

Colne Valley Marathon 2026 23/08/26



Key:

BL - bear left

BR - bear right

BW – Bridleway

CP - Checkpoint

CVP – Colne Valley Path

EB - earth bridge

EP - enclosed path

EW – Essex Way

FB - footbridge

FC - field corner

FPS - footpath or finger post sign

FSD - for some distance

IMM - Immediate

KG - kissing gate

L - left

LHFE - left hand field edge

PBW – Public Byway

R - right

RA - roundabout

ROAD CARE!– TAKE CARE!

SA - straight ahead

TL - turn left

TR - turn right

RHFE - right hand field edge

THRU - through

WM - way marker sign

X - cross

Self-Navigation Instructions – Mileages markers are approximate!! If you find yourself lost retrace your steps to last known location and go again.

Exit Stambourne Village Hall, approx. 100m phone box **FPS TL** over cattle grid, concrete road

SA approx. 50m over stile on fence. **TL LHFE. FC THRU** hedge, **LHFE**, drift across field to far

R **FC, over stile, TL**, approx. 30m **TR THRU** hedge **RHFE**, the stream on the R is the River

Colne. **FC THRU** hedge **FB**, around **FC 20m TR FB, LHFE**. Track, **TR. SA** pass woods on L.

1 mile.

Downhill farm on L. **SA, ROAD CARE! TL, SA**, pass buildings on L & R. **SA** along Road. When

hedge finishes on R **BR** off road, stay parallel to road. **2 miles.**

As road goes left, **TR BW** Gunces Farm onto concrete road. **SA**, pass buildings on R. At farm

head towards woods into **EP** (to L of wood pile). **SA THRU** woods. Exit woods **SA**, fields

both sides, at clearing **SA THRU** more woods, exit woods **SA. ROAD CARE! TL** onto Scotneys

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

Al – 07720 890386

Bev – 07976 837435

Colne Valley Marathon 2026 23/08/26



Lane / Church Lane. **SA**, pass Bedrock Cottage on **R**, becomes track. As track **BR**, **TL FPS**

THRU hedge. **3 miles.**

TR RHFE, pass buildings on **R**, **TR FB**, **TL LHFE SA**. Pass woods on **L**, ignore large gap in hedge and track on **L**. **SA LHFE**. **FC THRU** hedge gap **TL**, **IMM TR RHFE SA**. **FC THRU** hedge gap, path junction **TL**. **EP SA** wooden fence on **R**, downhill. **CARE!** Down steps round railings, **ROAD CARE!** **X** road onto pavement, **TL SA** follow pavement over 'River Colne', pass bus stop, food takeaways on **L**. At '3 Bottles' pub **X** road on pavement, **TR**. **4 miles.**

SA FSD. Pass 'Butlers Way' on **R**. Pass 'Little Hyde' on **L**, **X** road **SA** into **EP** near large tree. **SA EP**, then **LHFE**. Track **TR**. **RHFE SA** along track, pass across concrete area. **SA**, as path goes **R**, **TL SA X** field. **THRU** hedge, **SA X** field. **5 miles**

THRU hedge, **LHFE** along track, **THRU** hedge **RHFE**, **TR THRU** hedge on track, **TL** on track **X** approx. 100m of field. At track **TL**, go around trees, **BR** on track up hill, not Left! **SA**, at hedge corner, **BR X** field approx. 2 o'clock, **LHFE**, **FC BL** around pylon **SA**. **6 miles.**

ROAD CARE! **TL**, **TR**. 'Kirby Hall Road', **SA**.

CP 1 w3w ///valid.soups.concluded

SA FSD to Castle Hedingham pass De Vere Primary School. Road Junction **TL** Nunery Street, **SA FSD** goes into Bayley Street. Use **L** pavement. At junction with green triangle **TL** into St James Street. **7 miles.**

SA on pavement, pass New Park Road on **L**, halfway up hill look for steps up opposite bank.

ROAD CARE! **X** road, up step, **RHFE**, telegraph pole **BL X** field, **TR LHFE** on track **SA FSD**.

ROAD CARE! **X** road 'Sheepcot Road' **SA**. 'Maiden Ley Farm' on **L**, **SA** brick wall on **L**.

8 miles.

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

AI – 07720 890386

Bev – 07976 837435

Colne Valley Marathon 2026 23/08/26



At gates **BR** into **EP**. Buildings on **L**, **SA FPS EP FSD**. **ROAD CARE! TR 'Alderforde St'** downhill onto pavement on **L**. At white mill building on **R TL** into **EP FPS SA** over **FB**, **EP SA LHFE**. **THRU** hedge gap **LHFE**, **SA THRU** hedge **SA LHFE**. **FC TL LHFE** under wires **LHFE**. **FC** metal **KG BR** along obvious narrow path. **THRU** 2 x wooden **KG's**. **SA RHFE**. **9 miles**.

Over concrete bridge **X** field, **THRU** gate **TL CVP**, through **FORD** pass old mill on **L**, sharp **L** bend **TR FPS EP SA**. **THRU** hedge gap **CVP**. **SA** across field. In next field **TL LHFE** uphill. **FC TR** follow track. At woods **BL** uphill. **10 miles**.

ROAD CARE! TR downhill 'Dynes Hall Rd' **SA FSD**. At road junction A1124 **TR** on pavement. At bridge railings **X** road, down steps, **THRU** gate **SA LHFE**. **11 miles**.

FC THRU hedge gap **FB SA LHFE**. **BR** over to **RHFE SA** into **EP**. Approx 20m before gate **TR** over stile **EP**, **IMM TL** on track on **LHFE**. Uphill, downhill as tracks turns **R TL** wooden gate **CVP FPS**. **EP** wooden fence on **L**. **SA FSD**. Path junction **TL**, then **IMM R**. **SA FSD** wooden fence on **L** Halstead **FC**. Metal fence **TL**, pass Motorcare on **R**. **ROAD CARE! TR SA** towards metal railings then bollards Rosemary Lane.

CP2 w3w ///vine.available.decisive 12 miles.

Leave CP **ROAD CARE! X** road, **X** main road at pedestrian crossing, **TL** on pavement. Follow pavement pass Bull Pub round bend over bridge. Pass bus stop **TR 'Factory Lane East' SA**. Pass Tesco on **R SA**. Into **EP**, walls, then green railings. **ROAD CARE! TR**, **IMM TL X** road, **TR** on pavement. **SA** approx. 30m **TL** Halstead River Walk. **SA FSD**, track path junction **BR R** down river on **R SA**. Uphill path junction keep **L**. At road follow path **R LHFE**. **THRU** trees, path junction. **13 miles**.

TR downhill, railings and building on **L**. Down steps **X** road onto pavement, **SA** into **EP** then

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

AI – 07720 890386

Bev – 07976 837435

Colne Valley Marathon 2026 23/08/26



gravel. **ROAD CARE! X** road, up bank, **TR EP** up down **LHFE SA**. **FC** follow hedge **R, L THRU** hedge gap, **SA** to **FC**. **THRU** hedge gap **FB, IMM TR LHFE SA**. **FC SA** into **EP** then clearing, **THRU** wooden gate. **SA** on road over bridge, **TR** 'Elms Hall Rd'. **SA** pass Elms Hall Cart Lodge on R. **14 miles**.

SA FSD Road junction, **BR X** road **THRU** hedge gap next to red bin. **SA RHFE, FC** into **EP**. **15 miles**.

Path junction **BR** over **FB, SA**, 'Colne Valley Golf' Course on R. Pass weir on R. Into clearing **RHFE, TR** up **SA** over old railway line, down. **X** field over **FB, TL EP** River on L, golf course on R, **SA FSD**. **16 miles**.

SA, THRU metal gate pass gated entrance to Earls Colne Priory, **IMM L THRU** wooden gate into **EP, SA**. **ROAD CARE! X** road onto pavement **TL** pass Sproutwell House on R. **SA** on pavement. At approx 200m end of brick wall before bridge **TR FPS**. **BR** into **EP, THRU** metal gate, **RHFE**. Pass small gate, **RHFE, TR THRU** / around metal gate, **TL LHFE**. **THRU** gate, **SA LHFE** not track. **FC BR** over **FB TL**.

Half marathon runners join from the R.

17 miles.

LHFE, THRU hedge gap, **LHFE** under pylon wires. **FC THRU** hedge gap and metal gate. **SA X** field, **THRU** gate between buildings, old mill on L. **SA** pass **THRU** Colne Contracts yard. Over stile, **SA**, over 2nd stile, **SA RHFE, THRU KG FPS** along fence, then brick wall, pass large house on L. Approx 100m before hill, **TL THRU** hedge gap, **BR X** field along grass track, **THRU** fence gap **FPS, SA**, at wood corner keep **RHFE**. (Don't go through metal into woods). At wooden fence, **THRU** metal gate. **18 miles**.

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

AI – 07720 890386

Bev – 07976 837435

Colne Valley Marathon 2026 23/08/26



Over **FB**, pass lake on L, boardwalk, metal gate, **LHFE**, wooden **KG**, **X** field **THRU** gate, onto gravel pass building on R. Onto track, **SA** pass church. **ROAD CARE! TL**, **X** to **RH** side of road **TR** into Swan pub car park, **SA** to rear of beer garden.

CP3 w3w///thin.incisions.dated The Swan Chappell

Exit CP under bridge, **TR**. **SA THRU** gravel area, **THRU** wooden gate **SA**.

19 miles.

SA EP. **FB FC**, **X** field towards house. **ROAD CARE! TL**. End of keep **L**, **EP**. Field **TR RHFE** approx. 50m. At 'Private' sign **BL X** field, **X EB**, **SA X** field to **FC SA LHFE**. **FC THRU** hedge gap & metal **KG**, **SA LHFE**. **FC THRU** metal gate **SA LHFE**. **FC** pillbox on L **THRU** metal gate **SA LHFE** (not over bridge). **20 miles.**

FC THRU metal gate and **FB CVP**. **SA LHFE FSD**. Next field **SA LHFE FSD**. At trees **BR** on track **TL** round large oak tree. **SA LHFE**. **FC FPS SA** 'Essex Way'. Before **FC BL** towards pillbox keeping close to river. Around pillbox **SA** railing fence on **R SA EP**. Over **FB SA**, **X** driveway **SA**. **21 miles.**

ROAD CARE! X road **TR SA** on pavement. Pass New Rd on R. At end of wooden fence **FPS TL**. **SA LHFE**, **FC THRU** hedge over **FB SA LHFE**. Approx 100m **BR X** field uphill towards end of tree line. **THRU** hedge gap, **SA LHFE**. At woods **TL** down track **RHFE**. **FC CVP SA X** field. **ROAD CARE! X** road.

CP 4 w3w///lamenting.victory.single

Exit CP, over bridge **IMM TR** down bank. **THRU** metal **KG X** field, **THRU KG TR SA**. **22 miles.**

SA, FB, SA. Path fork **BR FPS, EW**. Over **FB EP SA**. **THRU** gate **EP SA**. End of fence **BL THRU** hedge gap, **TR RHFE**, onto track **SA** over bridge. **SA** on track, **THRU** gate, **SA**. **23 miles.**

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

AI – 07720 890386

Bev – 07976 837435

Colne Valley Marathon 2026 23/08/26



Uphill SA . At concrete area TR , IMM TL uphill 'Cooks Hall Lane'. SA FSD approx .
ROAD CARE! X road TR , IMM TL 'White House Lane'. 24 miles .
Follow road round bends, downhill pass 'Chapel Lane' on L. BR 'Bourne Road'. SA FSD . At end of tarmac onto track, then SA EP . THRU KG EP SA . CARE! golf course on L. At top of hill SA CARE! X 2 x golf fairways THRU hedge gap, EP . FPS CVP SA . 25 miles .
Downhill, THRU underpass under A12 dual carriageway, up steps EP SA . THRU KG , ROAD CARE! TR , over railway bridge, IMM TL EP . SA golf course on R. Path turns away from golf course FB FPS CVP EP SA . At track TL, track junction BR SA 'The Chase Way' on main track towards house and Jumbo water tower in far distance. SA FSD pass house on R. 26 miles .
SA on track FB over River Colne. THRU gate TL onto pavement. SA at RA keep L. Approx 50m TL down steps, THRU underpass. SA pass steps on R, THRU 2 nd underpass. IMM TR SA on pavement next to road. ROAD CARE! X road 'Rotary Way'. SA , BL down, Sharp TR THRU 3 rd underpass, BR up, BL SA keep car sales on R. At metal railings TR pedestrian entrance to St Helena School and you're all done!! 26.9 miles .

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

Al – 07720 890386

Bev – 07976 837435