

OUT & ABOUT BROADLAND

Walk no:



7

Swannington

A four and half-mile scenic walk

Swannington is 7 miles north west of Norwich just off the Norwich to Reepham road. There is no special provision for car parking so please leave your car in a position where it will not cause an obstruction or annoyance to other road users.



Directions

The 4 mile walk begins at the village water pump in Swannington. This thatched pump was erected in 1888 in memory of Hastings Parker and his wife who lived at the Manor House. Continue along the road with the pump on your left, passing the Old Rectory on the right. Just opposite the church turn left through a large gateway. Follow the gravel track which bears to the left and then to the right and continue towards woodland. Turn right, then left, taking the grassy path through Hengrave Common. Follow the main path passing the rear of Swannington Manor, whose gardens are famous for the 300 year old yew and box topiary hedge which is clearly visible.

At the road turn right. This is Kett's Lane, named after Robert Kett who lead the peasants revolt in Norfolk was reputedly captured in a barn nearby. At the road junction turn right and then take the left turn into Church Lane just after the lovely 13th century St Margaret's Church. Continue down this lane passing Swannington Hall on the right.



Traces of the former moat can still be seen. Veer right and go over or around the cattle grid and follow the road to Woodlands Farm, where the lane turns right immediately in front of the farm buildings and becomes a rough track. Just past Nut Pit Farm turn left through an iron gateway on to a wide path at the edge of a field. The path bears right across the field corner and joins a hedged lane.

Turn right along the lane that goes into a wood and soon meets a stream. Go over a wooden bridge and turn immediately right. Continue over board walks over the wetter areas. Stay on this main path along side the stream ignoring any side paths. Eventually the path meets an open grass area known as Upgate Common, here turn right and continue to the road. Here turn right and continue past a row of houses on the left. Do not turn left into Winch's Way but just past the Upgate sign turn left along a track. The track continues between fields with good views of the surrounding countryside. On reaching the road turn right and follow the road back into Swannington and the start of the walk.

