

# STRATFORD ST MARY

Stratford St. Mary sits between the River Stour and the A12 road, although the village church lies just beyond the A12. However, the main road seems to have had much less impact on the village than one would expect.



*St. Mary's Church*

Many of John Constable's paintings, including in particular 'Stratford Mill', depict Stratford St. Mary. However, perhaps most important of all is 'The Leaping Horse', which shows the viewpoint where the old channel of the Stour leaves the navigable river. A few yards downstream from the point stood the old toll booth, from where a toll was collected from anyone crossing the bridge over the Stour, which formed the boundary between Essex and Suffolk. Today the old wooden bridge has been replaced by a much higher stone bridge and the old booth is now the location of the renowned Le Talbooth Restaurant.



*The Post Office and Garage lie on the western side of the A12*

Stratford St. Mary's post office, shops, restaurants and churches are all well supported and the village retains its historic charm. There is also an excellent farm shop and restaurant next to the church, which has been converted from old farm buildings by the Barry family, who have farmed at Stratford St. Mary for many generations.



*St. Mary's Church, Hull Farm Shop and Café Restaurant lie on the eastern side of the A12*

For more information visit:  
[www.onesuffolk.co.uk/StratfordStMaryPC](http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/StratfordStMaryPC)  
[www.stratford-st-mary.co.uk](http://www.stratford-st-mary.co.uk)