Waveney Ramblers Waveney Way 5.2 North Cove and Beccles

OS Map: X 231, OL 40 Track: TM 46119 89343 GPX for SatNav 10.2 Miles Updated:

Park near St. Botolph's church or opposite the Three Horseshoes Pub.

Head east along the cycle and foot path. Turn left, north, along Marsh Lane. Turn left again, north, along Marsh Lane. At the Y-junction, bear left, NW, along the No Through Road. Cross the railway and continue roughly north. At the river, climb the bank and turn left, west, river right. Follow the riverside path for about four miles all the way to Beccles.

Landmarks on this leg:

A pumping station with a crane. A mooring statihe with vehicle access and a road, left, to Worlingham. Worlingham Wall, a meandering footpath, left, beside a willow-lined stream. The disused railway bridge foundations and a track left towards Beccles. Brick pumping station with a tin barrel roof. A footbridge and track, left, towards Beccles. Sailing club. Beccles bypass A146, over-bridge. Beccles Marina, head left, SE, boats right.

Cross the footbridge and turn right along Fen Lane, towards the cafe and toilets. Head left, south along Fen Lane. Cross Ravensmere and head south along Northgate. Follow Saltgate, south, to St. Michael's church with its detached tower. Head right, east, passing the tower left, and the church right. There is an excellent view over the river before going down the steps into Puddingmoor. Turn left, south, along Puddingmoor. Turn left, SE, up the Stepping Hill steps. Turn right, SW, along Ballygate. There are more fine views over the river valley. Pass Beccles Museum, the old Sir John Leman school. Note the coat of arms on the NE gable. At the Beccles town sign, turn left, east, along St. Mary's Road.

At the war memorial, bear right, SE, along Priory Road, hospital left. Bear left, east, along a few metres of Ashmans Road. Turn right, south, along London Road, just to the pedestrian crossing. Cross east and then head right, SE, along St. George's Road. Cross the railway, SE. At the roundabout and Co-op, head right, SE, along Rigbourne Hill Lane. This is a footpath or alley between High Lees and Rigbourne Hill. Cross Banham Road and with a small right left kink, head SE along Oak Lane. Continue SE along Oak Lane as it dwindles to a footpath.

At the Southern Relief Road, turn left, east, and follow the cycle and footpath. To avoid this busy stretch (0.8 miles extra) cross the relief road. Head SE along Cucumber Lane passing an unusual ornate brick arch, left. After power lines and a pole-top transformer, bear left, east, along the footpath. Turn left, north, along Church Road. Turn left, NW, along Ellough Road.

At the roundabout, re-join the foot and cycle path. Head north, then right, NE, into College Lane. Turn right, east, along Manor Close. Turn right, SE, along Sandpit Lane. At the bottom of a shallow dip, cross the watercourse and turn left, NE, ditch left. Cross an intersecting track and continue NE, ditch and sewage works left. Cross the A146 and head NE to the old road. Turn right, SE, bending slowly left, east, and return to the pub and church.

The Three Horseshoes is well placed for post-walk refreshments.

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