

Summer Cruise 2022 – version 5 (Walton, Ipswich, Harwich, Stour)

Saturday 23 July – Saturday 30 July inclusive

Summary

- Saturday 23 - Sail to Titchmarsh Marina Walton Backwaters
- Sunday 24 – Day at Walton/Titchmarsh
- Monday 25 – Sail Titchmarsh to Ipswich
- Tuesday 26 – Day at Ipswich
- Wednesday 27 – Sail to Harwich or Shotley (weather dependent)
- Thursday 28 – explore River Stour, overnight Suffolk Yacht Harbour
- Friday 29 – day in Suffolk Yacht Harbour **or** return to Crouch
- Saturday 30 – return to the Crouch; URYC or Burnham Marina
- Sunday 31 - URYC

Detailed itinerary – including links to destinations, marina plans and places of interest

This itinerary is built around an overall speed over the ground of 5 knots (sailing speed plus favourable tide) and assumes the use of auxiliary engines where necessary to maintain this speed when winds are light or dead ahead. For smaller boats especially, the itinerary will be flexed to avoid any long slogs to windward, specifically if winds are forecast to exceed 16 knots from the direction of travel. There are several contingency days should some attendees or prevailing weather require.

Friday 22 – sub 30ft boats assemble at Burnham – recommend mooring buoy downstream of the town unless windy overnight then consider marina which will demand an earlier start the next morning.

Saturday 23 – HW 09.08, assuming winds not from the NE and under 16 knots sub 30ft boats depart at 08.30, larger yachts 0930. If wind NE depart earlier: minimum 2 hrs smaller boats, 1.5 hours larger boats.

Sail 30 miles from Burnham to Pye End Sand buoy which is found less than half a mile southeast of the Landguard Point buoy (North Cardinal) at the entrance of Harwich Harbour. Ideally time your arrival just after low water circa 14.30 – 15.00 (LW 14.03 - note Harwich tide times 35-40 minutes ahead of Burnham).

Use the gathering flood tide to sail cautiously approximately SW for ¼ mile to find the relatively small but numerous port and starboard hand buoys that mark the entrance channel to Walton Backwaters. If the wind is ahead, it may be beneficial to motor as the channel, though relatively deep once well past the Pye End Sand buoy, is very steep sided and not wide, so tacking could prove problematic. It is vital to navigate the entrance to Walton Channel on a rising tide – [see this chart](#) – as it's easy to touch due to the constricted channel at this point.

Proceed up the Walton Channel 2 miles between the moored yachts to [Titchmarsh Marina](#). Deeper draft yachts may prefer to arrive at the Walton Channel entrance nearer half tide for greater depth giving more margin for error. However, tides are neaps, therefore there should be up to half a metre

more water than the charted depths. Smaller yachts arriving earlier may prefer to anchor at Stone Point for a late lunch or pick up a vacant buoy further up the Walton Channel, before proceeding to the marina. Arrive Titchmarsh by 16.00 – 17.00. Evening meal in the marina restaurant.

Sunday 24 – day in Titchmarsh. Youngsters and fans of Arthur Ransome books could use tenders to explore the Walton Backwaters either side of HW at 09.30. Then walk or taxi into Walton on Naze; fish and chips, visit [Naze Tower](#), beach, pier. Dinner in town or at the marina restaurant in the evening. If fine consider BBQ at the Marina picnic area (see map in Appendix).

Monday 25

Option A; depart Titchmarsh 10.30 (HW). Motor to Hamford Water (3 miles) anchor, choosing location depending upon the wind direction – excellent holding. Potential to raft up temporarily if conditions allow. Opportunity for some ‘Swallows and Amazons’ fun in tenders for youngsters. Depart 15.00 to take the last of the ebb to Harwich Harbour (4 miles). LW 16.20.

Sail with the tide up the Orwell to Ipswich Dock holding pontoon (another 10 miles) arrive circa 18.00 – 18.30 then await instructions to enter the marina. For the lock monitor VHF CH 68, callsign ‘Ipswich Port Radio’, (telephone 01473 213526 in advance). Once in the lock, switch to VHF CH 80 callsign ‘[Ipswich Haven Marina](#)’ (tel. 01473 236644) to confirm berth number.

- **Option B;** depart Titchmarsh 12.30 (HW +2hrs) motor out of the Walton Channel then sail to Harwich Harbour/River Orwell 16 miles to Ipswich. Larger yachts for depth may prefer to leave an hour earlier. Note LW Harwich Harbour is 16.20, therefore the tide will be against you entering Harwich Harbour. Hence recommend picking up a vacant mooring buoy once in the Orwell for an afternoon tea stop. Leave the mooring at 17.00 and sail with the tide to Ipswich Dock holding pontoon then await instructions to enter the marina at circa 18.30. For the lock monitor VHF CH 68, callsign ‘Ipswich Port Radio’, (telephone 01473 213526 in advance). Once in the lock, switch to VHF CH 80 callsign ‘[Ipswich Haven Marina](#)’ (tel. 01473 236644) to confirm berth number.

Note – Monday is also a contingency day where boats that cannot sail on Saturday or Sunday (e.g. weather issues) can catch up with the fleet on Monday at Ipswich. Timings; see above and add one hour for a Sunday departure or two hours for Monday – destination Ipswich arrive by 18.00-18.30.

Tuesday 26 – day in Ipswich. Several potential [places to visit](#). Restaurants and interest around [Ipswich Waterfront](#) plus [Wetherspoons](#) in the town centre. For families, taxi 4.3 miles to [Jimmy’s Farm](#).

Wednesday 27 – Depart Ipswich close to HW circa 12.20 (lock might be free flow – then departure time dependent upon lock keeper’s requirements). Take the ebb down river. Provided the wind is not above 12 knots from a Northerly Quarter proceed to [Ha ‘Penny Pier at Harwich](#) (9 miles). *Essential info you will need to know in advance is on [their website](#).* Stay overnight. Historic waterfront and town, Wetherspoons. Dinner ashore.

If weather conditions at Ha ‘Penny Pier too adverse for this exposed location, instead lock into sheltered [Shotley Marina](#). Where there is a large waterfront restaurant and bar ([The Shipwreck](#)) at the marina. A traditional pub, the [Bristol Arms](#) a short walk to Shotley Gate. Also a [passenger ferry to/from Harwich](#) from the marina entrance for those determined to visit [Wetherspoons](#) that afternoon. (LW 17.55)

Thursday 28 – This is an exploration sail of one of Essex’s most attractive but least visited rivers. Depart Harwich or Shotley by 11.00. Sail 7 miles following the channel up the River Stour to Mistley

(HW 13.00) or, for the more adventurous, on further to Manningtree where the channel becomes very narrow, though easily followed between the yacht moorings with a plotter and following numerous port and starboard hand channel buoys. Whether at Mistley or Manningtree, the intention is to turn around 30mins before high water (13.00) and sail back downstream to Wrabness (3 miles) and pick up a vacant buoy. ETA 13.30 -14.00.

Wrabness; There are numerous privately owned swinging moorings, many vacant, however there is some pot luck in terms of a suitable mooring (outer trots afloat 24/7). If a mooring looks unused, the owner will probably not return to claim it that afternoon. Go ashore in tenders (recommend leaving wellies in your tender) landing on the shingle beach toward the eastern end of the mooring trots where you will see other tenders pulled up. This is the best place to land as the beach in front of the river facing chalets is privately owned and rather soft and muddy in places.

From there, take Stone Lane and walk circa 1 mile into Wrabness village and then on via Station Road and Black Boy Road to see the stunning [House for Essex](#) designed by Grayson Perry. (It is now a holiday home hence this is just to see it externally). There is a shorter walk returning via public footpaths to the Stour and then left, along the top of the sea wall, back to the tenders.

By 17.00 take the last of the ebb down the Stour (LW 18.33) and take the incoming tide 3 miles up the Orwell to [Suffolk Yacht Harbour](#). See plan in appendix. VHF CH 80, estimated ETA 19.00 – 19.30. Option for BBQ in the evening; at the SE end of marina there are brick barbeques and picnic area benches overlooking the river.

Friday 29 - Day at [Suffolk Yacht Harbour](#) (SYH). Riverside walks, fishing lakes, nearby beach (+/- 1 hour high water at 12.20) picturesque walk to Levington Village; Arthur Ransome's Broke Farm, tiny historic church and picturesque Ship Inn. Potential for a 1 mile (though mainly uphill) walk to mooring chain etc specialists [EYE / Boat Gear Direct](#). Taxi to English Heritage [Landguard Fort](#) and/or town of Felixstowe. If fine weather, riverside footpath walk to [Ship Inn Levington](#) for drinks/dinner (must book) or the Lightship Restaurant in the marina if weather inclement.

Note* *Friday is a potential contingency day to return to the Crouch on Friday rather than Saturday.*

Saturday 30 – Note LW Harwich Harbour is 07.15, hence ideally smaller boats should leave SYH by 06.15. Larger yachts by 07.00. If wind SW/adverse smaller yachts should leave 2 hrs earlier larger yachts 1 hour).

Once clear of Harwich Harbour, take the flood tide for another 40 miles to URYC eta (HW circa.14.45). Arrive by 14.30 – 15.30 up to 17.00 if wind is unfavourable. Alternatively stop at Burnham Marina (HW 14.35) if the wind is from a westerly direction. Having left Harwich Harbour and should the wind be SW and exceeding 15 knots secondary port destination Bradwell Marina (or Brightlingsea if strong adverse wind).

Sunday 31 – return from Burnham Marina to own mooring/URYC at circa 12.30 (HW circa 15.15). If sailing from Bradwell or Brightlingsea sail via the Raysand Channel, cross the south end of this swatchway at 13.00 (ample water 2 hrs before HW Burnham) arrive URYC by 16.00 (up to 17.30 if wind is westerly).

***Contingency day** – note if your requirements, or weather conditions require, yachts can return to the Crouch on Friday (move timings for Saturday forward circa 50 minutes) and stay overnight in Burnham Marina Friday evening, returning to URYC Saturday morning.

Appendix

Tide times Burnham (Adjusted to BST)

Date	Day	HW Time & Height		HW Time & Height		<i>LW Time & Height</i>		<i>LW Time & Height</i>	
22	Fri	08:08	4.43	20:20	4.35	02:02	0.29	14:09	0.81
23	Sat	09:08	4.31	21:27	4.26	02:59	0.50	15:11	0.87
24	Sun	10:08	4.30	22:33	4.29	04:00	0.64	16:19	0.84
25	Mon	11:06	4.38	23:32	4.39	04:58	0.70	17:24	0.71
26	Tue	11:57	4.51			05:51	0.70	18:18	0.55
27	Wed	00:24	4.51	12:45	4.63	06:37	0.68	19:06	0.41
28	Thu	01:10	4.61	13:27	4.71	07:18	0.65	19:48	0.31
29	Fri	01:51	4.67	14:04	4.75	07:54	0.62	20:26	0.25
30	Sat	02:27	4.71	14:35	4.77	08:24	0.59	20:59	0.22
31	Sun	02:57	4.75	15:04	4.81	08:53	0.55	21:31	0.22

Tide times Harwich (Adjusted to BST)

Date	Day	HW Time & Height		HW Time & Height		LW Time & Height		LW Time & Height	
22	Fri	07:05	3.46	19:18	3.48	00:41	0.77	12:53	1.28
23	Sat	08:08	3.38	20:27	3.38	01:48	0.92	14:09	1.28
24	Sun	09:18	3.39	21:44	3.39	02:55	1.01	15:24	1.18
25	Mon	10:22	3.49	22:48	3.50	03:56	1.04	16:27	1.03
26	Tue	11:14	3.62	23:38	3.63	04:48	1.02	17:18	0.88
27	Wed	11:57	3.74			05:33	0.99	18:01	0.76
28	Thu	00:21	3.73	12:37	3.81	06:10	0.96	18:39	0.67
29	Fri	00:59	3.69	13:14	3.86	06:44	0.91	19:12	0.60
30	Sat	01:34	3.84	13:48	3.89	07:15	0.86	19:45	0.53
31	Sun	02:09	3.86	14:21	3.91	07:48	0.82	20:19	0.49

Tide differences to be applied to **Harwich HW times** in minutes:

Bradwell + 29

Brightlingsea + 23

Burnham-on-Crouch + 42

Clacton + 11

Felixstowe Pier - 09

Orford Haven Bar - 28

Orford Ness - 45

Orford Quay + 40

Southwold -1hr 15

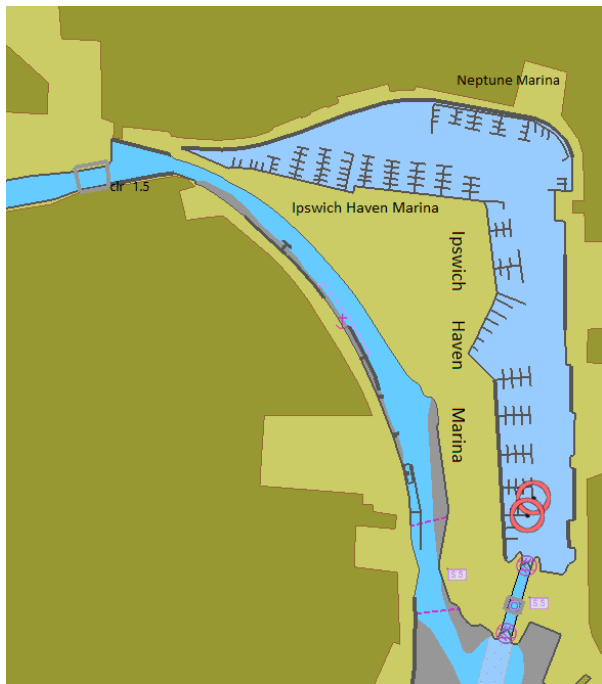
Swin Spitway + 12

Walton-on-the-Naze 0

Titchmarsh Marina



Ipswich (visitor berths at Ipswich Haven Marina)



Suffolk Yacht Harbour [Link to PDF for printing the map below full size](#)

