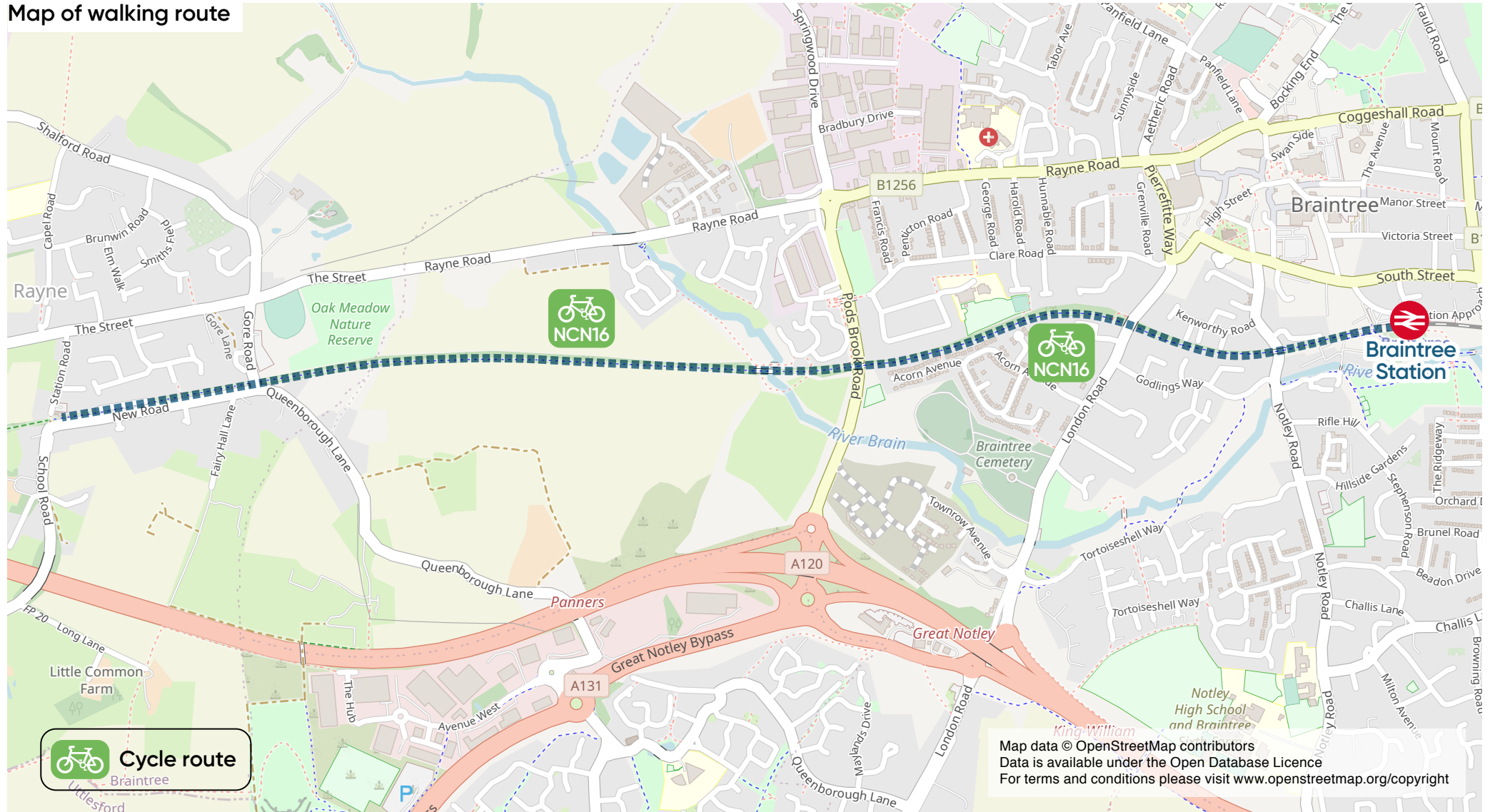


4 Fitch Way walk to Rayne Café and return (from Braintree Station)

Map of walking route



The Flitch Way Country Park stretches almost 15 miles along the track of the former railway line between Braintree and Bishop's Stortford which opened in 1869. Although the last passenger train ran in 1952, goods continued to be carried until the end of 1971. Most of the track was removed in 1972 with the final stretch towards the Bishop's Stortford end going in 1974.

Originally purchased by Essex County Council in 1989 as a possible alternative route to the A120, the site opened as the Flitch Way with the first Ranger appointed in 1994 and provides a safe, traffic-free environment for walkers, cyclists and in some sections, horse riders.

A variety of landscapes and habitats can be found along the Flitch Way ranging from open stretches affording views of farmland on either side of the track to enclosed areas such as the Dunmow Cutting.

This walk starts at Braintree Station, at the start of the Flitch Way and finishes at Rayne where there is a Booking Hall café and a Railway Carriage Museum. A very enjoyable walk with beautiful countryside in abundance.

Planning Your Walk

- 2.5 miles and approximately 45 minutes to an hour each way, flat and well-surfaced.
- Check opening times of Booking Hall café and Railway Carriage Museum.

Directions

1. From Braintree Station turn left up the road and cut through the Braintree District Council owned car park.
2. In the middle of the car park you will see two paths. One is signposted the Flitch Way and the other is the John Ray walk.
3. Take the right-hand path clearly signed The Flitch Way which takes you all the way to Dunmow. (that's for another day but well worth the walk).
4. The walk today takes us along the path to Rayne. Here you will find the Booking Hall Café which serves a range of drinks and snacks. For more information on the café visit www.thebookinghall.co.uk or call 01376 320859.
5. The walk is on a dedicated path and you will find a sign with a map showing the whole route approximately 1mile into the walk.
6. Once you reach your goal of the station café you can enjoy a well earned rest.
7. Return to the station at your leisure.

