



Tour Information



In Search of Old Suffolk





The tour commences and concludes at the **Muthu Belstead Brook Hotel**.

Belstead Road

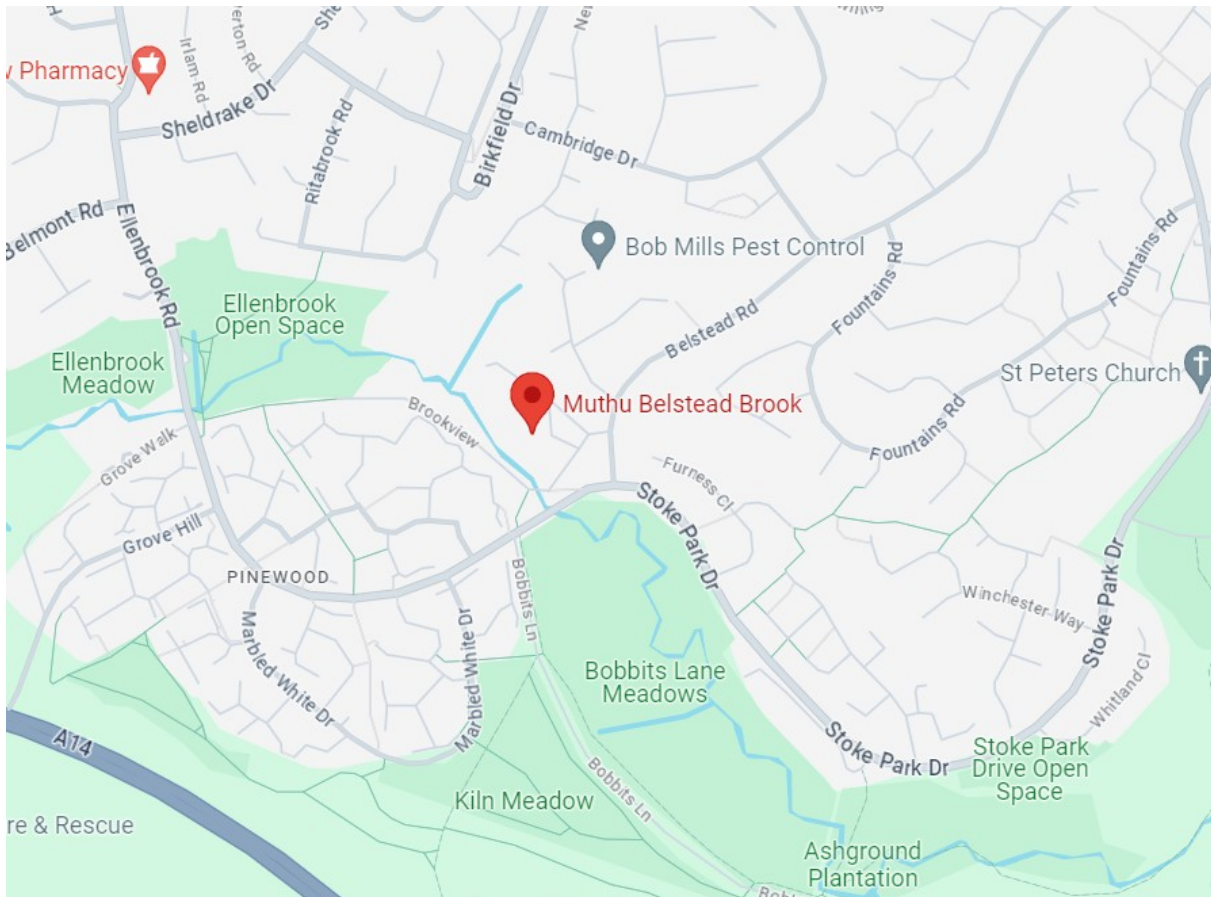
Ipswich

IP2 9HB

United Kingdom

Tel: 01473 684 241

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



Transport

If you are travelling by car: Exit the A14 at Junction 56, A1137 to M'ningtree/Brantham/Ipswich. Continue on A137. At the roundabout the 1st exit onto A137. Turn right onto The St. The St Turns right and becomes Grove Hill. Turn right onto Ellenbrook Road. Turn left onto Belstead Road. Turn left onto Brookview. Turn right and turn left.

If you are travelling by train: Ipswich Train Station is approx. 2 miles from the hotel



Accommodation

Muthu Belstead Brook Hotel

This beautiful hotel is built around a 16th Century hunting lodge in the suburbs of Ipswich, with extensive lawned gardens and its own restaurant, bar, spa and fitness centre. Each bedroom at the Muthu Belstead Brook Hotel comes traditionally decorated with an en-suite bathroom. Rooms include a flat-screen TV, tea and coffee-making facilities, an iron and ironing board, and a trouser press. All the rooms are Non Smoking including Vapes as well.

The hotel offers spa and beauty treatments in the leisure club, which must be booked prior to arrival. There is a large indoor pool, sauna, steam room, and solarium, as well as a fully equipped gym. Complimentary parking available at the hotel.

More information can be found via the hotel's website:

www.muthuhotelsmgm.com/muthu-belstead-brook-hotel

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15.00, and the tour manager will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

On the last day, the tour will not finish until approximately 17.15 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 11.00.

Dining

On the first night, a private dinner with wine is provided at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. For the second evening, dinner is provided in the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on all days of your stay is included in the price, but meals other than these stated are not included.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Places Visited

West Stow Anglo Saxon Reconstructed Village

One of England's great archaeological sites, West Stow has extensive indoor galleries and a stunning recreation of an Anglo-Saxon village surrounded by 125 acres of unspoilt countryside.

Evidence of intermittent human habitation at the site stretches from the Mesolithic through the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British period, but it is best known for the small village that existed on the site between the mid-5th century and the early 7th century CE, during the early Anglo-Saxon period. During this time, around 70 sunken-featured buildings were constructed on the site, along with 8 halls and a number of other features. Subsequently, abandoned, the area became farmland in the Late Medieval period.

www.weststow.org

Lavenham

Lavenham in Suffolk is widely acknowledged as the best example of a medieval wool town in England. In Tudor times, Lavenham was said to be the fourteenth wealthiest town in England, despite its small size. Its fine timber-framed buildings and beautiful church, built on the success of the wool trade, make it a fascinating place to explore today. Although Lavenham goes back to Saxon times, it is best known as a medieval wool town. It was granted its market charter in 1257 and started exporting its famous blue broadcloth as far afield as Russia. In the 14th century Edward III encouraged the English weaving industry and Lavenham began to prosper. However, in the late 16th century Dutch refugees in Colchester began weaving a lighter, cheaper and more fashionable cloth and the woollen trade in Lavenham began to fail. Most of the buildings in Lavenham today date from the 15th century, many of these were never altered due to the fall of the weaving industry. Consequently, the town is still very much on the same scale as it must have been in the 15th century.

www.historic-uk.com/HistoryMagazine/DestinationsUK/Lavenham

Lavenham Guildhall

Set in the lovely village of Lavenham, the Guildhall of Corpus Christi tells the story of one of the best-preserved and wealthiest towns in Tudor England. When you step inside this fine timber-framed building, you'll feel the centuries melt away. You can discover the stories of the people who have used the Guildhall through its almost-500 years at the heart of its community and learn about the men and women who have shaped the fortunes of this unique village.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/suffolk/lavenham-guildhall

Sutton Hoo

This hauntingly beautiful 255-acre estate, with far-reaching views over the River Deben, is home to one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time. The site of two 6th- and early 7th-century cemeteries. One cemetery contained an undisturbed ship-burial, including a wealth of Anglo-Saxon artefacts of outstanding art-historical and archaeological significance, most of which are now in the British Museum in London. The ship-burial, probably dating from the early 7th century and excavated in 1939, is one of the most magnificent archaeological finds in England for its size and completeness, far-reaching connections, the quality and beauty of its contents, and the profound interest of the burial ritual itself. The initial excavation was privately sponsored by the landowner. When the significance of the find became apparent, national experts took over. Subsequent archaeological campaigns, particularly in the late 1960s and late 1980s, have explored the wider site and many other individual burials. Following the withdrawal of the Romans from southern Britain after 410, the remaining population slowly adopted the language, customs and beliefs of the Germanic Angles, Saxons and Jutes. Much of the process may have been due to cultural

appropriation, as there was a widespread migration into Britain. The Anglo-Saxons developed new cultural traits. Their language developed into Old English, a Germanic language that was different from the languages previously spoken in Britain, and they were pagans, following a polytheistic religion. Differences in their daily material culture changed, as they stopped living in roundhouses and constructed rectangular timber homes similar to those found in Denmark and northern Germany. Their jewellery began to exhibit the increasing influence of Migration Period Art from continental Europe. During this period, southern Britain became divided up into a number of small independent kingdoms. Many of the graves from this period that have been discovered across Britain were accompanied by grave goods, which included combs, tweezers and brooches, as well as weapons. Sacrificed animals have also been found in the graves.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/suffolk/sutton-hoo

Orford Castle

Discover one of England's most complete and unusual keeps, at this fascinating visitor attraction in Suffolk. The unique polygonal tower keep of Orford Castle stands beside the pretty town and former port, which Henry II also developed here.

The castle is remarkably intact allowing visitors to explore from the basement, through the lower and upper halls to the roof where there are magnificent views seaward to Orford Ness. Around the rooms is a maze of passages leading to the chapel, kitchen and other chambers in the turrets.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/orford-castle

Framlingham Castle

Built in the 12th century by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, it was home to the dukes of Norfolk for over 400 years. It was later owned by Margaret Brotherton, the first woman to be named a duchess in her own right and in the 16th century it became the scene of a national drama starring Mary Tudor. It was behind these walls that Mary Tudor was proclaimed Queen of England. Discover more of Framlingham's stories in our exhibition, walk the ramparts of the castle to enjoy its breath-taking views.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/framlingham-castle

Your Guide

Mike Stone will be your guide/lecturer throughout the tour. Mike is an archaeologist, historian and qualified Blue Badge guide who has many years' experience leading tours.

Mike will give the following talk during this tour:

'Highlights of Suffolk's Archaeology and Architecture'

Practical Information

Tour manager - Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services.

Grading – This tour has been graded as moderate with walking between sites and lots of standing for viewings.

Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.

Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:
020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 09.00 – 17.00), telephone our emergency staff on:
07841 023807 or 07441 343850

LEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

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