

OUT & ABOUT BROADLAND

Walk no:



1

Aylsham

A six-mile scenic walk



This six mile walk is around the historic market town of Aylsham, which dates back to pre-Norman times.

The walk starts from the free Buttlands car park in Aylsham. Aylsham is situated just off the A140, approximately 11 miles north of Norwich. You may encounter livestock along this route and paths may be muddy due to animals and farm traffic.

Directions

From the car park head back to Mill Road and turn right. At the end of the road turn left and continue along this road. Opposite the trees turn left along a track signed public footpath, to Stonegate Lane. Continue along track and path. Take the steps and cross over Marriott's Way, and across the main road. Please beware of traffic. Take the continuing field edge path and at a field boundary head directly across the field. Cross a stile into the next field and continue straight ahead, slightly to the right, crossing a footbridge over a dyke and then head for the field corner. Cross the next stile into a lane and turn left along the lane.

Just after Stonegate Farm, turn right along a track and where the track turns left walk straight ahead along a grass track. At the end of this track, turn right. On the right is a concrete area and just past this, where the track veers left, head directly across the field towards a gap in the far hedge. At the road cross and veer left along a track. After a short distance, turn right along a field boundary with woodland on your left. Continue along a track which turns left and then right along the edge of the woodland.

The track turns left again and here take the smaller path that veers to the right off the track through the edge of the woodland. At the bottom of the railway embankment, turn right along the path that runs just below the embankment. At the gap turn left and then right where this path takes you onto Marriott's Way long distance path.

Continue along Marriott's Way for some distance, crossing a track and continuing. Pass through the next gates over a track, and at the next road crossing, turn left and then immediately right along Green Lane. Follow the track between an avenue of trees and hedges towards St Michael's Hospital, Aylsham, in the distance. The path turns left and at a track junction continue straight ahead. Veer left by the entrance to Manor Farmhouse and follow the track passing the farmhouse. At the road, turn left and then right, next to a farm entrance signed to Blickling.

Continue along a field edge path and veer right crossing a stile into a wide grassed avenue. Head towards the impressive Aylsham Old Hall, dated 1686, in the distance.

Exit the grassed avenue by the stile and turn left where the Weavers' Way sign directs, keeping to the wide grass track to the left of the busy road. The path goes uphill along the old route of the road and just before the brow of the hill, turn right downhill along a path. Pass through the gate and cross the road with care. Pass through another gate and head along Weavers' Way, eventually walking under an old railway bridge and then continue over three bridges. Follow the path under the next bridge and straight ahead through a gate. Continue and at a small car park turn left to the road and then left again along the road. At the road junction turn left over the railway bridge and continue towards the Town Centre.

Cross the road bridge, but beware of traffic, as there is no footpath along this road. Cross another bridge and to the left is a good view of the late 18th century Aylsham Mill. Turn right into New Road and where the road bends to the right, pass Ash House on the left and turn left into Abbots Close. Take the next right turn into Town Lane, which emerges opposite the Methodist Hall. Here turn right and then left into Red Lion Street, signed Town Centre. Turn right through the Market Place surrounded by 17th and 18th century properties. Turn left at the Black Boys Inn heading towards the Unicorn public house and take the track just after it, called Unicorn Yard. Continue along path, turning left into the car park and back to the start of the walk.

