

Shortest distance 200km , suggested distance by ferry 212km, or 209km using the Dartford road crossing cycling provision. The distance you're carried doesn't count to your cycling distance, but the time taken counts to your cycling time. I used a black cab since the ferry wasn't running that day and I didn't know the authorities would take bikes over the bridge/ tunnel. I understand bikes are not charged for on the ferry <https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/ferry-services/tilbury-to-gravesend-ferry-service>. The road service is free and is requested by turning up at the Kent or Essex crossing points indicated in the GPS file. I phoned up in 2013 and was told the service is 24 hour, but have no experience of using the service. See Dartford Crossing Timetable. <http://www.highways.gov.uk/our-road-network/managing-our-roads/improving-our-network/the-dartford-thurrock-river-crossing/>. Once the outskirts of London are cleared it is easier to find fairly laney routes that avoid the A12 and other trunk roads.

I've stayed in Lowestoft 4 times, last at <http://www.winelodge.co.uk/Winelodge/Winelodge-Apartments/> in 2012 when I got a cheap room.

Log from 2007. I've had to juggle with the controls, partly distance and partly the busy A12. E5 (205km). Hartley, Danbury, Coggleshall, Needham Market, Wickham Market, Beccles. 27/08/07, 126m on the clock, 0516-1814, hot and dry with light northerly. I had assumed the original distance for this leg was based on the Tilbury ferry, I think with hindsight it was based on being able to cycle over the Dartford Bridge. I took A13 to the junction with the A130 then the A414 to South Woodham, thence a B road to control at a garage in Danbury. I looked at the clock and realised the distance was under so decided to add an extra control at Bungay to add what I guessed would be about 7m. I found a lane to Woodham and took signs for a bit towards Hatfield Peveril. Thence a really rough lane before entering Witham. 2 miles on the A12, Kelvedon then B1024 to Coggleshall. I continued on this then some lanes to Bures. Here I had to ask help to get to Assington, my own fault, I hadn't looked at the map carefully enough. Thence lanes to Boxford. Got lost after Kersey but eventually found the way to Naughton, then a dash on the B1078 to a shop control in Needham Market. B1078 all the way to Wickham Market. Leaving on the Framlingham road I muddled thru the lanes, Parham, Brabbling Green, Badingham, Heveringham, Linstead Parva and Ilkeshall St Margaret to a shop control in Bungay. B1062 to Beccles control before getting to my digs (Fairfield Guest House) in Worlingham. (getting home I found the autoroute distance to be only 191k, I did about 202k but you don't normally get credited with distance for sub optimal routes or getting lost, so Ross was generous in giving me a brevet for this.)

