A Broadland village and 18th century estate

This four and a half-mile walk is through the parish of Salhouse known for its thatching and reed industry. A free car park, which adjoins the Recreation Ground, is on Thieves Lane, Salhouse about five miles north east of Norwich.

Directions

From the car park, turn right along the road and continue to the bottom of Thieves Lane. At the road junction cross over and take the path signed ‘Public Footpath’ to the Church. The path turns left and then right and continues through a field between a hedge and a small fence. At the end of the field, pass through a gap in the hedge and follow the field edge path straight ahead. At the end of this field, pass through a gap in the hedge and turn immediately left. After a short distance turn right across the field where the footpath sign directs. At the field corner, continue straight ahead along a track which veers to the right. At the end of the track, cross a stile, and head down a set of steps to the road taking care because of traffic (1).

Turn left along the road for a short distance passing some houses and then turn right along a wide track. The track passes a field on the right-hand side and continues with the hedge boundary to your left. Remain on this path which narrows and continues between hedges. The path meets an asphalt path by the entrance to Tipples Farm. Here, continue straight ahead and after a very short distance turn left along a woodland track. At the main road, turn left and continue along the grass verge taking care because of traffic.

At the brow of the hill turn right along a track and head towards the railway line. Cross the line with extreme caution then veer left along a track with woodland on your right. After a short distance turn left and head towards a large house keeping the hedge on your right. Pass the large farmhouse to the right between garden and paddock and veer right and then left along the driveway. The end of the drive emerges onto a road and here turn left and head under the railway bridge (2).

Just after the bridge, turn right into Howlett’s Loke and continue along this road. Turn left into a pathway which is separated from a drive by a chain-link fence with wooden posts. The path enters a field and turns first left and then right following a field edge with a small wood on your left, heading in the direction of the Church. When the path meets the road, turn right, with All Saints Church, Salhouse on your left. After a short distance turn right from the road along a path where a footpath sign directs.

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This path heads towards small woodland then veers to the right and continues with the woodland on your left. A little further on to the left are good views of the 18th and 19th century Salhouse Hall and as you come to the end of the woods, to the left are other remains of the Hall’s outbuildings. If you look to the right of the buildings there are some nice examples of Wellingtonia trees, named after the Duke of Wellington.

The path continues past another area of woodland to the left and at a field corner cross over a stile. Turn immediately right and follow the path keeping the field boundary and hedgerow to the right and Leylandii trees to the left. Continue straight ahead, the turn immediately left to meet a lane and continue for some distance to the end of Howlett’s Loke. Here turn left past The Paddock and left again along the track with the telephone box to the right.

Continue along the track with houses to your right and where the track bends to the right; follow the path straight ahead between a fence and trees. Pass through the staggered barrier and follow the path to the left and right around the field boundary. At the field corner continue almost straight ahead along a track towards farm buildings. The track goes between houses and comes out on to a road, with Bell Pond on the right.

Cross the road taking care because of traffic and pass the Salhouse village sign depicting reed cutters.

Continue and turn right back into Thieves Lane and to the car park at the start of the walk.