Waveney Ramblers Rural Rambles

Suffolk Creeks North



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 0 **Rural Rambles - Suffolk Creeks** North

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 39526 59272 GPX for SatNav** 156 Miles Updated: 2020-12-22

This 160 mile linear route in 40 circular legs follows the Suffolk coast and creeks of the rivers Stour, Orwell, Deben, Ore, Alde, and Blythe. The route includes parts of the Stour and Orwell Walk, the Suffolk Coast Path, the Sandlings Walks and the Waveney Way. The circular routes are up to eleven miles and total around 355 miles. The route starts at Flatford Mill and ends in Hopton.

SUFFOLK CREEKS SOUTH - Walks 1 to 20

The walks in "Suffolk Creeks South" begin at Flatford Mill. The routes include Catawade, Stutton, Holbrook, Alton, Shotley, Pin Mill, Wherstead, Orwell Bridge, Ipswich, Nacton, Levington, Trimley, Felixstowe, Felixstowe Ferry, Hemley, Newbourne, Waldringfield, Martlesham, Melton, Woodbridge, Sutton Hoo, Ramsholt, Shottisham, Alderton, Bawdsey and Felixstowe Ferry (North).

SUFFOLK CREEKS NORTH - Walks 20 to 40

SC 20 Bawdsey, 9.2 Miles

SC 21 Shingle Street, 8.2 Miles

SC 22 Boyton, 8.5 Miles

SC 23 Chillesford and Butley, 7.2 Miles

SC 24 Chillesford and Sudbourne, 6.5 Miles

SC 25 Orford, 9.3 Miles

SC 26.1 Sudbourne, 10.3 Miles

SC 26.2 Sudbourne, 9.4 Miles

SC 27 Iken and Snape, 7 Miles

SC 28 Church Common, 5 to 6 Miles

SC 29 Friston, 9.5 Miles

SC 30 Thorpeness and Aldeburgh, 8.9 Miles

SC 31 Thorpeness and Sizewell, 9.5 Miles

SC 32 Minsmere, 9.2 Miles

SC 33 Dunwich, 8 Miles

SC 34 Walberswick, 9.3 Miles

SC 35 Southwold, 9.3 Miles

SC 36 Potters Bridge, 10

SC 37 Benacre, 7.5 Miles

SC 38 Kessingland and Pakefield, 9.3 Miles

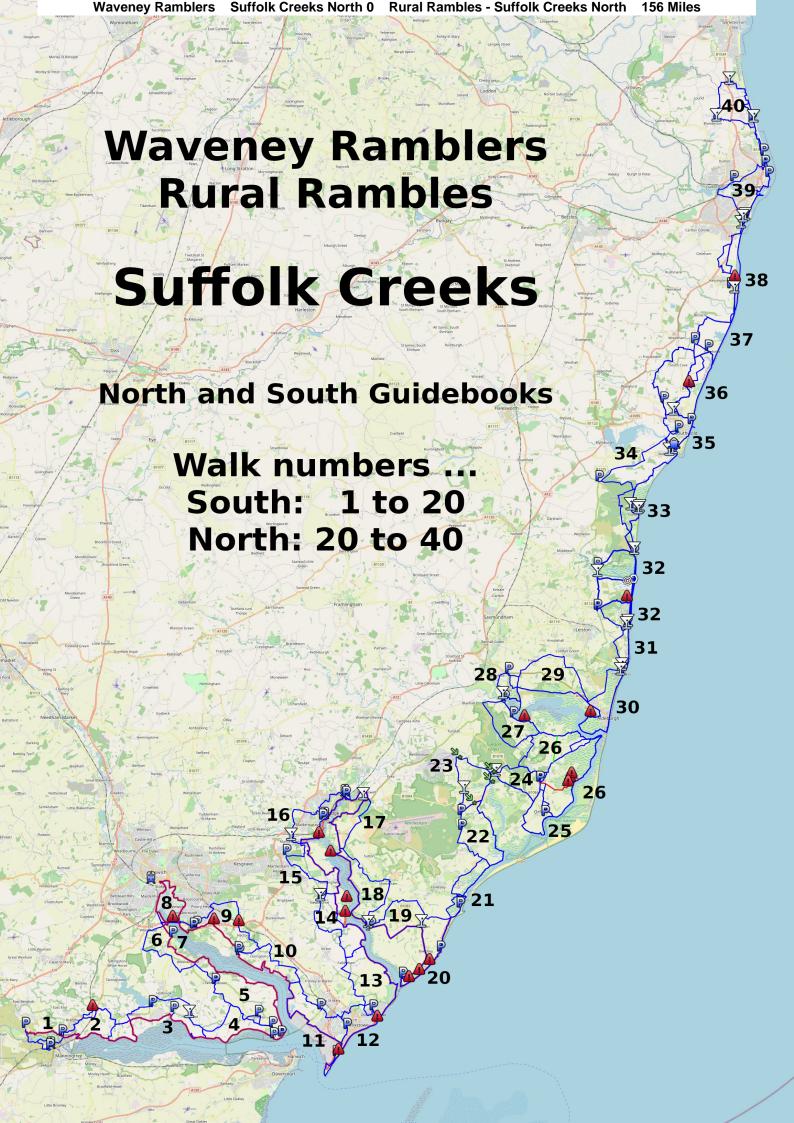
SC 39 Lowestoft and Ness Point, 10 Miles

SC 40 Hopton, 10 Miles

DISCLAIMER: Waveney Ramblers tries to stay on rights of way and keep safe. These maps are a "best effort" to document our routes but there may be errors, especially if paths have not been reinstated or signposted. Local conditions change from day to day and with the weather and seasons. Paths get diverted or closed. A safe walk today could become unsafe tomorrow. So please rely on your own common sense. Use these guides as a starting point and not as Biblical authority. As always the main danger is road traffic. Railway crossings are safe by comparison. And on the coastal legs, beware of wind and tides. First published, January 2021.

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Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 20 **Bawdsey**

OS Map: X 197 Track: <u>TM 35745 40031</u> **GPX for SatNav** 9.2 Miles Updated: 2020-12-15

CAUTION: The footpath near Bawdsey Manor is closed but well used.

CAUTION: There is a risk of cliff falls between Bawdsey Quay and Bawdsey, East Lane.

CAUTION: At high tide, the sea can block the route below the cliffs.

Park at Bawdsey, East Lane.

Head North on the coast path.

Use the path in preference to the shingle bank.

There are wetlands and two Martello Towers.

Before the third Martello Tower, turn sharp left, SW.

Drop down off the flood wall and cross the drain, SW, at the first opportunity.

Head SW across an open field.

Head west along Buckanay Lane.

Turn left, south, along Hollesley Road.

At Alderton there is a village shop and the Swan (For Sale 2020).

It's worth walking round the church grounds.

There are seats, a war memorial and the bell, presumably from the missing bell tower.

Head south along The Street. Continue south into Ferry Road.

Ferry Road bends SW.

Optionally divert via the picnic area and toilets.

Rejoin the road and head south to the Felixstowe Ferry.

Head south to the headland, then NE along the coast towards Bawdsey Manor.

The right of way has been closed and is somewhat unsafe.

To avoid the closure, the only alternative is to return by the road route.

Anyone who has done any mountain walking will not understand the problem.

The closed but well used footpath is narrow and tamarisk bushes are beginning to overgrow it.

There is a sea wall made from steel pilings with a vertical drop of up to 4 metres.

After walking in mountains with drops of hundreds of metres this is not a difficult path.

Later the shingle surface becomes much rougher with irregular concrete blocks.

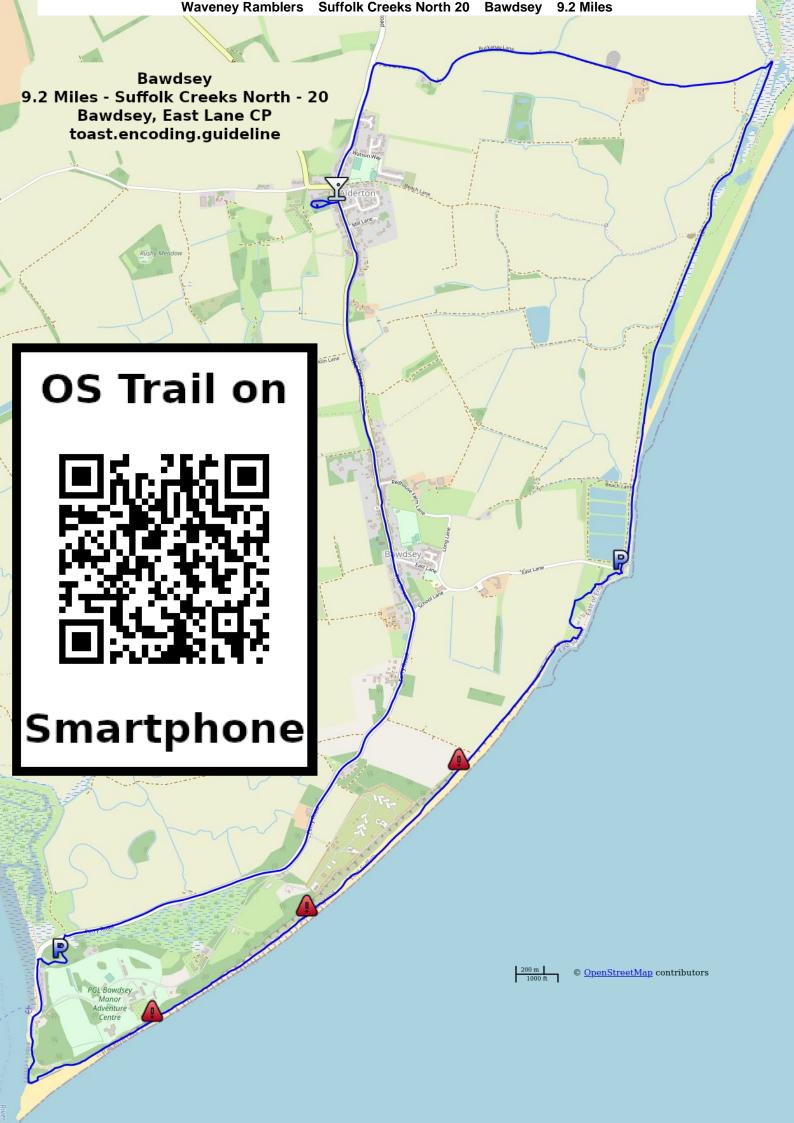
The steel pilings end and now the main risk is cliff falls.

At high tide this leg might be blocked.

Continue NE along the shingle beach. This is hard work.

Climb the bank near the Martello Tower.

Head NE back to the car park.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 21 **Shingle Street**

OS Map: X 197, 212 Track: **TM 36978 43121 GPX for SatNav** 8.3 Miles Updated: 2020-12-22

Park at Shingle Street.

Head roughly north along the Flood Wall.

This starts parallel with the road and gradually diverges right, east.

When the way north is blocked by a creak, turn left, west, creak right.

At the road (tarmac), turn right, NW, and cross the creak.

Turn right, east, creak right.

When the way east is blocked by the creak, turn left, north.

This leg begins with the North Sea on the right.

The River Ore outfall is the next landmark and the walk heads NE, river right.

After about 30 minutes, 2 km, turn left, NW.

There was a finger post marking this junction.

Head NW between fields. Turn slightly left, NW, woods left.

Turn left, SW, along a sandy track.

Head past prisons, young offender and rehabilitation buildings.

Turn left, south, along Woodbridge Walk.

Follow this road SW between more prison buildings.

After the last prison building, turn left, nearly south, along a restricted byway.

Continue south when this track joins Shingle Street.

Follow Shingle Street when it bends left, east.

Follow Shingle Street when it bends right, south.

Just after the bend, turn right, off the road and head south towards sluices.

Turn right and cross a metal bridge. Head SW, meadow left.

This path zigzags without junctions, south, west, SW, SE, SW and finally SE.

Head towards the coast. Climb the bank onto the flood wall.

Head NE along the flood wall towards the Martello Tower.

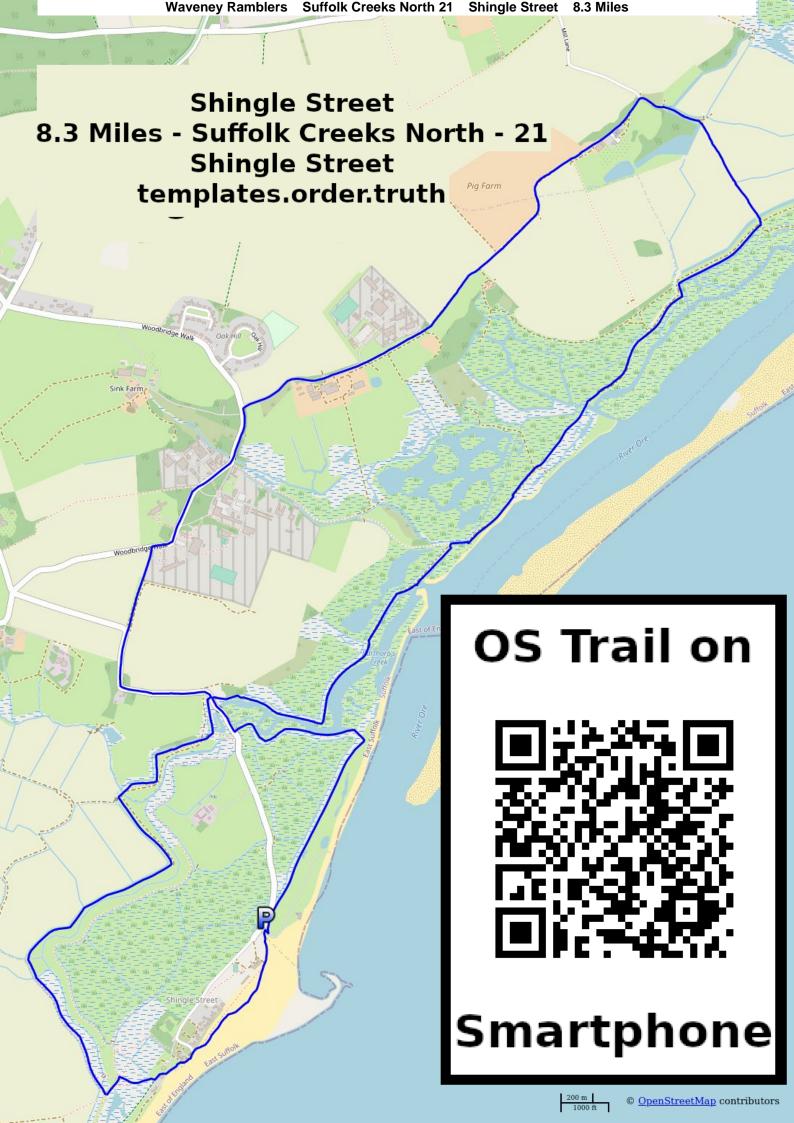
Drop down off the flood wall and head to the right of the Martello Tower.

Head NE along the beach or use the road if you prefer.

Head past the coastguard lookout.

There is an interesting antenna in disrepair, originally used as a navigation aid.

Head back to the car park.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 22 **Boyton**

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 36733 49429 GPX for SatNav** 8.5 Miles Updated: 2020-12-29

Park on the side road, off The Clumps.

Walk south along this guiet lane.

When the road bends left, continue ahead, SW, woodland right.

Ignore the parallel path in Rendlesham Forest.

When the way ahead ends, turn left, east, and head to the tarmac road.

Cross over and continue east.

The path bends right, SE, and enters woodland.

Drop down into a wet woodland zone. The terrain is very wet underfoot.

Continue roughly SE to a tarmac road.

Turn left, east, for 180 metres towards Boyton.

Turn right, SE, onto a narrow footpath lacking a sign post.

The path the opposite way is signposted.

Turn left, NE, and head to Mill Lane.

Turn right, SE, along Mill Lane.

Continue SE all the way to the river Ore.

At the flood wall, turn left, NE, and follow the wall.

At Flybury Point, the flood wall bends north.

Turn left, NW, with the Butley River on the right.

Continue along the flood wall to a derelict building.

Continue north, Butley River right.

At Butley Ferry, turn left, west.

This ferry is seasonal and probably not useful for these walks.

Turn right, north, and climb Burrow Hill, high by Suffolk standards.

Continue north and later NW on a good track.

At Butley Low Corner, turn left, SW.

After 230 metres, turn right, north, soon NW.

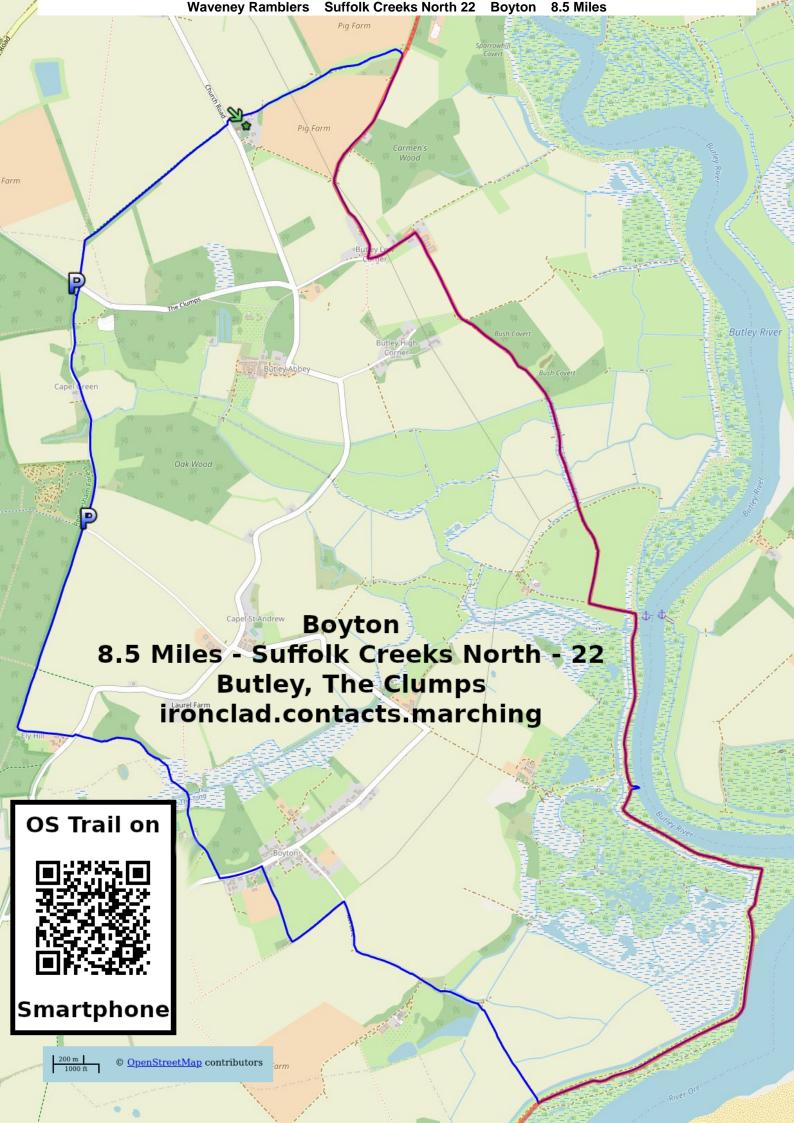
Follow the track right, NE, to a dip in the terrain.

This dip was flooded but probably dries out completely in summer.

At the dip, turn sharp left, SW, and head to Saint John the Baptist Church, Butley.

Cross Church Road and continue SW on a good track, valley ahead.

Turn left, south and return to the car parking area.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 23 Chillesford and Butley

GPX for SatNav 7.2 Miles OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 36733 49429** Updated: 2020-12-26

There are lots of pig farms on this route.

Some of the tracks are churned with deep mud.

The terrain is sandy and well drained and there was always a way through without getting too muddy.

Park on the side road off The Clumps, Butley.

Head north and cross The Clumps.

Continue north on a sandy track between fields.

At the belts of trees, turn right, NE, trees right.

Head NE to St John the Baptist Church, Butley.

Cross Church Road and continue NE, church right.

At a dip that floods in wet conditions, turn slightly left, NE.

Head to the pig feeding silos and continue NE.

Turn right, NE onto Mill Lane on tarmac.

Head past Butley Mills.

Opposite the mill, climb the flood bank.

There are excellent wetland views across the Butley River.

Continue north along Mill Lane.

At Chillesford, turn right then left, north, along Pedlars Lane.

Pedlars Lane bends left, NW.

This is part of the Sandlings route and is well signposted.

At Dale Farm with huge barns, turn right, north, onto tarmac.

After 300 metres, turn left, west, towards the disused Bentwaters airfield.

Follow the little used tarmac lane to the airfield perimeter fence.

Turn left, south and pass St John the Baptist Church, Wantisden.

Cross a track and continue south towards water towers.

By the water towers, the track kinks left and right.

Continue south on the Sandlings route.

At tarmac, turn left, SE, towards Wantisden and Butley.

Head south along the B1084.

At the Butley Oyster, head south along the footpath just right of the pub.

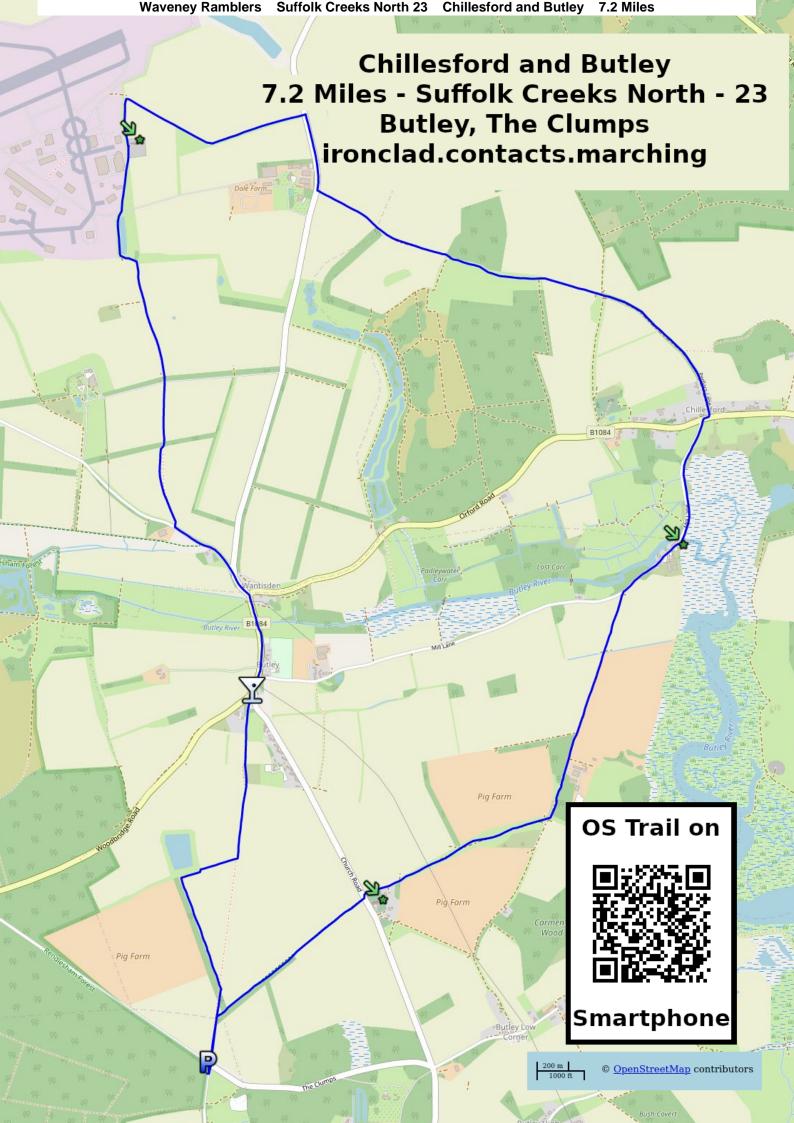
Turn right, SW, towards a reservoir, right.

After the reservoir, head left, SE, trees right.

Near the end of this field-side track, the path diverts right, south, through the belt of trees.

Head south on another sandy track.

Cross The Clumps and head south back to the parking area.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 24 Sudbourne and Chillesford

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 42007 51955 GPX for SatNav** 6.5 Miles Updated: 2020-12-28

Park at Sudbourne, All Saints Church. Note the unusual steeple.

Late in the walk you could head for the wrong church which lacks this pointy structure.

Head north into Sudbourne Woods.

After 450 metres, look for a left turn, NW, onto a narrow woodland path.

This path emerges onto a wider track. Head north briefly.

Turn left, NW, woods left, field right.

This path bends west.

At tarmac, turn left and right and continue roughly west, hedge right.

The path bends right, NW, hedge right.

Continue NW into woodland.

At Blacklands Lane, turn left, west, into more woodlands.

At a gravel turning circle for forestry vehicles, turn left, SW, on a wide track.

At the B1078, turn right, NW, for 350 metres.

There alternative are paths parallel with the road.

These involve fence climbing or going briefly off piste.

After the 350 metre road leg, turn left, SW, into a narrow footpath into pines.

Don't use the wider and more obvious track left of the correct path.

Continue SW, crossing another track and merge with a wider path, SW.

Follow this until you can go no further south.

Turn right, west, towards houses.

After the first houses, turn right, north.

This road bends left and dwindles back to a footpath, west, small guarry right.

The path bends left, SW, into woodland, later west.

At the field, turn left, south for 40 metres.

Turn right, west, between fields.

Turn sharp left, SE, on a tree lined path.

At the first house, look for the dragon sitting on the gate post.

Follow Pedlars lane to the main road, village sign, phone box and seat.

Turn left, east, along the B1084.

After the Froize restaurant, turn right, SE, along a footpath to Sudbourne Hall.

The path joins an avenue with the hall ahead.

Turn left, east, lawns and hall right.

Continue SE, cricket pitch and pavilion left.

Continue SE to the gate house. Turn left, NE.

At this junction don't head towards the wrong church in Orford.

Cross the B1084 and continue NE on a narrow footpath.

Pass a reservoir and solar panels, right.

Cross a tarmac lane and continue north back to Sudbourne, All Saints.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 25 Orford

OS Map: X 212 Track: TM 42007 51955 GPX for SatNav 9.3 Miles Updated: 2021-04-08

CAUTION: The eastern marshy meadows might be seasonally flooded and blocked. If this is likely, follow the route clockwise to avoid a very long bactrack.

CAUTION: The marshy meadow route does not closely match the OS map. New drains have been cut.

CAUTION: There are semi-derelict drain crossings, only one sleeper wide, with no handrail.

This walk can be done as two 6.6 mile circulars or a single 9.3 mile route. The western walk is popular, well trodden and free from difficulties. The eastern walk crosses marshy meadows and is much more tricky.

From Sudbourne all Saints, head south uphill, hedge left. Cross a tarmac lane and continue south, reservoir left. At the B1084, cross over and head SW on a wide sandy farm track for nearly a mile. Bear left, a little east of south and continue to Gedgrave Road. Turn right, SW, along the tarmac for 350 metres.

Turn left, SE, onto a footpath. Head to the River Ore.

Turn left and head initially east, following the meandering flood wall.

At Orford, after optional diversions to see the sights, continue east along the flood wall.

300 metres after the last house on the left, there are steps down.

To follow the 6.6 mile short route, head home, NW, down the steps.

The long route continues east along the flood wall for 2.3 miles.

There are several accordion gates.

Follow the wall east, NE, north and NE again before turning off.

Look for an earlier gate labelled "Private" - so not that one.

There is no obvious landmark but there is a sharp kink in the flood wall.

Head north down the flood wall, cross a bridge and go north through a gate.

Immediately turn left and cross another bridge, SW.

Immediately turn right and head NW, drain right. Stay close to the drain.

Turn right and after 40 metres, turn left, NW, drain left, for 440 metres.

On this leg, the OS map differs from the useable route.

This is where an electronic tracklog App and GPS receiver become really useful.

I clocked 1.4 extra miles trying to find the closest match to the OS map.

At multiple gated field entrances, turn sharp left, south.

Head a little east of south, drain right for 500 metres.

Cross a wide bridge and head south for 70 metres.

Cross a metal sleeper bridge. This is narrow, very corroded, and there's no handrail.

Continue south for 150 metres and cross a wide bridge.

Bear left, SW, passing close to a drain right.

Continue SW, diverging from the drain.

Cross another single sleeper bridge near a T junction in the drains.

Head south, converging with a drain right.

Kink right and left over the drain using a wide bridge, seriously eroded at both ends.

Head SW across this field to the diagonally opposite corner, deviating to avoid flooded areas.

Bear right, west, drain left. Follow the drain, left for 350 metres.

Turn right, west, now on a better track for 500 metres.

Turn right, through a gap and head NW across open fields.

Cross Ferry Road and head west towards All Saints church.

Cut diagonally, NW, through the graveyard to return to the parking area.

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Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 26.1 Sudbourne and Alde

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 42007 51955 GPX for SatNav** 10.3 Miles Updated: 2021-08-03

Park at Sudbourne, All Saints Church.

There is a shorter route (red) across the marshes but missing footbridges made this impossible.

Walks 26.1 and 26.2 could be combined if you are very fit or if the missing bridges get repaired.

Head south, church left.

Turn left, SE, along Hospital Road.

Turn right, south, along Ferry Road.

Just before houses, left, turn left, SE, and cross the field diagonally.

Turn left, east, along Rectory Road.

Turn right, south, along Raydon Lane, towards Daphne Road.

After 65 metres, turn left, SE, on a farm track.

After 450 metres, turn right across a ditch.

Head SE across the field to the river.

Turn left, east, and follow the flood wall for about 5 miles.

Near Slaughden, bend left, almost doubling back.

Head roughly west for 800 metres, still on the flood wall.

Follow the footpath, west, when it diverges left away from the river.

The footpath becomes a farm track and later a tarmac lane.

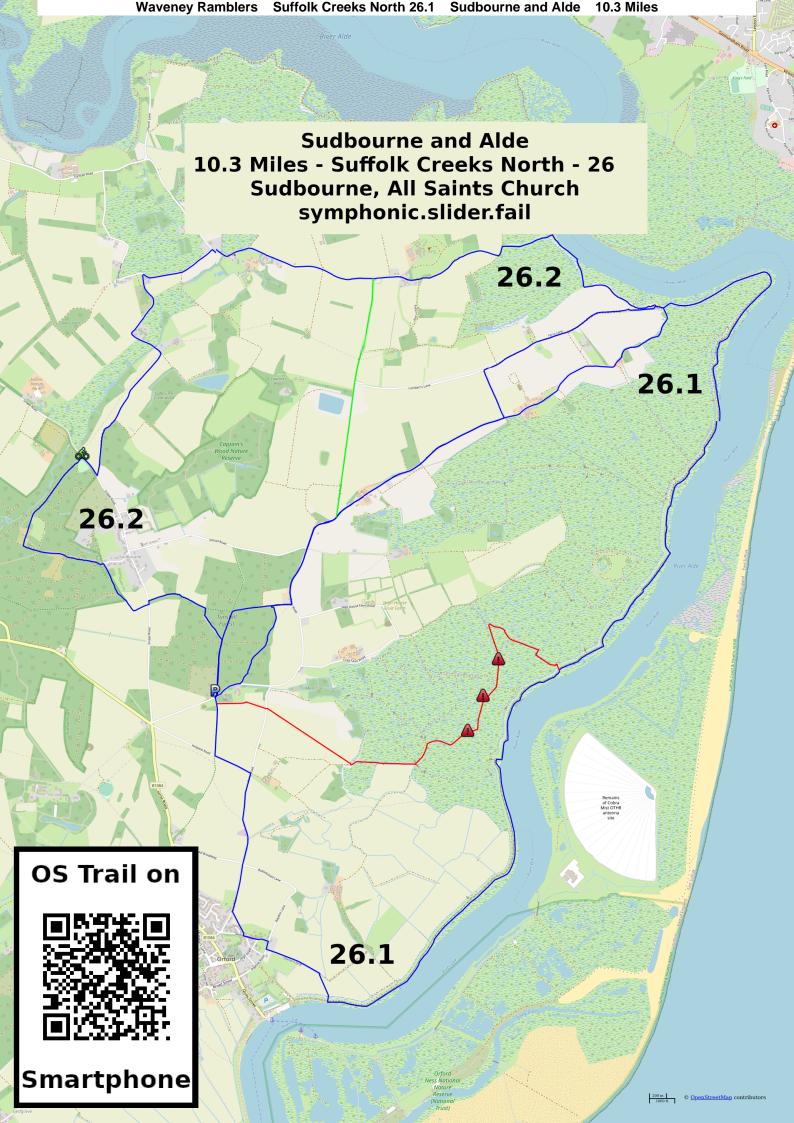
Turn left, leaving Ferry Lane. Head SE to Ferry Road.

Turn right, roughly west along Ferry Road.

The road bends SW and then south.

After a house, turn right, west, into woodland for 460 metres.

Turn left, SW, soon south, and head back to the church and parking.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 26.2 Sudbourne and Iken

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 42007 51955 GPX for SatNav** 9.4 Miles Updated: 2021-08-05

CAUTION: Short legs look as though they might flood at spring or surge high tides.

It should be possible to divert via higher ground.

There is a shorter route (red) across the marshes but missing footbridges made this impossible.

Walks 26.1 and 26.2 could be combined if you are very fit or if the missing bridges get repaired.

Park at Sudbourne, All Saints Church.

Head NE along the tarmac lane passing the church.

After 220 metres, turn left, NE, into the woodland.

Follow the path, NE. The right of way cuts across a field.

But everyone seems to head north, then turn right, east, to reach Ferry Road.

Head left, NE, along Ferry Road all the way to the river.

The footpath is signposted and well maintained.

At the river, turn left and follow the flood wall.

Stay near the water, ignoring a path that diverges left.

At the Alde Mudflats sign, turn left, west, and head away from the river.

The path kinks left and right and continues west.

Later the grassy path turns into a gravel track and finally tarmac.

For a shorter way home follow Ferry Road, left, roughly south (green).

The longer and nicer route continues west.

Turn left, SW, into Sandy Lane for 600 metres.

Turn left onto a concrete road and head south. There is a footpath sign.

This road bends SE, SW, SE and finally SW again.

Continue SW to Snape Road. Turn right, NW, for 180 metres.

Turn left, SW, along fire road 23. Note the BMX track (left).

After 560 metres, bend slightly left, SW.

In the tall bracken season this is easily missed.

Continue SW until a much wider track.

In August, this required fighting through head high bracken for a short stretch.

Turn left, east, along the wider path.

At Blacklands Lane, head SE, woods right, paddocks left.

Leave the woodland and head SE, hedge left.

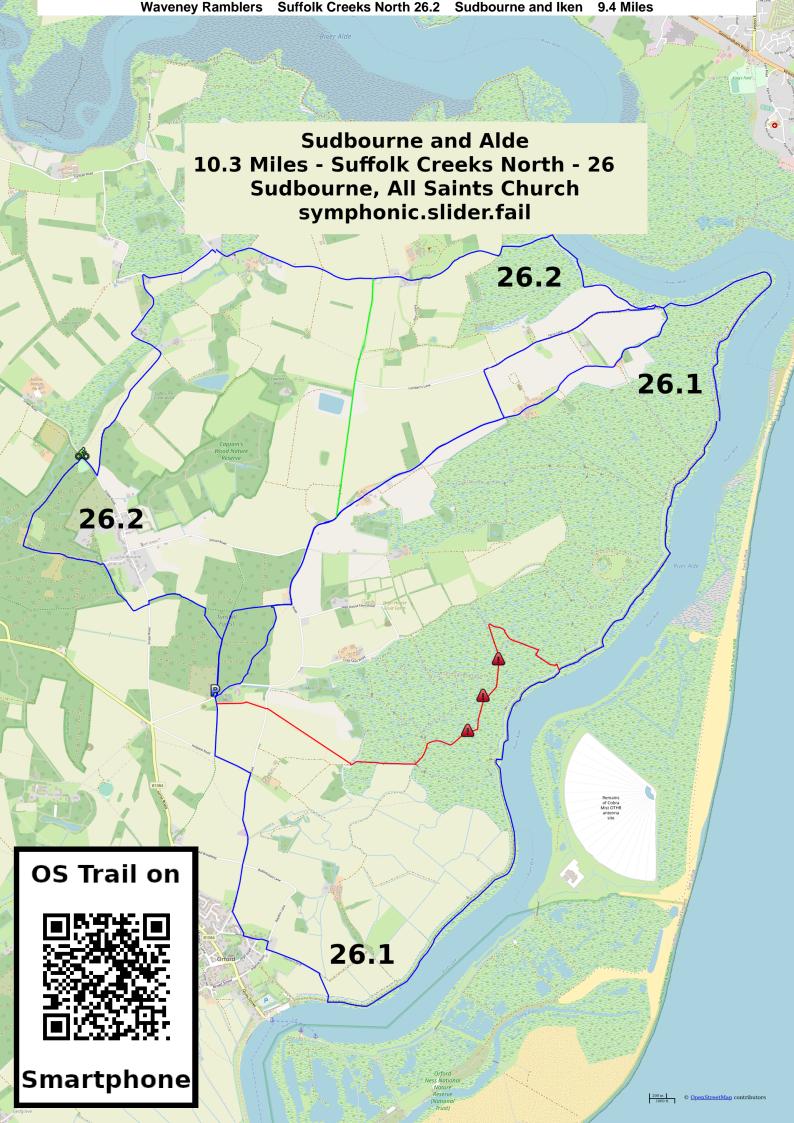
Turn left, NE, hedge left.

At Snape Road, kink left and right, and head east into more woodland.

Turn right, south, woods both sides for 60 metres.

Turn left, SE, still in woodland. Turn right, south along a wide gravel road.

Return to the church and car parking.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 27 lken

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 40011 56255 GPX for SatNav** 7 Miles Updated: 2021-01-08

CAUTION: A section of the coast path can flood at high tide.

Park at Iken Cliffs.

Head NW along the coastal path staying near the waterside.

At the Snape Maltings, optionally divert for refreshments, shopping, toilets and other attractions.

Head NW onto the B1069 and turn left, SW.

Follow the B1069 west, then bear right, west, towards Blaxhall.

At Langham Road, turn left, SE, into woodland on a forest track.

Follow this track straight ahead for 2.5 miles or about 50 minutes.

Cross the B1069 and continue ahead, SE on the forest track.

The track bends south.

Cross Tunstall Road (tarmac) and continue ahead, south.

The track bends SE again. At houses continue ahead, SE.

Cross another wide track and continue ahead, SE.

Finally the track bends left, east.

At Snape Road, tarmac, turn right, SE, for 20 metres.

Turn left and head NE through woods and later hedge left, uphill.

Follow this path NE with occasional kinks between fields.

The path bends right, east, woodland right.

After this wood, turn left, NE, hedge right.

Continue ahead, NE, onto Sandy Lane, tarmac.

Follow Sandy Lane NE and east.

At a T junction, turn left, NW, and head towards Iken.

At Church Lane, follow the road left, west.

Optionally divert north along Church Lane to visit Saint Botolph, Iken.

If you visit the church, return along Church Lane.

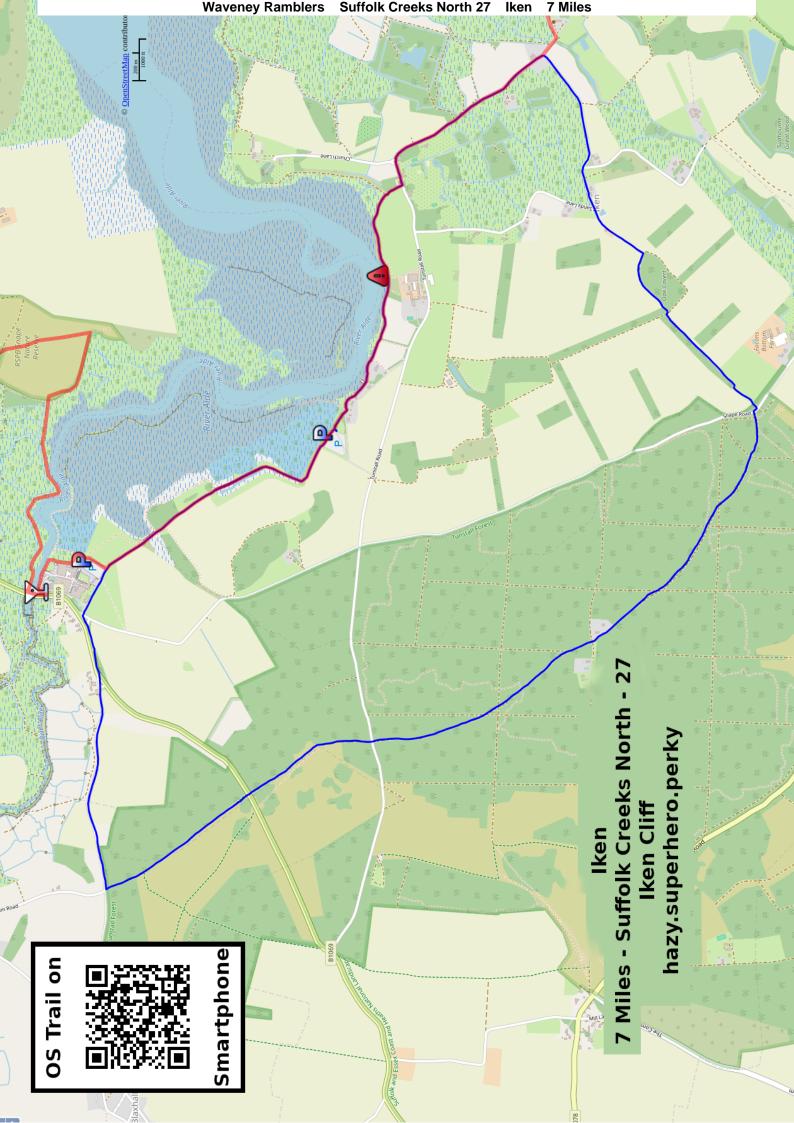
There is no coastal alternative.

120 metres after the junction with Church Lane, turn right, NW.

Head to the water side and follow the coast path back to the car park.

At high tide and during storm surges this path can flood.

There is a parallel road alternative if the path is under water.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 28 Church Common

5.5 Miles OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 39526 59272 GPX for SatNav** Updated: 2021-01-01

Park at Church Common opposite Saint John the Baptist church.

From the car park, head west across the common land.

Merge into Wadd Lane and head roughly west.

Bear left into woodland gradually diverging away from the road.

Turn left, SW, and cross an open field.

Cross Gromford Lane and continue SW along the dead end Cundle Green Lane.

At the end of the road, continue on the footpath and turn left, east.

Back at Gromford Road, turn right, SE, for 50 metres.

Turn right, SW, hedge left.

After the field, turn left, SE.

Turn right, south, and pass farm buildings.

Follow the road when it bends left, east.

At Bridge Road, turn right, south, and head to the Maltings at Snape.

Cross the River Alde and head left into the site.

The recorded track passes clockwise round the perimeter of this interesting site.

Follow any route you like visiting shops, a pub, cafes, sculptures and more.

After the Maltings, head north along Bridge Road and re-cross the River Alde.

After the bridge, turn right and head east, river right.

Follow this path to woodland. Turn right, SE.

There is an option to visit wetlands and more woods by heading south down a dead end path.

The terrain gradually gets wetter and ends in reeds, mud and the river.

This adds about half a mile to the walk. Return the way you came.

Head north through a gate up a slope into trees and heath land.

Follow this path slightly west of north ignoring side turnings.

Join a track due north.

Corrections:

Turn left, SW, along Priory Road, tarmac.

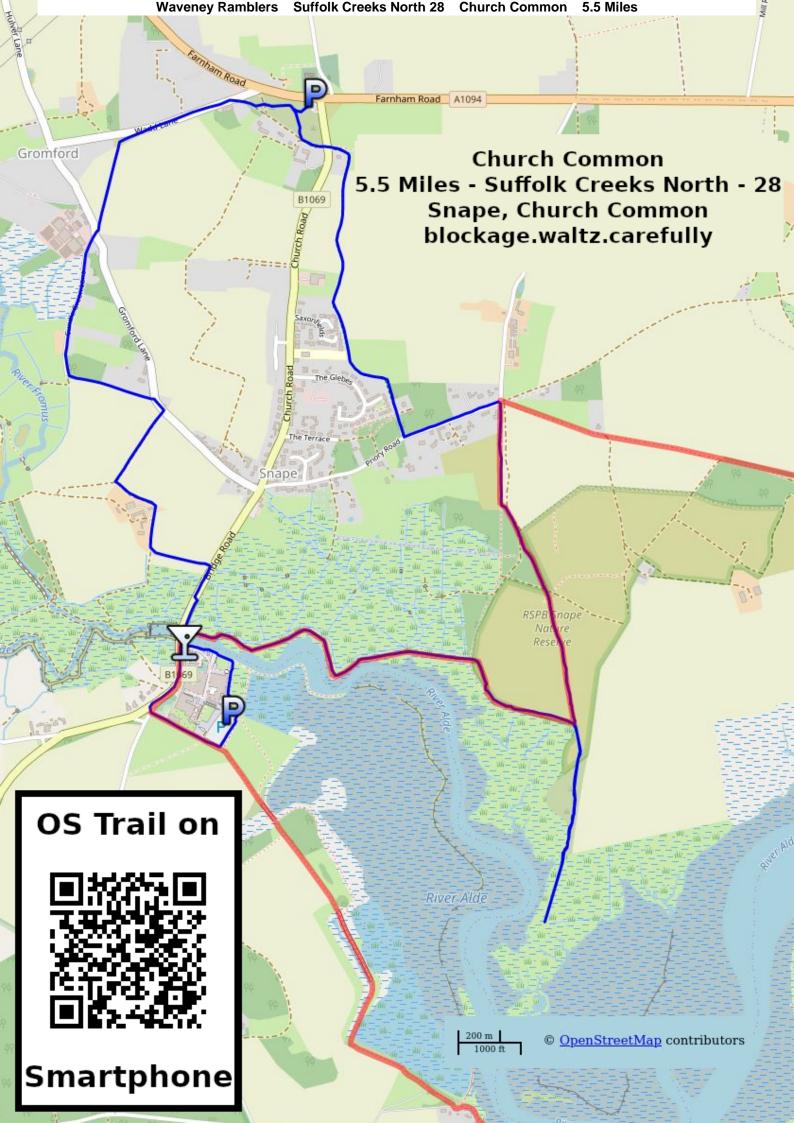
Turn right, NW, along a bridleway into woodland, houses left.

The path meanders and finally heads north.

Turn left, west, and cross Church Road.

Return to the car park across Church Common.

Optionally visit the church and war memorial north of the A1094.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 29 Friston

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 39526 59272 GPX for SatNav** 9.5 Miles Updated: 2021-03-29

Park at Church Common, Snape.

Head SE out of the car park towards Snape village.

After 100 metres along the main road, turn left and head east.

After 650 metres, turn right, south, onto the tarmac Priory Road.

After 680 metres, turn left, slightly south of east along the Sailor's Path.

Follow this path roughly east for over 2.5 miles where it joins the A1094.

The path crosses heath, woods and a wetland boardwalk.

Head SE along the A1094. There is a good grassy path on the right hand verge.

Turn left, NE, into Golf Lane for 70 metres.

Turn left, NW, into woodland and head towards the golf course.

Cross the golf course, NW, taking care to avoid flying balls.

This path is well marked by posts.

Merge with a wide lane and head roughly north.

Kink left and right onto a footpath, avoiding the private road ahead.

Head north and soon NW through a patch of woodland with trees in neat rows.

After the wood, turn right, hedge right, for 110 metres.

Cross the open field, NW, aiming roughly for the antenna tower.

Join a wider track and head NW to woods. Bear left, west, woodland right.

Follow this track west until a T junction. Turn right, north, along Sloe Lane.

At the main road, turn left, SW, for 125 metres.

Turn right, roughly west, onto a farm track.

After 0.8 miles, look for a left branch, SW, across an open field.

Aim for the row of houses. The path runs south of these houses, fences right.

At Friston, turn right towards the Old Chequers.

At the pub, turn left, west, along Mill Road. Note the old mill, left.

At the end of the village, kink right and left off the tarmac and head SW across the open field.

At the far side, cross a farm track and head west, hedge right.

After one field, turn left onto a wide track and head south to the A1094.

Cross the busy road, tumulus, right.

Head south along Priory Road.

Corrections:

Turn right, west, retracing the outbound walk back to the car park.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 30 Aldeburgh and Thorpeness

OS Map: X 212 Track: TM 47330 59655 **GPX for SatNav** 9 Miles Updated: 2021-04-01

Consider reversing this route if foul weather is a problem.

If wetland flooding is likely, go anticlockwise to avoid a two mile backtrack.

Skirt the southern perimeter of Aldburgh to avoid the flooded meadows.

Park in Thorpeness.

The Dune near the country club is good if there's space.

There is also a Pay and Display car park.

Head onto the beach and then roughly south.

Soon there's a good track or grassy terrain.

Walk to Aldeburgh and keep going, close to the sea.

330 metres after the last building, turn right, west.

Follow the flood wall, river left for two miles or 40 minutes.

Turn right, east, down some steps and cross the grazing.

This terrain floods in winter and during wet weather.

Go across the grazing through several gates.

Head east with allotments, both sides.

Turn left, north and head across the recreation ground.

Turn left onto the A1094 for 1000 meters or 15 minutes.

Turn right into Golf Lane and head NE.

After 600 metres, turn left, NE, and cross the golf course.

Cross the B1122 and head NE along Warren Hill Lane.

Turn left, north, and follow the permissive path along the disused railway.

Just before the disused Thorpeness Station, turn right, east.

Emerge at the golf clubhouse and head east along Uplands Road.

Head past Thorpeness Windmill and The House in the Clouds.

Turn first left, north, off Uplands Road and into woodland.

Turn right, east, woodland right.

At the B1353, turn right and first left into Westgate.

Head under the seven story tower.

Turn right, south, into The Sanctuary.

Return to The Dune, either via an alleyway or go via the Meare Tea rooms.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 31 Thorpeness and Sizewell

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 47330 59655 GPX for SatNav** 5 Miles Updated: 2021-04-06

In fine weather and if the tide is low, the beach is good for walking.

Park in Thorpeness. There is free parking in the side streets.

The Dune opposite the clubhouse is a good place to park.

Head north staying on roads as close to the sea as possible.

Aim for North End Avenue.

At the dead end for cars, head onto the common land and continue NE.

At a pill box, the path drops steeply down to the beach.

Head north along the beach.

Look out for the path back up to the cliff top.

Follow the cliff top path all the way to sizewell.

Or use the beach if conditions make this favourable.

At Sizewell, the mapped route goes into the car park.

There are toilets and the Sizewell "T" cafe.

Now head south along Sizewell Gap road.

Follow the road right, west, to the "Vulcan Arms".

Turn first left, south, towards Sizewell Hall and Cliff House.

After 300 metres, turn right, SW, along a wide farm track.

After 550 metres, continue SW along a narrow footpath. Ignore the wider tracks.

After 280 metres look for the earth banks of a reservoir, right.

Turn left at this landmark and head SE through a metal gate.

This path is very narrow and wiggles between gorse and heather bushes.

The narrow path crosses several wider routes.

Always head south or SE and kink right and left if necessary.

Back in Thorpeness, head along Pilgrims Way.

Head past the Dolphin and go south along The Whinlands.

The path diverts to follow the lakeside.

At the Meare Tea Rooms, head back to the coast along The Dune.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 32 Sizewell and Minsmere

OS Map: X 212 Track: **TM 45354 63867 GPX for SatNav** 9.2 Miles Updated: 2020-11-05

This is an updated route. The original is flooded deep enough to over-top low rise wellies.

This route could be split into two shorter walks. The map shows the east/west path needed for this.

Park at Kenton Hills, off Lovers Lane.

From the car park, head north on the sandy mud track. This is the original route.

Ignore all side turnings.

This track merges with the tarmac lane leading to the Eels Foot Inn.

For the short walk, turn right, east, at the start of the village.

For the long walk, continue north passing the pub. Follow the tarmac further north.

Stay on the tarmac when it bends right, NE. Enter the RSPB reserve.

Many of the trees on this stretch fell in the Michael Fish non-hurricane back in the 1980s.

The trees have regrown from the stumps.

When the tarmac bends right, east, turn off and continue NE, uphill.

Climb the hill. There are fine views to the right.

Drop down and cross another tarmac road leading to the bird reserve. Head NE into woodland.

After 380 metres, turn right, roughly east towards the National Trust Coastguard Cottages.

Continue east and later SE to the Coastguard Cottages. There is a cafe, a shop and toilets.

Head SE, through the expensive National Trust car park. This is an alternative start point for the walk.

Head SE down to the beach and then south along the shore all the way to the Sizewell Power Stations.

At low tide, there is firm wet sand and gravel. At high tide walk on the shingle and low sand dunes.

This terrain is in danger of being washed away in a north sea storm.

Half way to the power stations, head south passing Minsmere Sluice.

SHORT WALK: Leave the beach at Minsmere Sluice.

The octagonal outfall structure is a fairly obvious landmark.

Head west, ditch right, minster left.

There is an alternative footpath via the Minster remains. There is a stained glass artwork.

LONG WALK: Continue south along the beach.

After the power stations, there is a cafe (Sizewell T) and toilets.

Head south and later SW on the tarmac road. Head SW past the Vulcan Arms.

Ignore the major right turn into the power station.

Take the next much smaller right turn onto a sandy track, NW and later north.

On the left is the electricity sub-station for the offshore wind farms.

Turn left, NW, avoiding the private drive to a house.

Continue NW to the next house. Turn right and soon left, NW, house left.

After some woodland the path emerges into a grassy area.

Head a little west of north across the grassland. There were some tame horses here.

After the grassland, drop down steeply to a water meadow.

Go through the gates and across the bridge. Head north, river right.

At a gate and concrete bridge, turn left and head NW across the wetland.

Expect wet feet unless your boots are in top condition.

Go through a gate into woodland crossing another bridge and a board walk.

Head north and later NW.

Turn left, west, towards the car park. The path bends left, SW.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 33 Dunwich

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 47915 70778 GPX for SatNav** 8 Miles Updated: 2021-08-06

Park at Dunwich Beach (Donation)

Head south along Beach Road.

Turn right, west, along St. James Street, pub left.

After the church, turn right, NW, along Westleton Road.

After 130 metres, turn right, NE, uphill.

After 10 metres, optionally divert left to the tea rooms.

Otherwise continue roughly NE along the gravel track for a mile.

Turn left, SW, house right, power lines right.

Follow the forest road for 800 metres.

Bend left, south for 50 metres.

When the wider track bends right, turn off, left, south, on a much smaller path.

Head south for 770 metres ignoring side turnings.

The path bends right, west. Cross a wide track and continue west for 50 metres.

Turn left, south, through a kissing gate. Head to the St. Helena car park.

Turn right, west, through the car park. Leave by the path in the NW corner.

The path heads west and soon bends left, south to the tarmac lane.

Cross Westleton Road and continue south on a small path.

The path drops into a valley and wet woodland.

At farm buildings, skirt round the perimeter, then turn right, and left, south.

Head to Dunwich Road and cross over. Continue SE for 900 metres.

At a cross paths with several mature oaks, turn right, SW.

After 350 metres, turn left off the main path and head east for 30 metres.

Turn right, south and head downhill.

Near the bottom, turn right, west, and drop down the steps for 30 metres.

Turn left, south, and follow the path that meanders beside a watercourse.

In three places, turn right to stay near Docwra's Ditch.

If you have time sit silently to see water voles and otters.

This path bends east and after more meanders emerges near the coastguard cottages.

There is a cafe, gift shop and toilets.

Head east passing all the buildings, then left, north, parallel with the coast.

Note the four antennas used to track migrating Nathusius' pipistrelle bats.

Head north parallel with the sea and road.

Cross Minsmere road and continue roughly north on a path parallel with Minsmere road.

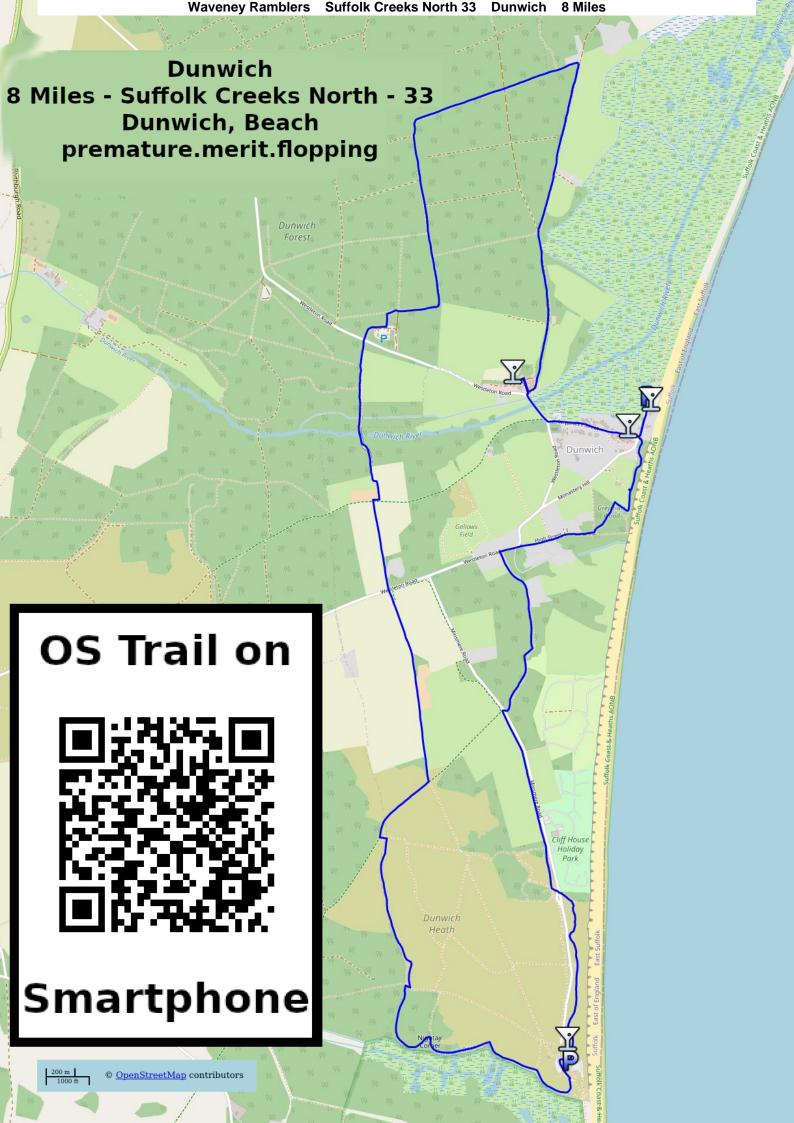
After 860 metres, turn right, cross the road and head NE into woodland.

Follow this path roughly north emerging on Westleton Road.

Turn right, roughly east, and head into the High Street (gravel).

Follow this path back to the cliffs and Greyfriars Friary ruins.

Head north along the cliff top back to the car park.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 34 Walberswick

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 45041 72623 GPX for SatNav** 9.5 Miles Updated: 2021-08-10

Park at the Five Ways car park.

Head east along the wide track for 120 metres.

Turn right, east off the main track, fence right for 70 metres.

Turn right, SE, into woodland. The path bends left, east.

Some sections of this walk can be very wet.

The path meanders SE, then NE and finally SE, joining a much wider track.

Turn left, NE, house left, power lines left.

After the house, turn left, NE.

Turn right, NE avoiding the final house.

Continue NE dropping down to the reedy marsh lands.

At a tee junction, decide whether to use the beach or stay more sheltered.

For the beach, turn right, south, soon SE.

Then head NE to Walberswick on the beach.

For the more sheltered route, turn left, north, for 480 metres.

Turn right, NE, waterway right for 740 metres.

Turn left, NW, soon north. Turn right, east, then left, north, field left.

After 90 metres heading north, turn right into the hedge.

Head east, then NE into the village.

Head NE along Ferry road to the river.

At the river there is a ferry costing £2, not needed today.

Head NW, river right.

At the disused railway bridge, turn left, SW, and head towards the B1387.

When the tarmac bends left, turn right, SW, towards the B1387 on a small path.

Cross the B1387 and head west for 75 metres.

Turn left, SW, and cross the field diagonally.

After the gate, head roughly south across the open access land.

At Lodge Lane, turn right, SW.

The tarmac road turns to gravel and continues west and SW.

There is an optional 400 metre leg through a meadow avoiding the sandy lane.

Finally continue SW back to the Five Ways car park.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 35 Southwold

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 50305 76280 GPX for SatNav** 9.5 Miles Updated: 2021-08-30

This walk can be divided into two if the bridge across the river Blythe is closed.

Park in Southwold, York Road, near the water towers.

Head west passing the water towers, left, and cross the golf course.

At the disused railway, head left, SW, following the old line.

Cross the river (A) and turn right along the flood wall, river, right.

Follow the riverside for nearly two miles.

Turn left, east, and cross a damp meadow.

Turn right, south, and pass a decrepit old house.

Follow a farm track, south, for 400 metres.

Turn left, east, along another farm track leading to the common land.

Enter the common and head roughly SE.

After the old railway bridge (B), turn left, NE, and head back to the river crossing.

Cross the river, turn right, SE. Follow the river to Southwold Harbour.

Attractions include a pub, a chandlers, sheds with fish for sale and the ferry.

Turn left, NE, onto a footpath, caravan park right.

In Southwold, head to the promenade and the pier.

Optionally divert via the pier and visit Tim Hunkin's quirky machine collection and water clock.

300 metres north of the pier, head inland, west, drain right.

Cross the A1095 and head west, waterway right.

After a kilometre, turn right, NW, and cross the waterway.

Head left, west, gorse bank right, for 40 metres.

Turn left, SW, and head back to the river.

At the bridge, turn left, NE, along the old railway route.

After 480 metres, turn right and head to York Road, golf club left.

Turn left, NE, along York Road to return to the car park.

If the bridge is closed, the walk on the Walberswick side can be started from St. Andrews Church.

Head north along Church Lane. Turn right, east.

Corrections:

At Palmer's Lane turn left, north, then NW, then NE.

At the bridge turn left and follow the route above (A).

At point (B) head SE and return to Church Lane and the church.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 36 Potters Bridge

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 49206 78184 GPX for SatNav** 10 Miles Updated: 2021-08-30

Avoid busy times for the road leg along the B1127.

Park at Reydon, St Margaret's Church.

Please leave the parking spaces near the church clear for church visitors.

Head west into the cemetery and then left, south, to an out-building.

Head south across the B1126 and continue south, hedge right on a footpath.

Emerge into Keens Lane and head south. At the B1095, turn left, east, for 180 metres.

There is a useful woodland path parallel with the road.

Turn right, SW, along the footpath and drop down to the marshland.

Turn left, SE, between two pools for 100 metres.

Turn left, east, drain right, and head to the A1095.

Turn left, north, along the main road for 160 metres.

Turn right, north, along the B1127, for 300 metres.

Bear left, NW, into Covert Road.

At the end go north into Rissmere Lane East, sports field right.

At the end, turn right, NE, into Smear Lane East.

Head past some farm buildings and onto a path, NE.

At the Lowestoft Road, B1127, turn left, north. Avoid busy times.

After 600 metres, the nature reserve boardwalk, right, is closed.

Continue along the main road for another 400 metres.

Some walkers might be using the field perimeter, hedge left, to avoid the traffic.

Turn right, NE, along Green Lane and follow the meanders north and east.

Turn left, north, still on Green Lane and cross the Covehithe road, house left.

Continue north for 470 metres. Soon after a barn turn left, west.

The path kinks right and left and continues west.

Turn left, south, along the B1127 for 160 metres.

After the Five Bells, turn right, west, phone mast ahead.

The path bends left, passes a sewage works and then heads left, south.

Turn right, west, on the tarmac lane for nearly a mile. The road bends left, SW.

Bear left, SW, onto a No Through Road and drop down to the valley.

Cross the stream and head south, hedge left. After woods continue south, hedge left.

The perimeter path bends right, SW. After 250 metres, turn left, SE.

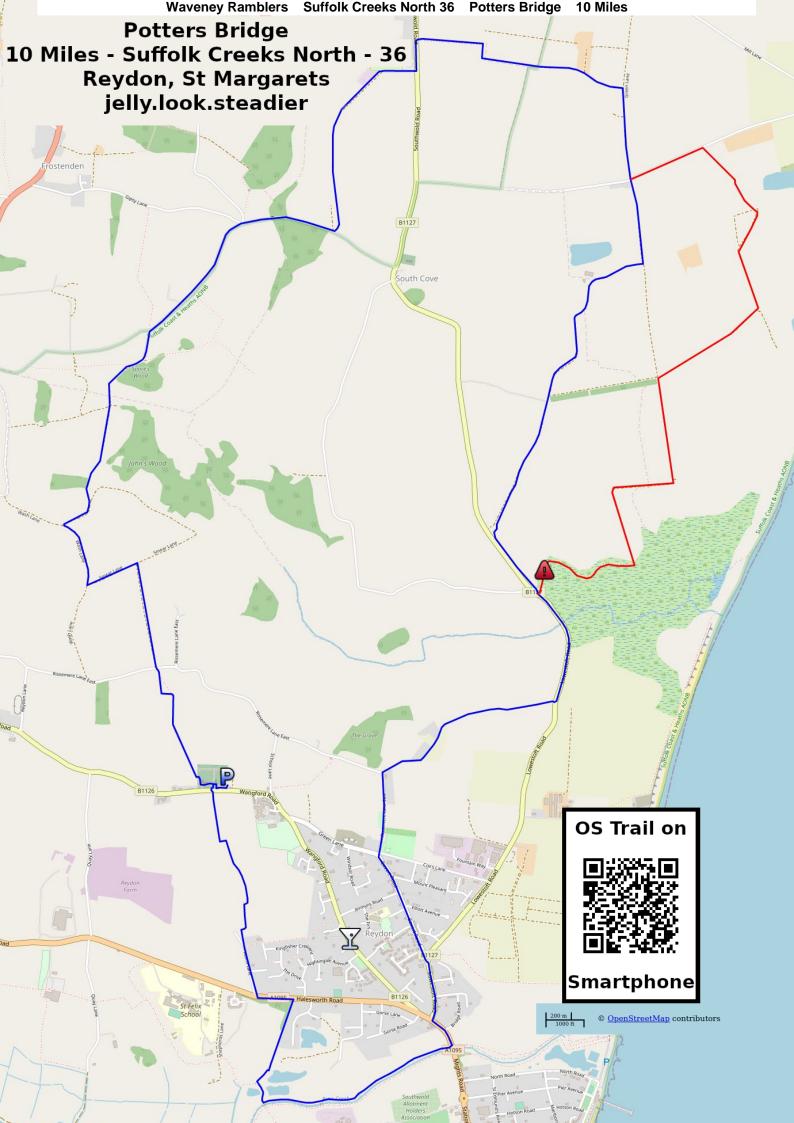
After 360 metres, turn left, east, and after 280 metres, right, south.

Cross Rissmere Lane East, and continue south, hedge right.

Follow the field perimeter left. Then turn right, south across an open field.

The path bends left, SE, towards the church.

Cross the field. Visit the church and return to the car park.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 37 Covehithe and Benacre

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 52101 81823 GPX for SatNav** 7.5 Miles Updated: 2024

HAZARD WARNINGS:

Storms greatly alter this beach. In 2004 walking at low tide was possible with dry feet.

In recent years a creek connected the broad with the sea. One big storm might re-create this.

This walk might require a creek wade.

Rising tides can trap walkers against the cliffs.

At low tide in calm weather, the walk is fine. High tides and stormy weather could be very dangerous.

The highest tides completely inundate Benacre Broad and the entire beach could be under water!

At low tide, the creek may be a running stream deep enough to overtop walking boots so expect to paddle.

Please keep away from the cliff edge or cliff bottom. A WW2 pill box might land on your head!

This section of coast is eroding rapidly and one good storm could completely invalidate this information.

TIDES: https://www.tidetimes.org.uk/lowestoft-tide-times

If there is any doubt about the tide or weather, omit the beach section and return to base overland.

From March 1st till August 31st, please keep to the surf line to avoid nesting birds higher up the strand.

Park and meet at the Y-junction near St Andrew's Church, Covehithe.

Set out on the left, SW, branch of the road, heading away from the sea.

After about 3/4 miles, at the house at a crossroads, turn right, north, along the gravel Green Lane.

At the north end of Green Lane, at tarmac, turn right, east, for 150 metres.

Turn left, roughly north, along a grassy track, woodland left.

The track bends left and meets tarmac. Turn right, north.

At the farm entrance, the road bends right, NE, and continues in a meandering approximately NE direction.

At the end of the NE leg, turn right, east, across open fields, along the patched tarmac and concrete.

Head all the way to the sea. The road climbs a little giving fine views.

With farm buildings, left, head east past the dragons' teeth, through the kissing gate towards the beach.

Near the sea, turn left, north, towards the Hundred River pumping station.

Head north along the raised causeway with fine views both sides.

At the pumping station, cross the outfall to join this leg to the Kessingland and Pakefield walk.

Note the four antennas. These track radio-tagged Nathusius' pipistrelle bats migrating across the north sea.

Now head south and down to the beach at the first opportunity.

At low tide there is firm wet sand for easy walking, much easier than the soft sand and pebbles higher up.

Head south along the beach for 2.25 miles.

The giant golf ball of Sizewell power station can be seen in the distance.

The lighthouse at Southwold is visible too.

Pass the hazards including unstable cliffs, the creek wade, fallen dead trees and even higher unstable cliffs.

Covehithe Broad is still a fresh water lake, but probably not for long.

At the broad, double back, north, and head along on the cliff-top path, gradually heading inland.

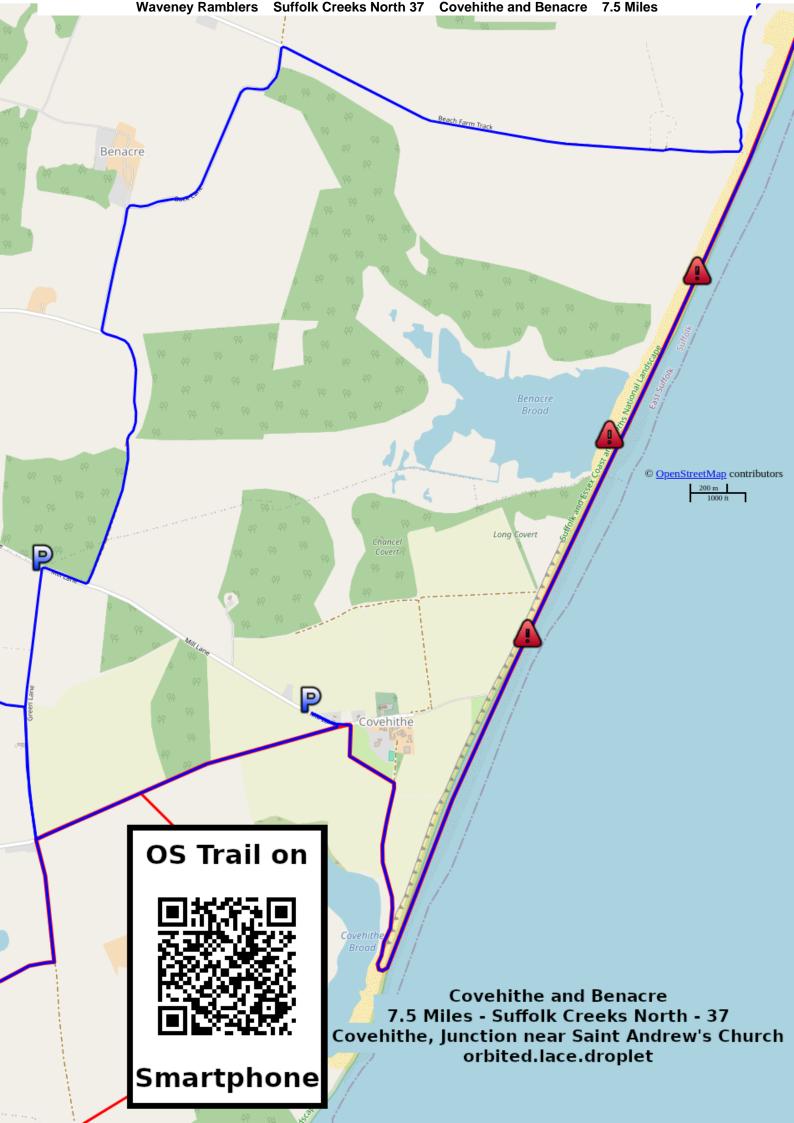
There are fine views, behind, over the broad.

Follow the path left, NW, before farm buildings.

Now bear right, north, back to the tarmac lane to St Andrew's Church, Covehithe.

The church is well worth a visit.

Return to the Y-junction and the parking places.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 38 Kessingland and Pakefield

OS Map: X 231, OL 40 Track: TM 53927 90601 GPX for SatNav 9.4 Miles Updated: 2020-10-18

CAUTION HAZARDS:

A section of this walk is on the beach beside unstable cliffs.

Keep away from the cliff edge and bottom. There is a real risk of landslides.

At high tide and in stormy weather, there is a risk of getting trapped between the sea and cliffs.

If there is any doubt about the weather or tides, please avoid this part of the beach.

The beach walking is easiest at low tide on the wet sand along the surf line.

TIDES: https://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/coast_and_sea/tide_tables/1/140#tide-details

Park in Pakefield at the end of All Saints Road. The Pakefield Plaice chip shop is a good landmark.

From the car park, head south, then NE, down the concrete ramp, to the beach.

Head SE to the water's edge and surf line, then roughly south along the surf line.

Go all the way to the Hundred River pumping station, south of Kessingland.

This is about 4 miles. In fine weather with the wind at your back, this leg is a joy.

It can be a drudge otherwise. The high risk cliffs are in the first mile.

In bad conditions, avoid the beach for this leg and consider reversing the route to get a cold wind at your back.

At the pumping station, cross the outfall channel to join this walk onto the Benacre and Covehithe leg.

Now head north, back to Kessingland, keeping away from the shore line.

Pass the caravans, left and use the concrete sea wall when it starts.

In Kessingland, there's The Waterfront Cafe, some toilets and The Sailors' Home pub.

Opposite the cafe, there's a triangle of parkland with seats and a shelter, ideal for a picnic.

Kessingland is roughly half way round the walk if you want to time your arrival for lunch.

Continue north along the concrete sea wall, houses left.

The concrete walking surface ends. 200 metres later, climb 62 steps up to the top of the cliff.

Head inland, then right, NE, along Green Lane and soon, north, into North Cliff.

With the end of the lane in sight, bear left, NW, onto a narrow woodland path.

Emerge from the woods and bear left, roughly west, hedge right. Head all the way to the B1437. Ignore side paths.

Near the main road, the path bends right, left, left through a gap and finally right to the road, hedge right.

Turn right, NE, along the B1437, London Road (old A12 before the bypass).

After 160 metres, cross the road and head west onto a footpath, soon SW.

After 60 metres, the path bends right, NW, hedge right. At a concrete track, turn left, west, towards the A12 bypass.

The track bends right, heads underneath the A12, then left again, SW.

At the end of the concrete, bear right, west, along an uneven track, hedge both sides. Don't cross the open field.

Turn right, north, hedge both sides. Continue north across the open field, no hedges.

Cross under power lines and continue due north to a hedge gap and sleeper bridge, no good landmarks.

Cross the bridge and bear left, NW, across another open field towards two lone trees near the far side.

Head left of tree one and right of tree two, by which time a finger post might be visible.

Bear right, NE, hedge left, along the field perimeter.

At the end of the field, kink left over a sleeper bridge, then right, NE, disused brickworks left.

Continue NE after the gate. At tarmac, continue NE and soon north. The road bends right, NE.

Head east across the A12, then left, north, for 540 metes. Turn right, NE, along Arbor Lane.

Head NE along the footpath, Beach Farm Residential Park, right. Back on a road, continue NE.

Head along the footpath signed to Beach Cliffs. Turn left, north along the cliff top path.

Pass the Oddfellows pub, left. Bear left back into the car park.

Note the back way into the Trowel and Hammer, close to the car park.

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Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 39 Lowestoft and Ness Point

OS Map: X 231, OL 40 Track: **TM 53927 90601 GPX for SatNav** 9.8 Miles Updated: 2020-10-19

Park at the south end of All Saints Road, Pakefield. The fish and chip shop is a good landmark.

See the map for a slightly shorter option via the Gull Wing bridge.

Head south out of the car park, then NE along the cliff (top or bottom) path.

The two paths merge at the first pier.

At the harbour, add about half a mile if you head east to the end of the harbour wall.

This gives the best views of the port and you can visit the historic boats. Next, head north across the bascule bridge. The railway station comes into view. Turn right, east, along Waveney Road. Keep right for better harbour views. Bear left, NE, along Battery Green Road. At the roundabout, turn right, SE, along Hamilton Road. At the sea wall, go up the ramp, down steep steps, and head left, north. If it's stormy, use the safer west side of the sea wall. At Ness Point there are compass points and distances to well known places. 101 miles to Ostende. London 106 miles. Standing here, Brexit makes less sense.

Continue north along the sea wall.

At the North Beach car park, Links Road, turn left, NW and cut across the car park.

Just after the car park exit, turn left, south across the scrub land.

Follow the path closest to the slope, right. Follow the ramp and steps, right, up to North Parade.

Head left, south, along North Parade. Turn right, west, along North Parade.

Turn left, south, across the historic bridge over the ravine and visit Belle Vue Park Memorial.

Retrace your steps and cross the ravine. Go left, west, along North Parade.

Turn right, NW, for 230 metres along the main A47.

Turn left, SW, soon south, along the Great Eastern Linear Park cycle and footpath.

Cross under four bridges. Turn right, west, and head to Normanston Park.

In the park, turn left and right to follow the woodland path instead of the tarmac.

Note the Leathes' Ham wetland on the left.

Cross the railway over the footbridge. There are good views over Lake Lothing from this bridge.

Head SW along the shoreline. During storm or surge tides, parts of this leg might go under water.

Head SW through the boatyards. The path kinks right and left. Continue west through more boatyards.

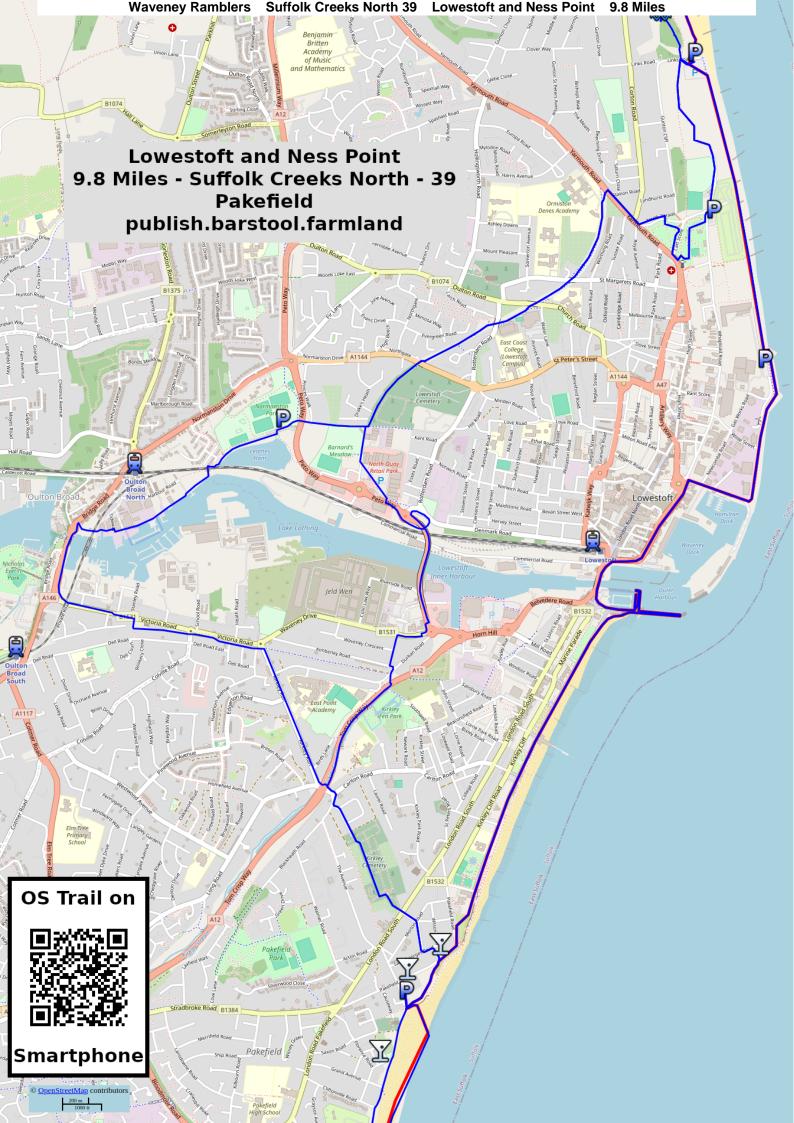
Cross under the railway. At Bridge Road, turn left and keep left.

Head along Saltwater Way and cross the river. There are good views of the railway swing bridge, Lake Lothing, left.

Divert right over the road for toilets and a cafe in the Nicholas Everitt Park.

At the roundabout bear left along the B1531 towards Lowestoft. Head east along Victoria Road and re-cross the railway. Opposite number 147, turn right, south, along the alley and soon left, east. Cross Colville Road and continue east along the foot and cycle path. Bear right, SE, along Kirkley Run, no longer on the cycle route. Cross the Tom Crisp Way. Head south along Blackheath Road, then left, SE, into Kirkley Gardens. Continue SE into the cemetery towards the chapels of rest. With a left right kink, head SE to the exit lychgate. Cross London Road South. Head SE along Kendal Road. At the junction, bear right, south, along Rochester Road. Turn left, east, along St. Georges Road. Turn right, south, towards the Jolly Sailor. Head SW along the clifftop path, back to the car park.

The Trowel and Hammer is close by.



Waveney Ramblers Suffolk Creeks North 40 Corton and Hopton

OS Map: OL 40 Track: **TM 55078 95280 GPX for SatNav** 10 Miles Updated: 2020-12-08

CAUTION: In stormy weather and surge tides, avoid the beach.

CAUTION: Take care crossing the A47 twice.

Park at the North Beach car park (Links Road), Gunton.

Head north along the beach as far as you can get.

With erosion, this varies with the seasons and repair works.

Head north through Corton staying as close to the coast as possible.

Soon after the White Horse (refreshments), turn left, west, into Station Road.

After 60 metres, turn right, north, along an alley.

Back at Church Lane, continue north for 100 metres.

Depending on the conditions, decide if the cliff-top path is safe to use.

There is a sign indicating the footpath is closed. Many walkers ignore this sign.

The alternative is to continue on Church Lane.

Where the road bends left towards Saint Bartholomew's Church, turn right, NE, and soon right, east.

Head back to the coastal path. At the cliff edge, continue left, north, passing the static caravans.

Head inland to pass the disused radar site and return to the coast path afterwards.

Enter Norfolk and note the completion of the Suffolk Creeks.

In hopton, head left, NW, along Beach Road. Turn right, north, along the Coast Road.

Divert to look at the Saint Margaret ruins. Turn left west, along Station Road.

Turn right, north, along Lowestoft Road. Optionally pause at the White Hart for refreshments.

Turn left, west, along Hall Road. Take care crossing the A47 and continue west along Hall Road.

Turn left, south, along Dorking Road.

After a terraced block of six houses, turn left, south along the footpath.

At Jay Lane, kink left and right and continue south, hedge right.

Near woodland, turn right, west, towards the trees. After 160 metres, turn left, south.

After 200 metres, head right, SW, diagonally across the field towards Blundeston.

Head south along the Pippins. Turn right and left and head south along Orchard Lane.

At the end, turn left, east along the footpath.

At the pond, turn right, south along Market Lane for 100 metres.

For refreshments at the Plough, continue south or turn left, east, and cross the field, NE.

At the house go left for a few metres, then right, SE, across another field.

Cross a woodland belt. Turn left, NE, for 75 metres, hedge left.

Turn right, east, and cross the field passing trees left. Head east towards the farm.

Stay on the field perimeter path, hedge left and head east.

At Gorleston Road, head north. At the roundabout, cross the A47 with extra care and head east.

Use the footpath running south of the parallel lane. Continue SE across the field.

At woodland, head SE, then east. At the houses, head east then right, south, to Wheatacre Drive.

Turn right, south along Station Road for 110 metres.

Turn left, east, along an alley into Mills Drive. Turn right, SE diagonally across the playing fields.

Head south and ignore the B1385 junction. Continue south. Soon, turn right into woodland.

Meander south, theme park right. At the car park, there's a cafe. Continue south for 280 metres.

Turn left and cross Corton Road. Head east into heathland. Head right, south, staying on high ground.

Drop down to holm oak woods and a natural spring.

At Links Road, cross over and return to the car park.

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