

Distance	7 miles (11.2km)
Surface	75% hard, 25% soft - kissing gate, steps
Gradient	Moderate, (some fairly steep climbs)
Toilets	Overstrand, Cromer
Refreshment facilities	The White Horse Inn and Cliff Top Café, Overstrand Pubs and cafés in Cromer
Seating on route	Yes

Directions:

- 1** Leave the station and walk down the steps to the road.
- 2** Turn right down the hill and follow this long, mostly residential road until it meets the main Cromer Road (A149). Cross the road, turn left then immediately right at the mini roundabout into Cromwell Road. At the next junction, where there are two mini roundabouts, walk straight over to join Overstrand Road.
- 3** Follow this road passing houses and a chalet park, until you reach a fork in the road. Here you will find a stone memorial to Clement Scott, the author who created "Poppyland".
- 4** Take the right hand fork here down Northrepps Road, which passes houses and then rises through some deciduous woodland.

"Poppyland" near Cromer



- 5 At the top of the hill you pass a chalet and camping park on your left. Follow the road as it bends round to the left at the junction and shortly after, take a left turn which leaves the road at a shallow angle and runs down hill. Pass the Country Hotel and continue down hill until you meet the coast road once again.
- 6 Turn right and immediately after the church take the footpath on the left and follow it until it joins a road.
- 7 Continue straight on, passing Hillingdon Park on your left and follow the road, turning right into Harbord Road. This bends sharply left then right and joins the main village street.
- 8 Turn left and continue through the village, past the shops, pub and Sea Marge Hotel. Shortly after, the road takes a sharp right into Carr Road and ends at a T-junction.
- 9 Turn left and continue along until you see Coast Road on your left. On this junction there are two flint cottages and beyond is Mill House, mentioned by Clement Scott.
- 10 Turn down Coast Road which bends to the left then left again onto Clifton Way. As it turns left again, take the gated road



on the right and follow as it steeply drops down towards the promenade. Follow the promenade towards Cromer and just before its end, you will see a zig-zagged access ramp up to the cliff top.

- 12 At this point, you can either carry on along the shore towards Cromer (please check tide times) or take the access ramp to follow the cliff top route.
- 13 If you take the beach route, as you reach Cromer take the cobbled access ramp by The Rocket House Café. At the top, turn hard right to follow the high level tarmac footpath with railings. At the end of the path you will arrive at a viewing area with seats which gives good views of the pier. Continue on along a street named East Cliff passing the impressive St Peter and St Paul's Church on your left. Follow the road around the end of the church to meet Church Street. Turn right and after 100m, at the next junction of roads, take a diagonal left down West Street. At the end of this street, carefully cross straight over to continue on West Street (Tourist Information Centre with public toilets on your left here). Go straight over the mini roundabout and Cromer railway station will be on your right.
- 14 For the cliff top route, take the access ramp to the cliff top. At the top to your left there is the appropriately named Cliff Top Café (it has high tide times displayed outside). Turn right and pass through the car park keeping to the right edge. Pass through a gap in the hedge and a kissing gate. Follow the path along the cliff top which presently enters a golf course. Please be aware of golfing activities to your left and don't go too close to the soft cliff edge to your right! This path gives you great views of the crumbling coastal cliffs and of Cromer as you progress along it.
- 15 After 1.4km you will pass the lighthouse and soon the path becomes surfaced as it approaches Cromer. Passing the memorial to Henry Blogg ("the greatest lifeboatman of all time") follow the path around the shelter to arrive at the top of the cobbled access

ramp to the beach near The Rocket House Café. To return to Cromer railway station follow the directions in point 13 above.

Points of interest:

- Clement Scott, an English theatre critic, affectionately named the Cromer area “his Poppyland”. He visited Cromer whilst using trains to explore the east coast of England. As the popularity of the area increased, the town slowly transformed. Later, Scott lamented “The Cromer that we visit now is not the Cromer I wrote about but a few short years ago as my beloved Poppyland”;
- Erosion claimed the village of Shipden, which was lost to the sea during the 14th Century. It is said if the wind is in the right direction you can hear the bell of St Peter’s Church from beneath the sea!;
- Cromer has lost many sailors and fishermen to the sea, however many have been saved due to the courage of the lifeboat service. The first lifeboat in Cromer was stationed in 1804;
- The cliff top path between Overstrand and Cromer is reputed to be haunted by Black Shuck, a ferocious ghostly hound who appears on stormy nights!

