At the bottom of the hill, turn right and cross the wooden bridge over The Mermaid following the path straight ahead through woodland. Cross a concrete bridge over a stream, climb a stile and walk directly across the field ahead. The path passes through a gap in the bank and emerges on Spa Lane (1). Here turn left and head towards the chicken sheds. As the road bends to the right, take the left fork, keeping the sheds on your right. Continue along this track for some distance as it bends to the right and passes a farm on your left. Beware of farm traffic. Follow the track to the road and turn left. Beware of traffic, as this is a busy road. Follow the road downhill, crossing a stream, and, just over the brow of the hill, turn left along a wide track, opposite Lorne Cottage (2). After a short distance, turn right where a public bridleway sign directs and head towards a house. Where the path meets a track, continue straight ahead and at a roadway veer right and immediately left, with a complex of buildings on your right.

Eventually the path veers to the left and heads downhill. A thatched boathouse and lake can be seen to the right. Rhododendrons line this path and are in bloom during May and early June. Cross a wide track and follow the path into woodland. Stay straight along the path, eventually meeting a track. At this track stay to the right and head straight along. You should pass a building on the distant left but stay straight along the track. Follow this path past Botany Bay Farm on the right and meet the road.

Turn left on the road and follow this until you come to a fork in the road – take the left-hand road signed Marsham. Follow this road until you come to a small car park on the left – enter Marsham Heath through the path leading off the car park and follow this straight, until you come to a crossroad of paths. Go straight over at this junction onto a small path entering trees. Once in the woodland area, keep bearing left along this path until you come to a T-junction of paths – take a right here. Follow straight on this path until eventually you will come to a track which then becomes Kittles Lane (3) and has farms on the right then left.

Follow straight ahead along this road to Marsham village. On approaching the main part of the village, turn right along Croft Lane along a wide grass track, just before the Methodist Church on the left. The track turns left and heads towards Marsham Church, which can be seen in the distance. At the end of the grass track, veer right along a further track, and then turn right in front of The Rectory, with the village cemetery on your right. Turn left through a gateway into the churchyard of All Saints’ Church, Marsham. The parish church dates from the 13th century and has a fine 15th-century single hammerbeam roof and the remains of a 15th-century screen showing 16 painted saints. Pass through the churchyard and gate and go straight ahead, passing Church Cottage on the left.

And back to the start
As you exit Church Lane, turn left and continue straight ahead along Old Norwich Road back to the start of the walk.
Care and consideration when in the countryside

Please take care when Out & About in the countryside:

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Guard against all risk of fire.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Keep to public paths across farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
- If there is no pavement on the highway, walk on the right-hand side of the road facing oncoming traffic.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Make no unnecessary noise.

The ‘Out & About’ walks have been produced to enable you to explore and enjoy the Broadland district - its unique countryside and charming towns and villages.

Paths and roads used on this walk can be found in greater detail in the Ordnance Survey Landranger 133 or Explorer 238 map. www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

If you encounter any difficulties while undertaking this walk please call either of the numbers below.

(01603) 430496
0344 800 8020

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