Brockdish West

OS Map: X 230 Track: **TM 21255 79607 GPX for SatNav** 7.3 Miles Updated: 2018

Park near the village hall, Brockdish located near the south end of Grove Road. Meet at the little green opposite the hall.

From the green, head west along Scole Road. When Scole Road bends right to join the A143, turn left, west, through the metal gate. This avoids the main road. When the path meets the A143, turn left, SE, on a wide farm track. At the ruined house, the track bends right, south. Drop down, almost to flood plain level.

Turn right and meander west and SW along the wide field perimeter track, hedge left for four fields. At a belt of trees, kink left and right and continue west, woodland right. The path bends right, NW and joins another track. Don't go through the gate into the grazing meadows. Head west through the gap into the next field and continue SW, fence left, not in the grazing meadow. At the SW field corner, go through the overgrown gap and over a footbridge. Continue west, hedge left. At a belt of trees, turn right, NW, trees left. Follow the field perimeter left, west, trees left. The Waveney comes very close on this leg. In the SW corner of the field, Waveney Crotch left, head west over a footbridge. A few paces further on, turn right, north, and head towards the A143. If this path is overgrown, don't cross the footbridge. Head north along the field perimeter instead, hedge left. At the pumping station, emerge into the lay-by parallel with the A143. Turn left, west.

At the signpost to Upper Street Billingford, cross the A143 and head north along this lane. When Kiln Lane meets Upper Street, bear right, east, and turn off right, east, onto the concrete path. There should be diagonal paths, SE, across the next two fields. If these have been reinstated, head SE. Otherwise, follow the concrete when it bends right, south. Turn first left, east, still on concrete. At the woodland, turn right, south, still on concrete, woodland left. At the end of the field, turn left, east, over a sleeper bridge. Turn right, south, hedge right.

At a Breckland-style line of pines, turn left, east, pines right. At the end of the pines, turn right, south, through the gap. After the gap, head SE, soon east, hedge left, along a field access track. After the gate, turn left, NE. Head past the house and immediately bear right, NE, hedge right. Where several fields meet, head through the gap, NE, and continue NE, hedge right. At the field corner, cross a footbridge and head NE along a well maintained narrow path. This emerges at parking for the Highfield Fisheries. Turn right, south, along the fishery access road. Follow the gravel access lane, as it bends left, east. At the end of the lane, go through the gate and, at the tarmac, turn left, north.

The road bends right, NE, past the Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall. Note the interesting sign and mural showing a WW2 bomber. Turn right, east, past park benches and an attractive band-stand style shelter - a good picnic place perhaps. 600 metres later, the tarmac bends left, NW. At this bend, turn right, SE, woodland right, past the pole-top transformer. Cross the A143 and head up the tarmac slope. At the top, turn sharp left, NE, main road left. The church tower is ahead, slightly to the right. Go through the tall metal gate onto the semi-derelict football pitch. Head east, hedge left. Pass the church on the right and continue NE along Church Lane.

At the tarmac road, turn right, SE. After 50 metres, turn left, east, hedge and houses right. Follow the field perimeter. The path bends left, NW, and crosses an open field. At woodland, bear right, NE, woodland left. Cross another open field and head NE towards the power pole on the far side. At the power pole, continue NE, hedge left, down the slope to the tarmac. Turn right, SE and soon south along Grove Road. Cross the ford or use the bridge if the stream is flowing. Return to the start near the village hall.

The Old Kings Head (Italian menu) is 5 minutes walk east of the village hall.

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