A nice little river/meadow walk (c.30 minutes)
Coe Fen > Sheep’s Green > Lammas Land > Silver Street

If you just need a little break, this is a great walk that gets you away from College and the centre of town in just a few minutes. It’s not usually too muddy, either.

- Set off from Main Court, heading towards Peterhouse, and then turn right down Silver Street. Cut through the little lane with the bike shop on the corner just before the bridge, and then bear right between The Anchor and The Mill, and towards the river and head through the iron gates.
- Bear left, and keep the river (and Scudamore’s punt station) on your left and the meadow (Coe Fen) on your right. At some times of year you may see cows on the meadow (and if not here, at the next bit of the walk).
- Keep walking along by the river, until you get to the road, and use the tiny underpass to cross the road, and keep going through the meadow (which is now Sheep’s Green).
- Take a right turn and head towards a small bridge, cross the bridge, and you’ll find yourself in Lammas Land. This bit of a river is a great place to feed the ducks.
- There will be a large paddling pool on your right, followed by an ice cream stall on your left (both of which come into their own in the summer) and a play park ahead of you. Head towards the park.
- Once you’re through the park (having sat on the swings if you like!) you’ll find yourself at another road, with a pedestrian crossing. Cross the road, and keep going down the little path ahead of you, then bear right across the little bridge.
- You’re now back in Coe Fen, and if you keep going you’ll end up by the river and Scudamore’s punt station, and can make your way back to College via Silver Street.
Grantchester (and Grantchester Meadows)

It takes about an hour to walk from Main Court to Grantchester, and most of that walk is through meadows and by the river. When you get there, it’s worth visiting The Orchard (https://www.theorchardteagarden.co.uk/), as having a cream tea there is A Thing.

- Head right out of Main Court, and right again down Silver Street, over the bridge and then left at the crossroads, straight on at the roundabout, keeping Lammas Land on your left (there’s a cut through the meadows, for which see the Coe Fen Walk)

- When the road bends round to the right, you want to go straight on, keeping the Co-op on your right, and then right down Eltisley Avenue (bearing left at the fork). This turns into Grantchester Meadows, and at the end of the road, keep going straight on along the little path, through the actual Grantchester Meadows, with the river on your left. Lots of people go swimming in the river along here.

- Keep going straight along this path until you reach the road, and that’s Grantchester!

Here’s a closer view of Grantchester itself, showing where the main things are.
Other lovely places further afield

You can walk to Wandlebury Country Park, but you can also cycle there along the main road and then have a leisurely walk when you get there, through the beautiful well-maintained woodland. There’s even a spot where you can see Ely Cathedral on the horizon.

To get there: cycle to Addenbrooke’s (which is just out of shot in the top left corner of the picture), either via Trumpington Road or Hills Road, and then carry on a little further on Babraham Road, on which there’s also a lovely farm shop. This really takes you out of the city, and there is even a bit of a hill! It’s also a popular area for running.

It’s a much longer walk to Ely – around 18 miles along the river. But it’s well worth it. You’ll see all sorts of wildlife that you never see in the city, and really get a sense of being in the middle of nowhere. You can see the huge and stunning Cathedral from about 10 miles away, so it’s easy to get a sense of your progress through the walk. The Chaplain leads walks to Ely at the end of Lent term and Easter term, but if you want to try it separately, the best route is to head towards Midsummer Common and cross the river at the Millennium Bridge into Chesterton, then turn right so that you are on the left bank of the river all the way to Waterbeach. At Waterbeach you can cross over the river and stay on the right bank in order to pass the Five Miles From Anywhere pub, which does good value food and has plenty of outdoor seating. Stay on the right bank for the rest of the way, and you’ll pass the station on the way into Ely (which is useful to know, because you’ll want to get the train back! If you time your walk well, you can end up at the Cathedral in time for Evensong, or just aim to arrive in time to have a hot chocolate and a sit down in a café.

If you set off from Catz at 9am, you’re likely to get to Waterbeach at about 11am, which is the last chance to get the train back without having to do the whole walk, and you’ll then arrive at the pub in time for lunch at around 1. Allowing for a short lunch break, you’d probably end up in Ely by about 5pm. But it does depend on how many little breaks you need and how fast you walk!

**NB for this walk you really do need proper shoes. It’s possible in trainers if it’s dry, but walking shoes/boots are better. And take a waterproof coat and plenty of water and snacks! 18 miles is a fair distance, even with no hills.**