



Blackwater Navigation Half and Full Marathon 2026.

Key:

BL - bear left

BR - bear right

BW - Bridleway

EB - earth bridge

EP - enclosed path

FB - footbridge

FC - field corner

FPS - footpath sign

(can be tall or short)

FSD - for some distance

IMM - Immediate

KG - kissing gate

L - left

LHFE - left hand field edge

R - right

RA - roundabout

ROAD – 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 become lost, retrace your steps to a known location and rejoin the route.

If you are going to miss a Checkpoint cut-off, call a H&T team member.

Exit start, **SA** on obvious path, river to your R. **X** canal bridge, **BR**, **TR** with boarding on

L. Approx 20m **BR** off pavement into **EP**. Under road bridge, **SA FSD** keeping river Chelmer to your right. Over **FB SA**, Barnes Mill lock. **1 mile.**

SA FSD, **BR** under brick bridge, pass boats on R **SA**. **X ROAD**, 'Sandford Mill Road', down onto towpath, river on right. Pass canal lock, **SA**, **X ROAD**, 'Brook End Road' onto towpath, river to right. **SA** towards A12 bridge. Keep to path close to river, not road. **2 miles.**

Under A12 bridge, keep close to river. **SA**, path, pass metal footbridge. **SA FSD**, Pass Cuton Lock. **SA**. **3 miles.**

River turns away from A12, **SA** keep river to R. Pass Stonham's Lock. Follow river at sharp R. **4 miles.**

SA FSD, pass Little Baddow Mill Lock. Pass black FB.

Emergency Numbers:

Pete – 07368 533808

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CP 1 w3w///runner.flask.protected. ROAD! 'Church Road', TR X bridge, TL
onto towpath river to your left. **SA**, beyond river is Tri-Farm triathlon lake. **5 miles**

SA FSD, keep river to your left. FB, boats. **THRU** wooden gate, table area, beware of the public. Paper Mill Lock on L. Keep close to river **SA THRU** wooden gate. **X ROAD!** 'North Hill' onto towpath keep river to your left. **SA FSD. 6 miles.**

Continue **SA FSD**, pass white FB, pass Rushes Lock. **7 miles.**

SA FSD, pass church on L, **X FB**. Keep river to your L. **8 miles.**

Pass Hoe Mill Lock. **ROAD! TL X bridge, TR** onto towpath. **CP 2 w3w///cups.perfect.nudge**

SA FSD keep river to your R. Under large black pipes. **SA FSD. 9 miles.**

SA FSD, pass Ricketts lock. Keep river to your R, pass Ricketts Lock. **10 miles.**

SA, pass black pipes, keep river to your R. Beeleigh lock, **X river, TL** keep river to your L.

SA FB over weir, **X ROAD** onto path next to river. Keep river to your L. **SA**, at brick bridge

BR, back onto towpath, golf club on R., keep river to your L. **SA. 11 miles.**

X river before road bridge. **TR** keep river to your R. Under road bridge, **SA**, under road bridge, under FB, Tesco on R. **SA FSD**, under road bridge, **SA** keep river close on R.

Pavement under bridge 'Holloway Road'. **BR** onto road, approx. 50m **BR** onto towpath.

Pass large brick building on R. **SA. 12 miles.**

SA FSD, keep Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation to your right. Pass Hall Road Bridge. **SA FSD. 13 miles.**

Boats along canal, pass between 2 x black huts. Onto gravel, after Old Ship Inn **BL** stay on tarmac sea wall. **SA**, **EP** Jolly Sailor to L. Pass play park on L. **SA** Blackwater Marina on L.

CP3 w3w///factoring.gentlemen.examine HALF MARATHON FINISHES HERE. NICE WORK!!

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Marathoner's **SA**, River on R. At end of sailing club, path junction **TR**, stay on sea wall. **SA. 14 miles.**

SA, pass holiday park, pass Saltcote Sailing club, Millbeach Marine Club and holiday park.

Pass The Beach House, Osea View café and beach huts. **SA FSD. 15 miles.**

Continue past caravan park, sea wall, **X** track 'Osea Road' onto gravel path. **SA FSD** along sea wall. **16 miles.**

SA FSD along sea wall. **17 miles.**

Pass Goldhanger sailing club behind trees on L, **SA**. At RH bend **TL** down slope or steps at red dog bin and metal gate into **EP. SA, CP 4 w3w///settled.paddlers.fields. ROAD!** 'Fish Street' **TR SA**, road junction Chequers pub on R. **TR** into church yard. Keep church to your L, **SA**. Exit church yard, **LHFE SA FSD. 18 miles.**

At track **SA FPS, THRU** hedge gap **FB, X field**, track **TR**. At **FC** as track **BL, TL** off track, **SA LHFE, THRU** gate. **LHFE, EP** follow wooden fence on R, do not enter Joyces Farmyard! At End of wooden fence **BL**, then **IMM R RHFE**. Don't follow **FPS. RHFE. 19 miles.**

After **FC** Pass 2 x properties on R, at overhead powerlines **TR** into **EP FPS**. At track junction **TR**, approx. 100m, **BL THRU** Lauriston Farm buildings. At fence **TL FPS, BR** in field, **SA** to far L **FC. THRU** gate, **FC TR not SA, LHFE FSD. X track, SA FPS, LHFE. FC TR not SA, LHFE** approx. 50m **TL FB, FPS, TL, LHFE** Approx 50m **TR** between fields. **20 miles.**

At track **TL, SA** 'Pages Lane', pass buildings on L & R. **SA** on road **FSD**. Pass White House Farm (Bamber Murders) on L, **IMM TL** before white fronted house. (If you get to the road turnaround!) **21 miles.**

SA FSD THRU trees, then **RHFE**. As track goes around 'S' bend, **TR FPS** at hedge line. **SA LHFE** downhill, around copse. **FC THRU** hedge gap **FPS RHFE**, approx. 100m **TR, RHFE SA. 22 miles.**

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At track **TR**. **SA FSD, ROAD!** X road **TL**, 'Tollesbury Road'. As road **BL** before houses, **TR FPS**
CP 5 w3w///shakes.monitors.budgeted. **IMM BL FPS** into field, **RHFE**, around corner.

Approx 30m at hedge gap **TR**. Approx 100m **TL FB FPS, SA RHFE. 23 miles.**

Pass hedge gap on **R**, approx. 20m **TR FPS THRU** wooden fence gap. **SA THRU** trees, **THRU**
fence gap, **TL LHFE. FC TR**, approx. 20m **TL** under power lines, **SA FSD** on track **RHFE**. Track
junction **TR**. At track 'S' bend **TL** at telegraph pole, **SA RHFE. 24 miles.**

ROAD! TR. SA approx. 200m as road **BR, TL FPS EP. SA FB**, up steps down steps. **FC TL**
LHFE, SA. Path junction **TL** over stream, **TR RHFE, FB, TR RHFE.** Track junction **TL. FC TR** up
onto sea wall **TR. 25 miles.**

SA FSD marsh on **L**. Pass bench on **R. SA** toward red light ship.

26 miles.

At end of sea wall **ROAD!** Down steps or slope **TR. SA** approx. 200m to **well-earned finish**
on **R. Amazing work everyone!!! 26.3 miles.**

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