

WALK 4 (5.3 miles/8.5 kilometres)

This is a very nice walk as it takes you through woodland, along hedgerows, across fields and heathland. In spring and summer there will be lots of wild flowers to see. In autumn these will be replaced by hips, haws, berries and fungi. At all times of the year there will be different birds to spot and identify.

Advice: Please respect the countryside and shut any gates that you pass through as although you may not see them there may be animals which could escape if gates are left open. If you are taking dogs with you please keep them under control at all times. Also can you make sure you have 'poo bags' with you. Should you have forgotten them 'Reception' can help.

Please wear suitable walking boots or shoes and clothes appropriate for the weather conditions, even in summer there may be muddy areas to walk through. If it is hot please take some water with you as there is nowhere to obtain any on the walk. Please take care when part of the walk takes you along a road. They are narrow country roads and some drivers do not take as much care as they should.

Finally we hope that you enjoy this walk and if you have any problems following the directions please can you inform the hotel so that they can be amended.

Directions

From Congham Hall entrance cross the road to the footpath on the opposite side of the road and turn right. Walk along the footpath until it ends and then re-cross the road to the footpath on the Congham Hall side of the road and turn left and walk along the footpath past the 'Three Horse Shoes' public house until you come to a village green. Here the path is just a grass path along the edge of the green. Walk along this path until you reach 'Low Road'. Turn right along 'Low Road' and continue along it until you reach a T junction with Station Road (Approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ mile/1.1kilometres). You will see a 'Public Footpath' sign on the opposite side of the road.



The footpath sign opposite the end of 'Low Road'

Cross the road and follow this footpath until it divides. Take the right hand path which will bring you out next to a large building on your right. Go through the gate at the end of the building and go diagonally towards another gate (Approximately 330yards/302metres). Go through this gate and turn left.

(There may be ponies or cattle grazing here so please shut the gates properly)

Bear right keeping 'Oak Cottage' on your left and follow the footpath, which is signposted, until you come to 'Hall Lane'. Turn left and walk along 'Hall Lane' past 'Hall Farm' on your left until you come to a fork in the road opposite 'Hall Road Dental Surgery'. Turn left and walk. The path going along the side of the building towards the footpath sign that you can see ahead of you.



Turn right onto the track that the footpath sign is indicating past large farm buildings on your left. Continue along this track until you come to a junction in the track. Take the left hand track, you will now have woodland to your left and farm land on your right. The track starts to go up what, in Norfolk is classed as a hill but other parts of the country would be a mere incline.



The track going past large farm buildings

In August and September when you reach the top of this 'hill' you have a good view to your left of the Heather in bloom on the heathland. Continue along the track which turns right through the hedge from one field to another. You now have a small wood on your right and the hedge on your left. After a short distance the track turns right but you need to go straight ahead on the grass footpath along the edge of a field.



The heather in bloom on the heathland

Continue along this path towards the belt of pine trees that you can see ahead of you. When you reach the pine trees go through to the other side of the trees and turn left. Walk down the edge of the trees on a not very well defined path until you reach a road. Turn left and walk along the road for about 150yards/137metres until you see a public footpath sign on your right. **(Take care along this road as the traffic is usually travelling at some speed along it)**



The track and footpath sign

Carefully cross the road and walk along the track that the footpath sign is indicating.

Follow this track past a gate and through a gate next to a cattle grid. You will see an information board ahead of you on your left. Carry on past this information board until you come to a position on the track where another track goes off to the left across the heathland indicated by an arrow on a post. Turn left onto this track and follow it across the heathland. This is Roydon Common nature reserve.[1]



The track going off left across the heathland.

Go all the way across the common until you reach a track on the other side. The area in front of you is Grimston Warren. [2] Turn left and follow the track downhill until you reach a white house named 'Railway Gatehouse' (Approximately 750yards/685metres). Just past this house you will see a gate on your left. Go through this gate and onto the old railway line.[3] Walk along the old railway line for about 50 yards/46metres and you will see a gate slightly to your right. Go through this gate onto a track. Follow this track for almost 1mile/1.6 kilometres until you come to Chapel Road. Carefully cross the road into Chequers Road.



Railway Gatehouse

Walk along Chequers Road until you come to a junction with Lynn Road. Cross Lynn Road and turn right along the footpath, you have now completed a circle. Continue along the footpath, until it ends. Cross the road to the footpath on the opposite side and turn left. Continue along this path until you are opposite the entrance to Congham Hall Hotel. Cross the road and walk down the drive back to the hotel.