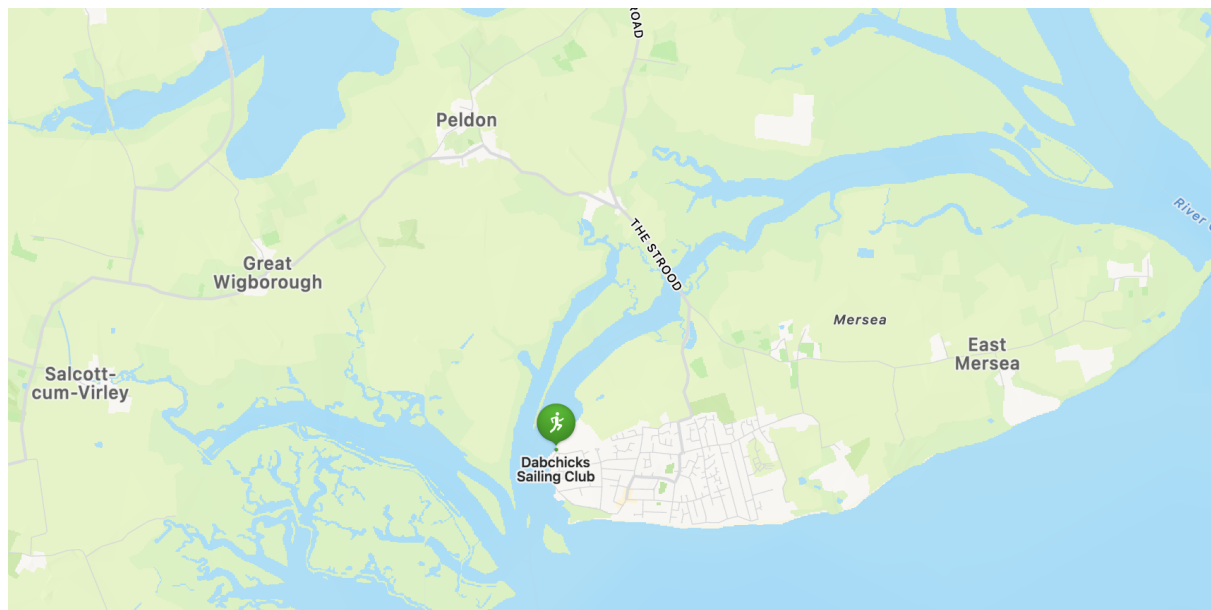


Dabchicks Sailing Club

Located on Mersea Island, Dabchicks SC is the venue for your 2025 Open event. Situated in Essex, the area is billed as 'an idyllic location found nine miles south east of Colchester and covering seven square miles, with a glowing reputation for beautiful scenery and historic churches' so we'd better add 'and good sailing' to that!

The club is well used to hosting events and are very much looking forward to welcoming you.

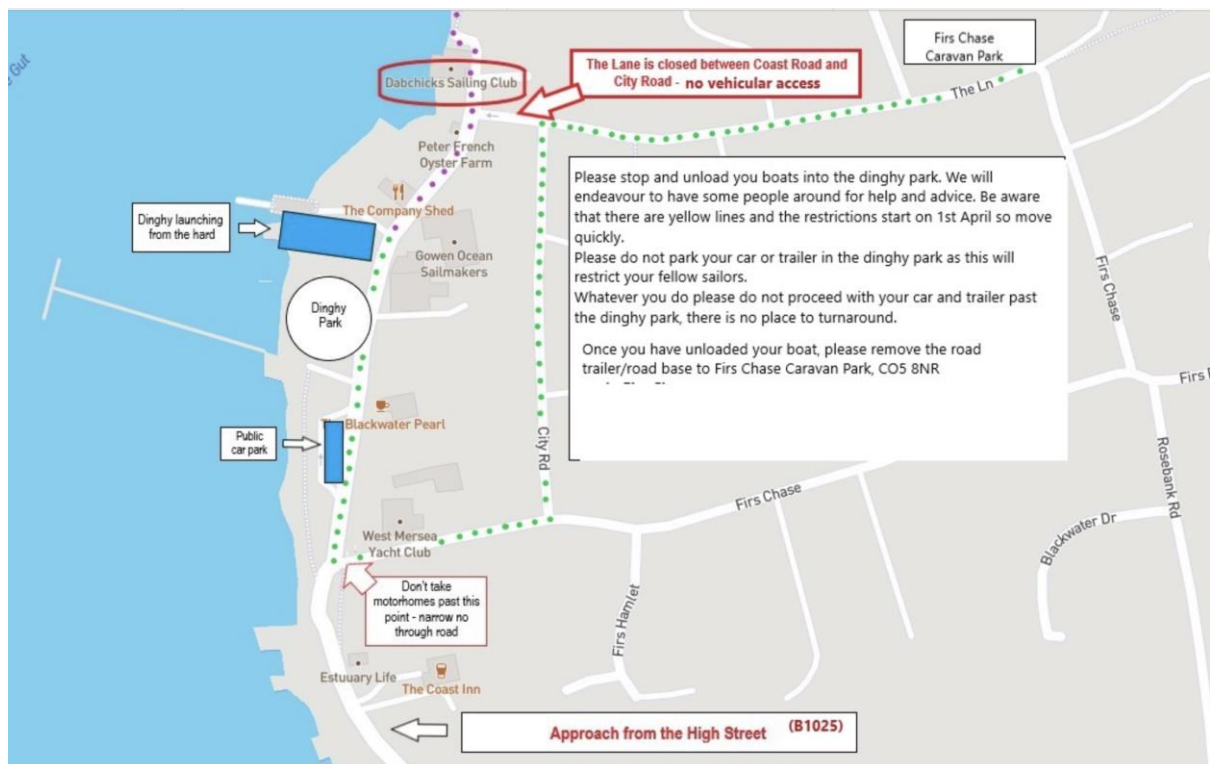


Getting there

Leave the A12 where it signed for Colchester, and head south out of Colchester on Mersea Road. West Mersea is about 10 miles from Colchester. Be warned, the access to the island is via a causeway and there are a couple of times a month when the causeway will flood at high tide. It's worth checking the tide times to make sure you don't end up parked up waiting for the water to recede. You can check them [here](#).

Dinghy Parking

The club has a dinghy park close to the slipway. Dinghy parking will be available for all competitors throughout the event.



Road trailers are not allowed to be kept in the dinghy park, after off loading they would need to be taken to Firs Chase Caravan Park where they can be stored for the duration, along with any cars which will not be needed during your stay.

It is possible for early access to the dinghy park, we would just request notice of this to allow us to ensure spaces are available.

Racing

Sailing takes place on the River Blackwater.

Sailing can generally be seen from the beach with the best viewing from the Esplanade (where the beach huts are), however this does depend on the courses set. Sailing from the launching point to the start usually takes around 20 minutes, again depending on where the start line is situated, full information will be given at the briefing.



Accommodation

The club website provides this useful [link](#) to a wide range of accommodation including self-catering, holiday cottages, campsites etc. It also provides links to beach hut hire for your supporters to enjoy some luxury overlooking the sea! There are a number of properties on AirBnB, close to the club and further away but still 'on the island'.

Motorhomes and camping are not normally allowed at the club – however there are a number of campsites on the island which are listed on the accommodation list.

Parking

The car park closest to the club (see map) has 28 spaces and no height barriers (at the time of writing). Parking for >4 hours is £8.50. You can find information about other car parks [here](#).

Other Stuff!

There is plenty to do on Mersea Island for the non-sailors, with activities for young children through to those looking for a more peaceful way to spend their time. Fancy a beach hut to hire – have a look at the accommodation list. There's a 12-mile challenging walk around the island which will take around 3 hours for seasoned walkers. Dogs are welcome on the beaches and public rights of way.

Visit Cudmore Grove country park at the far point of East Mersea to walk the dog or fly kites, or just enjoy the sandy beach there. You can catch the foot ferry from there to St Osyth and Brightlingsea. More on the ferry [here](#).

West Mersea village provides plenty of opportunities to stop and enjoy food or a drink whilst watching the world go by.

Please note that dogs are not permitted on the club site.

Venue Briefing, RS700 2025, Dabchicks Sailing Club

Maps and diagrams

