

Cambridge Randonnées Saturday 5 July 2025: 200km route information

Controls and route information:

- There is NO control in Fulbourn. You may see one, but it is for the 150km ride!
- 1. 33km Dullingham:** manned checkpoint. Collect stamp in brevet card or scan QR code in E-Brevet app. Chelsea buns for all!
- 2. 63km Maglia Rosso:** info control. Answer question on brevet card or click in app.
 - The 150km route are going the opposite direction to you at this point; give a friendly wave!
- 3. 84km Lakeside cafe near Stowmarket:** manned checkpoint.
 - **Long Melford** is not a control but is a good place to stop for lunch
 - Watch out for right turn in Long Melford to Liston Lane; narrow and easily missed. Look out for "Sports Field" sign.
- 4. 116km Foxearth:** info control at village sign.
- 5. 130km Castle Hedingham:** info control near grass triangle as you enter main village.
- 6. 165km North Hall Road just past The Shaftesbury cycling club hut:** info control.
- 7. 184km Hare Street:** info control.
- 8. 211km Arrivée Haslingfield**

Route available in all the usual formats here: <https://ctccambridge.org.uk/routes/667>

Route sheet attached separately.

E-Brevet: download brevet **25-705**

Roadworks: none impassable discovered, although you may have to walk past roadworks in Fulbourn and Bradfield St George.

Cafes/village shops/toilets/water:

63km Maglia Rosso: Cafe, toilets, tap outside

79km Rattlesden: shop

84km Lakeside Cafe: Cafe, toilets, two outside taps [one on back of cafe, one on the back of a little black outhouse to right of cafe]

Hitcham, Bildeston, Monks Eleigh: shops

110km Acton: Wally's cafe 7.30am to 12.30pm

113km Long Melford: pubs, cafes, shops. Good lunch stop.

116km Foxearth: tap on village hall by control. Please reconnect hose after use!

126km Gestingthorpe: tap at church - on back of low wall, next to lych gate

130km Castle Hedingham: pubs, public toilet slightly off route [follow signs]

133km Sible Hedingham: petrol stations, cafe just off route

145km Finchingfield: cafes

148km Great Bardfield: Co-op to L just off route

155km Thaxted: petrol station, shop, bakery (closes 4pm), chip shop.

172km Rickling: tap on church

175km Clavering: shop

184km: Hare Street pub with very friendly landlord, closes early

200km Flint Cross A505: Petrol station with toilets

In-ride trivia:

Our route was a staple of the audax calendar about 20-25 years ago; a tradition from then is serving you Chelsea buns en route! So you can look forward to a bun at the Dullingham control. East Anglia is strange and beautiful. This route takes you through expensive race horse territory near Newmarket, pretty backwaters of Suffolk, well-to-do ancient wool villages, near massive Tudor manor houses, near a castle dating back to the 1100s whose family played a part in signing the Magna Carta, and back through great plains of Essex. (PTO)

0km just opposite our base is the fantastic Portrait House. There's also a sundial on the village green here where you get to be the gnomon.

13.5km on your way up the first hill of the day, look to your left; not only can you see Cambridge, but on a clear day you can also see Ely Cathedral. Look out for a tall bobble and a shorter bobble on the horizon; the West Tower and the Octagon respectively.

25km Six Mile Bottom: sadly the village name just refers to the bottom of a (slight) valley.

37km Woodditton: two excellent water towers (the first is a space age wonder, the second is reminiscent of the House in the Clouds at Thorpeness) and an orrery as a village sign.

78.6km Rattlesden whale bones: on your left as you get into the houses, near a brook, look back slightly. These whale bones are a wooden replica of actual whale bones, which were apparently a sign of navigation or river trading; Caen stone was brought by river here for the construction of the abbey at Bury St Edmunds. Rattlesden also has a superb church; like a mini version of the enormous wool church at Lavenham.

126.5km Gestingthorpe: pause a moment to look at the rather unusual village sign by the church. The hunched figure in an Antarctic blizzard is Captain Lawrence Oates, of "I am just going outside and may be some time".

132km Castle Hedingham: the huge Norman keep, is just about visible before the village; look out for the flag at the top. An information board on the grass triangle (by the info question) is worth a quick look, and is the location of a British Cycle Quest question. Apparently the castle is now a popular wedding venue; searching for famous people married there only reveals that it is now on TV show Married at First Sight. British history has some strange twists and turns.

155km Thaxted: lots of interesting older buildings. Past residents include a well-known composer (answer to a BCQ, just beyond where we turn off) and author Diana Wynne Jones.

168km Ugley: what a great place name. We'll have to visit nearby Nasty another time!