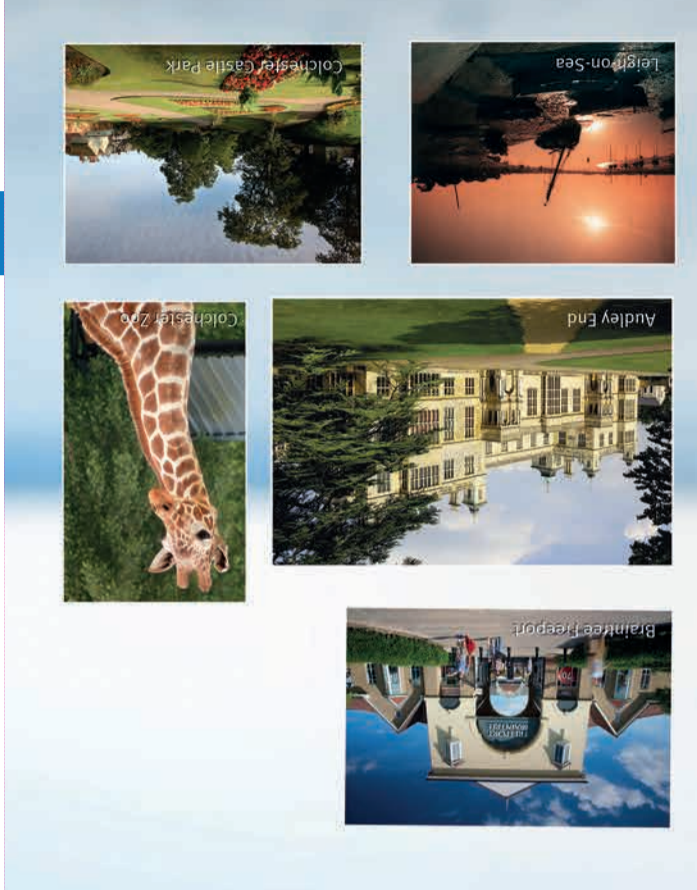


Make sure you follow us on social media to enter competitions & get special offers!

days out and events on

enjoy, experience, enjoy



INCLUDES 'ESSEX DESTINATIONS' MAP INSIDE

Explore Essex by train

Travel to Southend-on-Sea, Walton-on-the-Naze, Clacton-on-Sea, Colchester and beyond

Look out for events such as the annual air show at www.visitessex.com for those rainy days, or a bowling alley and sea front gardens.

Take the train to Clacton-on-Sea, you can visit the pier with its undercover pier you can walk along watching sea fishing and crabbing. If you choose the choice to go to Walton-on-the-Naze, with its great sandy beach and a The train continues to Thorpe-le-Soken where the line splits giving you match in full swing.

Your journey travels through Alresford where you can find the finest country walks in Essex and on to Great Bentley, where the village entices you with pubs which overlook the 43 acre green, recognised as the largest village green in the country. Sunny summer afternoons will find a cricket match in full swing.

Starting from Colchester, the line splits to travel to the station in the town centre 'Colchester Town' before it travels through the Hythe to the beautiful town of Wivenhoe where the small winding streets of the old village come to an end at the picturesque quayside where fishing and sailing boats bob at their moorings. You can walk alongside the river towards Hythe Quay or the other direction towards Alresford creek.

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The Sunshine Coast Line

The route between Colchester and Clacton-on-Sea & Walton-on-the-Naze is named "The Sunshine Coast Line". It is one of the six lines which lies to the east of the county.

At the end of the line is Harwich Town where you will find a seasonal ferry over to Shottley and Felixstowe in Suffolk or if you prefer to remain on dry land, you can enjoy a day out where you can have a leisurely lunch.

Trains go onwards to the next stop of Harwich International, which is a focused interchange for ferries and large cruise ships making their way around the world. There are even occasional non-stop trains to Harwich International from London Liverpool Street. The branch line then takes travellers to the next stop of Dovercourt, a small busy town with a regular Friday Market, and a short walk to the sea front.

The Mayflower line runs from Manningtree, which is the usual terminus for the branch trains, connecting with services to London and Ipswich. The branch follows the path of the estuary of the River Stour to Harwich. The train stops at Mistley, a small riverside town noted for its large number of swans which gather on the river bank in an area of outstanding natural beauty on the south bank.

The train calls at Wratness where you can walk past the community shop and join footpaths which run past the house which Grayson Perry designed and is one of the houses for living architecture.

The Mayflower Line

Tickets and travel information

Latest information on train times and fares for any rail operator in the UK can be obtained from National Rail Enquiries on **03457 48 49 50** or via the website www.nationalrail.co.uk

TICKETS & FARES – Tickets can be purchased from ticket offices, or ticket machines (where available). If travelling from a station with ticket selling facilities you must purchase your ticket before you board. For certain tickets types it is cheaper to book in advance online.

OFF PEAK TICKETS – Travel after 9.30am on weekdays. Off-Peak Day tickets do not have evening peak restrictions so the return journey can be made at any time, including from London. There are also special tickets available off peak.

SUPER OFF-PEAK DAY TICKETS – When travelling to London or Stratford these tickets are valid on the first train that arrives in London after 12.00 on Mondays to Fridays. The return journey from London may not be made between 16.00 and 19.00 inclusive. On local journeys, Super Off-Peak tickets may be used at any time after 12.00. No return restrictions apply from stations outside London. At weekends Super off-peak tickets may be used at any time of day so are the best value option.

GROUP SAVE TICKETS – Groups of three to nine people all get a third off their tickets when travelling together which is equal to every third person travelling free.

CHILD TICKETS – Children aged 5-15 travel for half price and children under 5 travel free.

RAILCARDS – Various railcards are available where you can get up to a third off the price of off-peak tickets.

16 – 25 Railcard – for anyone aged 16 – 25.

Senior Railcard – for anyone aged 60 and over.

Friends and Family Railcard – for family groups.

Two Together Railcard – now available from all stations and online. This is a saving of 34% when two travel together.

Network Card – Anyone aged 16+ travelling in the South East (minimum fare applies weekdays).

Tickets on your phone

Did you know, you can buy your ticket on your phone using our app, before you board the train?

Download the app @greateranglia from Google Play or the App Store and say goodbye to paper tickets.

There is something for everyone along the Crouch Valley Line, which runs for 16.5 miles from Wickford (on the London to Southend line) to Southminster at the top of the Dengie Peninsula. The line has seen all manner of use over the years and gives you the opportunity to enjoy a journey through the beautiful Essex countryside.

Both North Fambroldge and Althorne boast delightful riverside walks and wonderful scenes that line the banks of the River Crouch, where this line takes its name from. Should you walk need to be closer to the indoors, there is Battlesbridge, where you can find the world famous antiques centre and admire the design of the building and the contents within.

If you want something more energetic you can try sailing at Burnham-on-Crouch (or if a little more restful is your aim of your day, seal watching). There is also a wealth of wildlife at Blue House Farm Nature Reserve at North Fambroldge, or the award winning Marsh Farm at South Woodham Ferrers where you will find these beautiful lambs.

Historians will discover a trove of archaeological delight, with churches at Althorne, Burnham and Southminster as well as pretty quaint old public houses offering a variety of local ales and fayre.

You will be surprised what you will discover on the Crouch Valley Line.

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The Southern Line

The Gainsborough Line

The Southern line runs from Shenfield to Southend Victoria is popular with both commuters and tourists. Southend-on-Sea has lots to offer, sitting on the northern side of the Thames Estuary it's a traditional seaside town.

A day at the coast with lots to do, Adventure Island is popular with children of all ages, and runs throughout the year, visit the website for more information www.adventureisland.co.uk

Sealife Adventure, is an aquatic attraction which has over 40 displays featuring sea life from across the world. Located on Southend seafront it's a must do for all the family www.sealifeadventure.co.uk

The pier is the longest pleasure pier in the world, stretching 1.34 miles with the option to take the train or have a leisurely stroll.

The Fitch Line

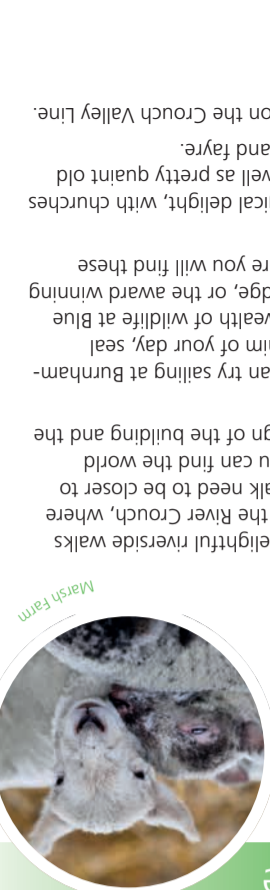
The Fitch Line runs along the Brain Valley between Witham and Braintree and is the remaining part of the line that ran via Dunmow to Bishops Stortford.

The line from Braintree to Bishop's Stortford closed during the Beeching era of cuts, but the commuter branch line from Witham to Braintree remained.

The line passes through White Notley and Cressing, home of the Cressing Temple, calling at Braintree Freeport Designer Village (for fashionista bargain hunters) and Braintree.

There are country walks and cycle routes (John Ray Walk and Fitch Way the start of which is adjacent to Braintree Station), take in the history at Braintree Museum or you can just relax in the areas many hostleries and restaurants.

Travelling by train is easy and takes just 60 minutes from London.



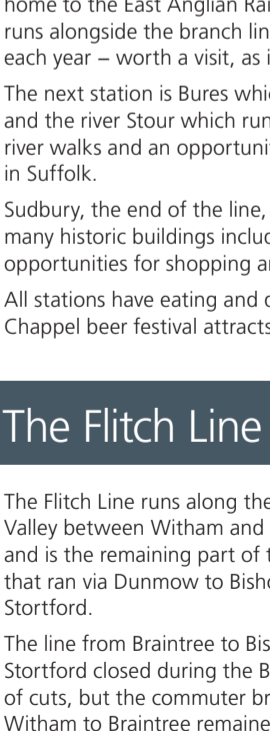
Marsh Farm



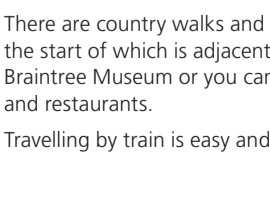
Southend Pier



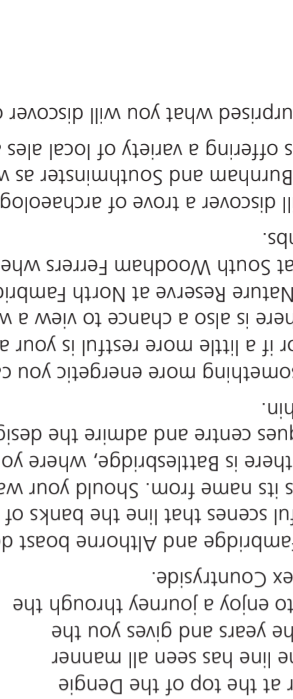
Gainsborough House



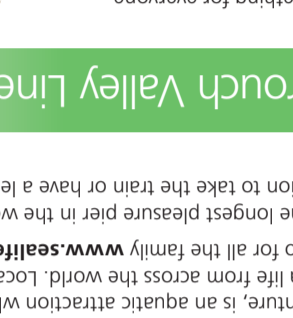
Cressing Temple



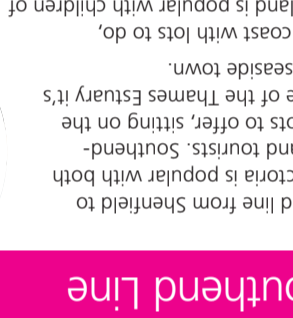
Southend-on-Sea



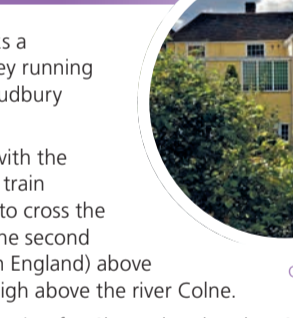
Wivenhoe



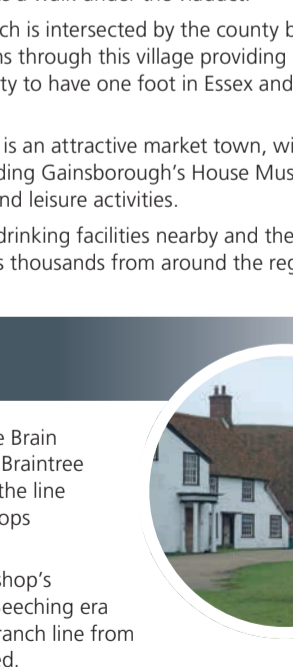
Colchester Zoo



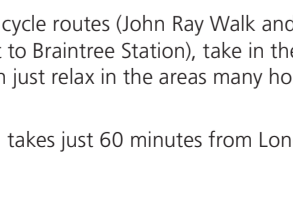
Harwich Lifeboat Museum



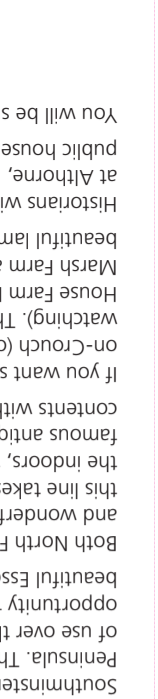
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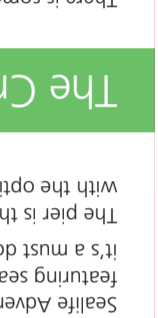
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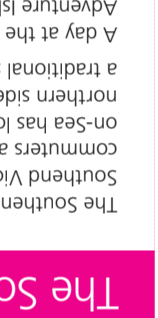
Southend-on-Sea



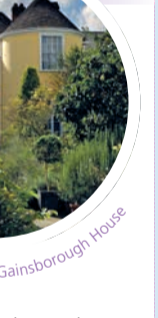
Wivenhoe



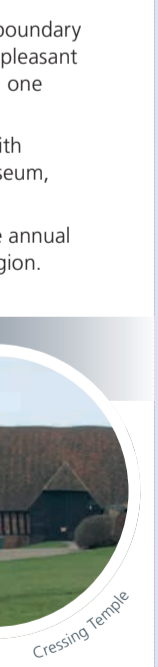
Colchester Zoo



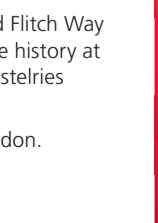
Harwich Lifeboat Museum



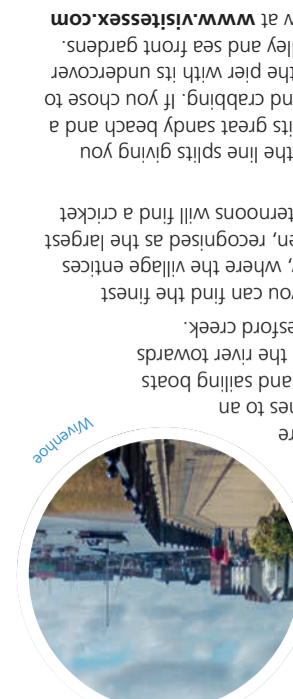
Gainsborough House



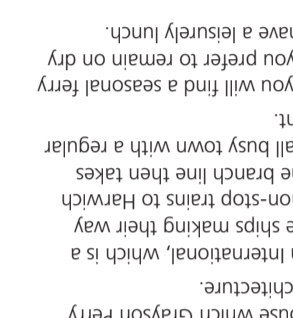
Cressing Temple



Southend-on-Sea



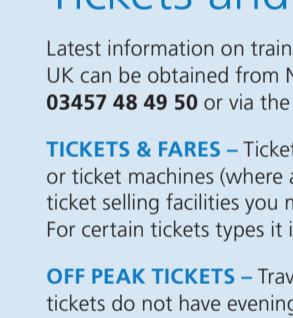
Wivenhoe



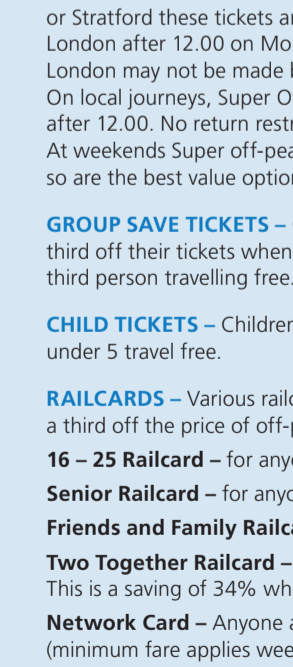
Colchester Zoo



Harwich Lifeboat Museum



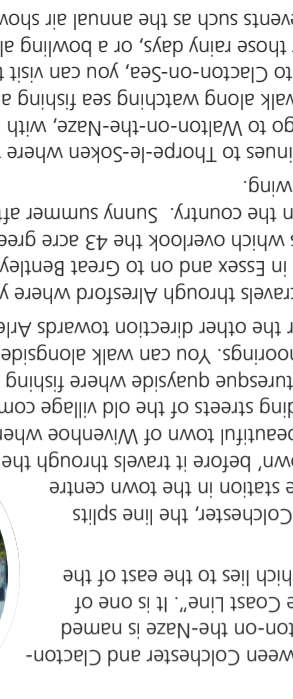
Gainsborough House



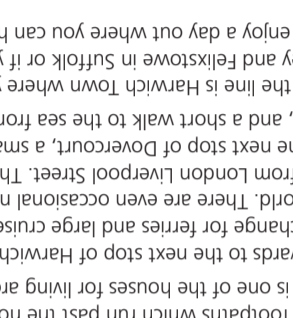
Cressing Temple



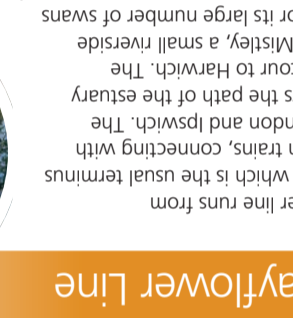
Southend-on-Sea



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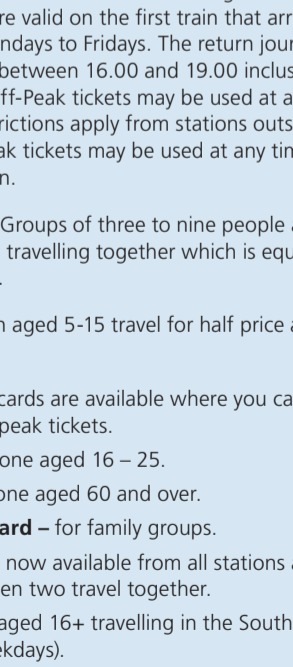
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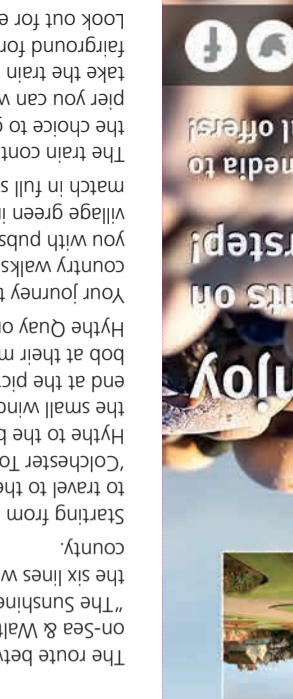
Gainsborough House



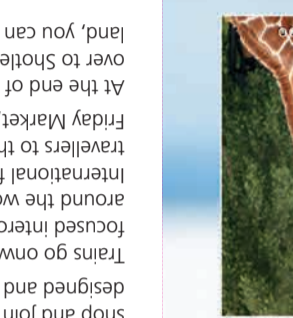
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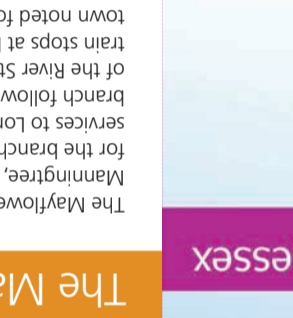
Southend-on-Sea



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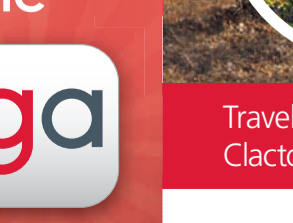
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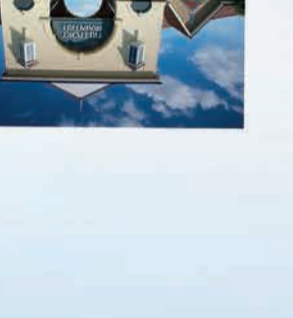
Southend-on-Sea



Wivenhoe



Colchester Zoo



Harwich Lifeboat Museum



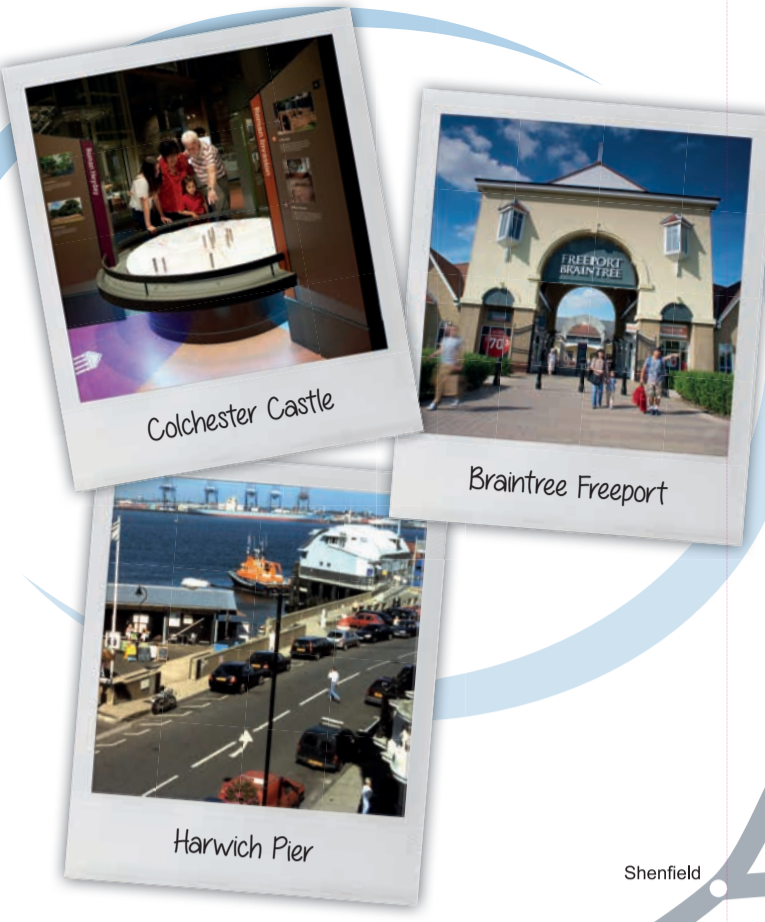
Gainsborough House



Cressing Temple



Southend-on-Sea



DESTINATIONS

Why not explore these wonderful destinations – just a train ride away

greateranglia

- Fitch Line – Braintree to Witham**
- 1** Fitch Way/Walk
Take an enjoyable walk along the disused railway line between Braintree and Bishop's Stortford. www.friends-of-the-fitch-way.org.uk
Journey time – 5 minute walk from Braintree Town station.
 - 2** Braintree Museum
Visit this fascinating museum and go back to school the old fashion way! www.braintreemuseum.co.uk Journey time – 7 minute walk from Braintree Town station.
 - 3** Freeport Braintree
Designer shopping outlet with over 85 stores and lots of places to eat. www.freeport-braintree.com
Journey time – 5 minute walk from Freeport station.
- Gainsborough Line – Marks Tey to Sudbury**
- 4** Gainsborough's House
Gainsborough's House the birth place of Gainsborough, visit the house and gardens and one of the largest collections of Gainborough's work. www.gainsborough.org
Journey time – 10 minute walk from Sudbury station.
 - 5** Sudbury Heritage Centre & Museum
A permanent display of Sudbury town's history from ancient times to the present day. Entry is free and the town centre has a real market town feel about it with lots of places to stop and drink or eat – or both. www.sudburysuffolk.co.uk/heritagecentre
Journey time – 4 minute walk from Sudbury station.
 - 6** East Anglian Railway Museum
When you arrive at Chappel & Wakes Colne station it's like stepping back into the past, this living heritage museum is full of history around our railway and a great day out. www.earm.co.uk
Journey time – based at Chappel & Wakes Colne station.

- Mayflower Line – Manningtree to Harwich**
- 7** Mistley Place Park Animal Rescue Centre
Over 2,000 rescued animals including goats, sheep, ducks, guinea pigs, chickens, cats, horses, pigs and rabbits. Enjoy refreshments in the park tea rooms. www.mistleyplacepark.com
Journey time – 6 minute walk from Mistley station.
 - 8** Wrabness Nature Reserve
A 60 acre reserve offers fantastic views on the Southern bank of the Stour Estuary. www.essexwt.org.uk/reserves/wrabness
Journey time – 25 minute walk from Wrabness station.
 - 9** The Redoubt
The Redoubt is an impressive circular fort 180ft in diameter built in 1808. It is the only such example open to the public and along with the military museum it is well worth a visit. www.harwich.net/society.htm
Journey time – 4 minute walk from Harwich Town station.
 - 10** Life Boat Museum
The museum gives you an interesting insight into the history of the lifeboat service in Harwich. www.maritimeheritageeast.org.uk/museums/harwich-lifeboat-museum
Journey time – 5 minute walk from Harwich Town station.
 - 11** Mayflower Project
Visit this exciting project to rebuild the Mayflower ship. A visitor centre and opportunity to see History in the making. www.harwichmayflower.com
Journey time – 3 minute walk from Harwich Town station.
 - 12** Flatford
There is a visitors centre, a RSPB wildlife garden, a riverside tea room or you can hire a rowing boat following the river to Dedham. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/flatford
Journey time – 45 minute walk from Manningtree station or hire one of the Bike&Go bikes at the station. See more details at www.bikeandgo.co.uk as you will need to pre-register for bikes.
- Sunshine Coast Line – Colchester to Clacton & Walton-on-the-Naze**
- 13** Colchester Castle
Colchester Castle is one of England's most important heritage sites with lots of fascinating layers of history a must to visit. www.cimuseums.org.uk
Journey time – 7 minute walk from Colchester Town station.
 - 14** Hollytrees Museum
Explore home life in Colchester over the past 300 years. www.cimuseums.org.uk
Journey time – 6 minute walk from Colchester Town station.
 - 15** Natural History Museum
Your opportunity to get closer to nature and find out about the wildlife habitat biodiversity and climate change around Colchester. www.cimuseums.org.uk
Journey time – 6 minute walk from Colchester Town station.
 - 16** Clacton Pier
Lots to do on the pier - amusement arcades, Seaquarium or indoor bowling. www.clactonpier.co.uk
Journey time – 10 minute from Clacton-on-Sea station.

- Crouch Valley Line – Battlesbridge to Southminster**
- 17** Battlesbridge Mill Antiques Centre
The Antique Centre is fascinating with 80 dealers displaying antiques, collectables, crafts, garden ornaments and a lot more. www.battlesbridge.com
Journey time – 4 minute walk from Battlesbridge station.
 - 18** Marsh Farm
Animal Adventure Park – a working farm with lots of fun for children. Indoor and outdoor play area plus restaurant. www.marshfarm.co.uk
Journey time – 25 minute walk from South Woodham Ferrers station.
 - 19** Blue House Farm Nature Reserve
A 600 acre farm on the bank of the river Crouch a great location to see lots of wildlife including water vole, wild fowl, wading birds, lapwing, redshank, avocet and brent geese. www.essexwt.org.uk/reserves/blue-house-farm
Journey time – 15 minute walk from North Fambridge station.
 - 20** Wallasea Island
Enjoy this nature reserve with lots to see including seals, oystercatcher, redshank, skylark and wheatear. www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/w/wallaseaisland
Journey time – 15 minute walk from Burnham-on-Crouch station to ferry pick-up. Ferry ride over to Wallasea Island is approx 15 minutes. Further details at www.burnhamferry.co.uk
- Southend Line – Wickford to Southend Victoria**
- 21** Adventure Island
The perfect day out for all the family, with over 60 rides and attractions, there's something for everybody to enjoy, for opening times www.adventureisland.co.uk
 - 22** Southend Pier
The pier extends to 2158 metres (1.341miles) into the Thames Estuary, you can take a slow stroll or catch the train which runs the length of the pier.
 - 23** Southend Central Museum
This museum tells the story of the natural and human history of South East Essex. The museum houses collections of local and natural history and contains a planetarium constructed by astronomer Harry Ford. www.southendmuseums.co.uk
 - 24** Prittlewell Priory
A wonderful historic grade 1 listed building, set in Priory Park 45 acres of tranquil gardens and ponds www.southendmuseums.co.uk
 - 25** Shopping Heaven
Southend-on-Sea has unlimited shopping opportunities with The Victoria Centre and The Royals. www.victoriasec.co.uk
www.royalsshoppingcentre.co.uk