



Boxted view

**A delightful route that gives you a real sense of being in Constable Country. This easy going route incorporates the charming village of Dedham and the surrounding countryside that features in a number of John Constable's paintings.**

The starting point (★) for this route is in the centre of Dedham and there is ample parking in the public car park in Mill Lane near to the river.

Shortly after starting you will pass Dedham Hall (1), a lovely 15th century manor house which is now a private hotel and restaurant.

The route heads out of the village past some more pretty houses and on

to Castle House (2). Originally the home of Sir Alfred Munnings, it is now an art museum.

The route goes on to Dedham Heath and then to Langham. Here the two routes split with the touring route taking in the village of Boxted.

The touring route continues towards Boxted church (3), which dates back to the Norman period. Originally called St Mary's, it was renamed St Peter's after the reformation. Boxted church was divided between the Lords of Boxted Hall and Rivers Hall, Eventually Boxted Hall gave its share to Little Horkesley Priory, and Rivers Hall gave its share to St. John's Abbey, Colchester.

The touring route continues along some picturesque country lanes before re-joining the short route near to Langham Hall (4), a mid-18th century manor house.

Following the route back to Dedham, you will find the church of St Mary the Virgin (5). The present building dates from the late 15th century, and was the last medieval 'wool church' to be built. The Ascension by John Constable is on permanent display in the church and a viewing platform on top of the tower gives excellent views of the lower part of the Stour valley. Dedham tower tours take place in the summer months - contact the church for details or visit [www.dedhamchurchtowerstours.co.uk](http://www.dedhamchurchtowerstours.co.uk)

It is worth taking some time to explore Dedham, with its many shops and beautiful buildings. You may also want to consider taking a walk alongside the river or hiring a boat for an hour or two!

### REFRESHMENTS

Various cafés, restaurants and public houses in Dedham, there is also a public house in Langham.

### TOILETS

In Dedham by sports field, access from public footpath near the church.

Weir on the river Stour



Langham Church

