

OUT & ABOUT BROADLAND

Walk no:



8

Rackheath

A five-mile scenic walk

The village of Rackheath is 4½ miles north east of the Norwich outer ring road just off the A1151. This is a 4½ mile walk around country lanes and field paths with extensive views of the countryside. Cars may be parked at the Recreation Ground signed from Green Lane West.



Directions

From the car park, turn right. Passing The Close on your right take the path on the left side of the road through a cycle barrier. Continue straight ahead through Rackheath industrial estate. Where the industrial estate road bends to the left continue straight ahead along a concrete track. At the end of the track, turn left in front of an old airfield building and then veer right across the field. Pass through the gap in the tree belt and continue across the next field. When you reach the road, turn left and continue for some distance. This is Muck Lane where the landscape gives views over wide expanses of farmland, which once played a vital role as a World War II airfield.

Eventually you will meet the main A1151, please beware of the traffic. Turn right and continue for some distance to the Green Man Public House. Turn left immediately after the Green Man continuing through left-hand edge of the car park to a path which runs between fields. At the road, turn right for a short distance and at further road junction, turn left passing Church Farmhouse on your left. Just after the houses, turn left towards Rackheath Church. After a short distance where the road bends to the left, continue straight ahead and then turn immediately right, still heading towards Rackheath Church. This is a quaint little church built in the early 14th century, and which stands remote from the village. The church has fine memorials to the Pettus (1591-1772) and Stracey (1780-1949) families who lived at Rackheath. It also has an interesting stave locker where the banners which were carried on Sundays and feast days would rest.

With the Church gate at your back, veer left diagonally across the field. Cross the field boundary and continue across a second field, eventually going through a gap in the hedge to meet a road. At the road, turn right on to Sloe Lane. Just before The Grange, turn left along the field boundary. Veer right through a gap in the hedge and continue along the path with the field boundary and hedge on your left. At the corner of the field, turn right and continue to follow the field edge path with the hedge on your left. At the main road junction turn left along a roadside verge and then take the next right turn, signed Rackheath Industrial Estate, into Green Lane West. Beware of traffic when crossing. Continue back to Rackheath Recreation Ground car park and the start of the walk.

