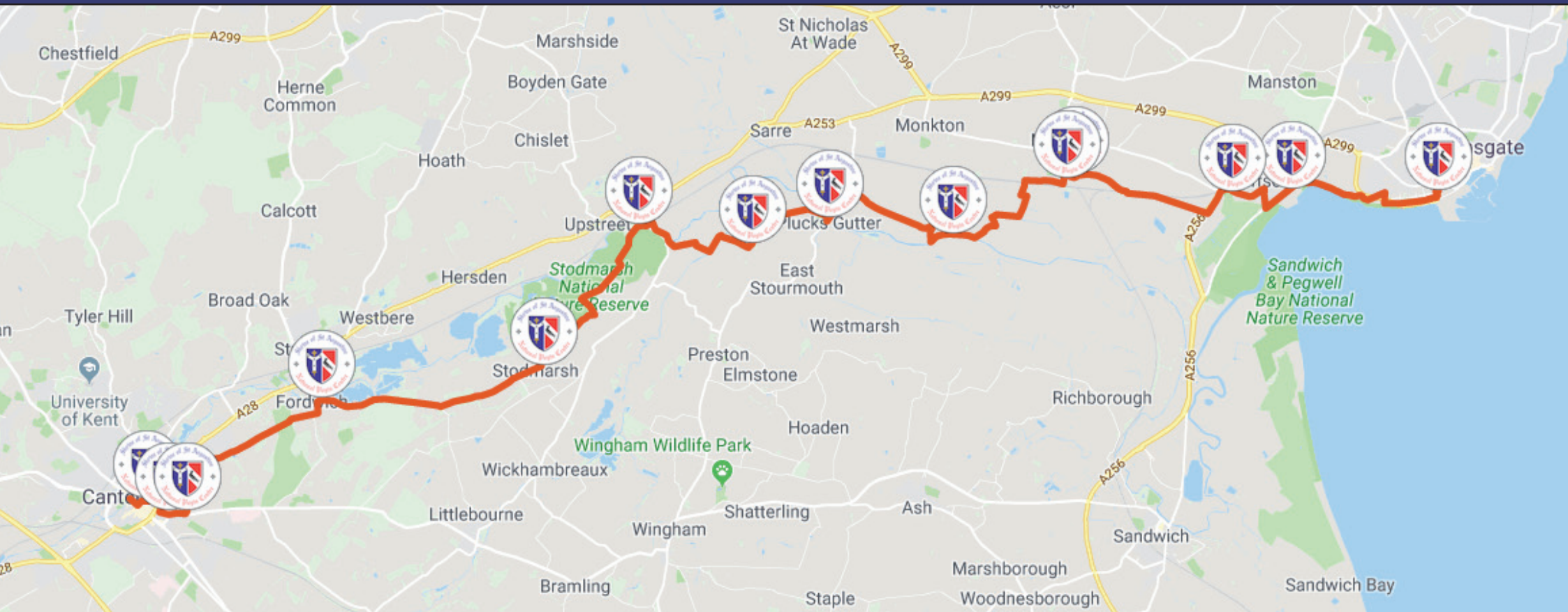




The Way of St Augustine

A 19 mile walking route from Ramsgate to Canterbury, The Way of St Augustine follows the journey made by St Augustine and his forty monks as they brought the Gospel of Jesus for the first time to the English people.



The route St Augustine took from Thanet to Canterbury would have crossed the Wantsum Channel, which has since silted up. Today people walk where St Augustine sailed. Anyone can walk the Way of St Augustine and become a 'pilgrim' on a one or two day journey. There is something for everyone, beauty, art and architecture, history and traditional stories, stunning natural beauty, as well as a deep religious significance. We hope you enjoy the Way of St Augustine.

Our interactive web app - wayofstaugustine.placesandtrails.com - has more information about each stop and you can track your progress in real time.



The Way of St Augustine - Directions to Canterbury from Ramsgate

Begin at **St Augustine's Shrine and the National Pugin Centre**. Turn left and walk along the cliff top. Turn right at a brick wall and follow the path up to a road, with a large elegant terrace at the top on your right. Turn left, and keep on the right hand side of the road. Walk past the Pegwell Bay Hotel as the road bends to the right, and take the footpath on the left. Follow this footpath between hedges and some houses, heading towards the '**Hugin**' Viking Ship.

Carry on along the cycle/footpath heading down to sea level. Turn down Foads Lane at The Sportsman pub (on the right). At the top of this road, turn left on to Cottington Road. Take care – there is a long corner here with no footpath.

Pass **St Augustine's Cross** and turn off the road just after the St Augustine's Golf Course on to the footpath that takes you along the railway line. After going under the bridge, do not take the gravel path, rather bear right and head on to the path right next to the railway, with hedges on its side.

Follow this path across a road, keeping the railway on your right, until you come to a cross of the railway with styles and large gates. Cross here – taking great care that there are no trains coming – and follow the wide concrete path up to the village of Minster. As you come past some houses on your entrance to Minster, look ahead and see the flint boundary walls of **Minster Abbey**.

Head into the main village, left at the end of Durlock, and towards the medieval parish church, **St Mary's**. Head left from St Mary's towards the railway station. Just before the level crossing, turn right and follow the road. It turns into a footpath. Keep following it until you can cross the railway on the left. Follow the path south on to the marshes, under the power lines, and down to the River Stour. Turn right at the river, and follow the path again.

After about a kilometre, take the path that heads right, and up on to the **Abbot's Wall** – an earthwork that dates to medieval times. Follow this path until just before a road, at which point take the path to the left which heads towards the road at an oblique angle. Take care walking along this road, and

crossing the bridge into **Pluck's Gutter**. Cross over the road into the garden of the Dog and Duck pub. Go through the pub garden and to the river again, and follow the path along the riverbank. This eventually widens past some trees, with a caravan park then an orchard on your left.

Eventually take the left path, which turns into a track, to visit the beautiful little village of **West Stourmouth** and its fascinating church. Follow the road through the village and find the footpath heading right at the bend in the road. Follow this down to the river, and cross on the footbridge. Turn left, with the river on your left, and soon find the footpath turns right. Approaching **Grove Ferry**, walk through the picnic area and car park.

Follow the Stour Valley Walk along the riverbank to **Stodmarsh**, where you can pay a visit to the medieval church. Continue on along the quiet country lane, up the hill, following the path into the field and parallel with the road, rejoin the road a little further along, and follow the footpath into a field where you meet a junction with a road dropping away behind you to the left. Follow the path, through woodland down into the town of **Fordwich**, Britain's smallest town. Take a look at St Mary's Church. Take the path opposite The George through some beautiful meadows, and keep following it through woodland (be careful not to get distracted by occasional other paths!) and then in to modern housing on the outskirts of Canterbury to find **St Martin's Church** – the oldest continually-used church in the English-speaking world.

Follow the main road, past **St Augustine's Abbey**, down Longport, and then past St Paul's Church. Cross the dual carriageway at the traffic lights, and on down Burgate. Head down to the gate of **Canterbury Cathedral**. If you show the people on the gate that you are pilgrims they will usually let you in free!

