



Bengo Trails 2: St. Leonard's Garden, Hartham, and Ware Park Manor Views

This trail visits important views and designated green spaces given additional protection through the [Bengo Neighbourhood Area Plan](#). The trail was produced by the [Love Bengo Community Group](#).



Starts: Gates to the Warren and [Hartham Common](#), near the bottom of Port Hill SG14 3EP

Ends: The Greyhound Pub at the top of Bengo Street SG14 3EY

Distance: 1.6m/2.58km

Conditions: Some unsurfaced paths and grassy areas. Some uphill and downhill stretches

Go through the **Gates to the Warren and Hartham Common** onto Public Footpath 86. The gates, and numbers 38-40 Port Hill, to the left of the gates, have additional protection through the Neighbourhood Plan. At the first footbridge, cross the River Beane (a rare chalk stream) into the Common, along the path until you reach the grassy area in front of [Hartham Leisure Centre](#).



Looking left across the Common, towards Port Hill, is Neighbourhood Plan View 7: **Hartham Common towards Port Hill**. The Plan says: *'The woods and*



Common are home to many different species of wildlife and this Green Finger helps the area not to

feel over-developed'. To the right is Neighbourhood Plan View 8: **Hartham Common Towards The Warren**. The view description says: *'no future development should be permitted to prevent the view of the bellcote (of St. Leonard's Church) seen from Hartham*'.



Return back towards The Warren. At the tennis courts, take the path on the right and cross the bridge across the River Beane. Turn right back onto Footpath 86 and continue, slightly uphill until you reach the [Grade I listed St Leonard's Church](#), the oldest building in Hertford. Turn left in front of the church, bear right and **St. Leonard's Garden** is on your left.

The Neighbourhood Plan says: *'Although the garden is in the Hertford Conservation Area, designation as [Local Green Space](#) gives it much needed additional protection*'.

Looking from the garden towards the church is Neighbourhood Plan View 6: **St. Leonard's Church from St. Leonard's Garden.** The Plan says: *'if St. Leonard's Garden were developed, this wonderful view of the church would be lost to the public and should be preserved in perpetuity'*.



Leave the garden through the black gate and walk along St. Leonard's Road and turn right into Ware Park Road, then left into Watermill Lane. The **Watermill Lane Play and Recreation Area** on your left has **Local Green Space** designation through the Neighbourhood Plan. It's described as *'highly valued by residents'*. *'There are semi-natural areas within the park and owls, hawks and Red Kites visit regularly. Since its regeneration in the 1970s, many trees and shrubs have matured. This wonderful park has been cared for by residents and should be protected from development'*.



Walk up Bridleway 15 (adjacent to the recreation area) to Watermill Lane North. On your right is Neighbourhood Plan View 4: **Watermill Lane North towards Ware Park Manor.** The Plan says *'this view gives the public a glimpse of a building that is otherwise difficult to access. This farmland to the north of the public footpath on Watermill Lane is unsuitable for development due to the open, unspoiled views'*.



At the top of Watermill Lane North, turn left onto Wadesmill Road and continue on to Bengoe Street until you reach **The Greyhound** pub, on your left. The pub has additional protection through the Neighbourhood Plan. [This trail ends here.](#)

Route Map: Bengoe Trails 2 – St Leonard's Garden, Hartham, and Ware Park Manor Views
(map produced using openstreetmap.org)

