is a tidal estuary river and so there is limited access due to mudflats and saltings. At high tide the river can be wide and exposed to the wind. In May there will also be some river traffic although almost all will be pleasure craft. High Water: 4:46pm
- Equipment: Please bring normal equipment for a day on the river. There are two pubs on the way (Ramsholt Arms and Waldringfield Maybush) but a packed lunch is recommended.
- Meet: Bawdsey Quay (IP12 3AU) by 10:00am, ready to commence a car shuttle. <http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?x=633180&y=237888>
- Finish: Woodbridge by 4:00pm – The Avenue Car Park (IP12 4BB). https://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/carpark/the_avenue/ip12/woodbridge

Notes:

- This paddle is open to all Clubs in the East Region. Please inform the organiser in advance to confirm attendance and so they can keep you informed if conditions change etc.
- This can be quite a challenging paddle. Please ensure your paddlers are likely to be capable of the trip. Generally 2* Level, or 2 seasons paddling would be expected, but the ultimate decision lies with the attending clubs and their On Water leader(s).
- Touring Boats, Sea Boats, General Purpose Boats and Open Canoes are appropriate for this trip. Short play boats are not really appropriate and will be hard work to paddle this distance.

Organiser: Tim Midwinter. Please contact through Deben Canoe Club in the first instance at info@debencanoecub.org.uk.