

2 - Thornham to Burnham Deepdale NATIONAL TRAILS



Distance: 9.8 km/6.1 miles
 Time: 2hr 24mins
 Type: Walk the Norfolk Coast Path in 7 stages, part 2
 Accessible by public transport

A diverse walk. The spectacular views from the inland section make the road walking more than worth the effort. The boardwalk is an adventure itself!



© Natural England - Photographer Andy Turner 03/7/13

1 **START** TF734434 Start at the Orange Tree in Thornham and follow the black and white National Trail across going eastward from here. Follow the A149 through the village until you come to the sign for the tiny hamlet of Choseley, complete with acorn. Take this turning onto a 1 mile stretch of country road, beware of traffic.

2 Follow the waymarking on the left turn from the road into a small copse. From here follow the pleasant track uphill. Following the first of two minor road crossings, there is a short stretch of well used farm track which can be extremely rutted and muddy following wet weather. Following the second road crossing the path starts to take a descent into Brancaster, offering breathtaking views and making this inland stretch really worthwhile. *This section offers peace from the busy coastal areas during the summer months, together with the opportunity of some scarce*

farmland birds, often visible from Choseley Drying barns which is a well known site with birdwatchers.

3 Once in Brancaster, Choseley road joins Mill road and the busy A149 at the cross roads with St. Mary's church. Follow the waymarkers past the church and onto Broad Lane. Follow the lane to the bottom and take the waymarked boardwalk path amongst the reeds eastward.

4 *Just off the path lies the Roman Fort of Branodunum as it leads the way to Brancaster Staithe harbour. Branodunum was built in 230AD in order to defend the approach to the Wash. It was originally on the seashore which has since receded here. The site was built on in the 1970s. At Brancaster Staithe harbour look out for the waymarker where the path leads through the fishermen's huts.*

Terrain: Road walking, field edge paths, farm track, green lanes, boardwalk over marsh and flood bank.

Stiles: 1 (Brancaster marsh)

Maps: Ordnance Survey Explorer 251 Landranger 133

Public Toilets: Brancaster - Beach Car Park, Broad Lane, are open 24 hrs all yr. Disabled.

Refreshments: Thornham (01485) - The Lifeboat Inn (t:512236), The Orange Tree (t:512213) and The Village Store, (t:512194) open 8-5, 1/2 days Thurs & Sun. See more at: www.thornham-norfolk.co.uk

Brancaster (01485) - The Ship Inn(t:210333)
Brancaster Staithe (01485) - The Jolly Sailors (t: 210314) & The White Horse (t:210262)
Burnham Deepdale (01485) Deepdale café (t:211055)

See more at: www.brancasterstaithe.co.uk for all three villages.

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Of interest:
Thornham: The remains of a prehistoric forest are visible within the deposit on the beach.
Burnham Deepdale: St. Mary's church has one of Norfolk's most impressive fonts. The rare Norman font depicts the twelve months of the farming calendar.
On Coasthopper: Look out for the oldest AA telephone box situated in Norfolk!

backpackers hostel and campsite, not forgetting Deepdale Café which has a fine selection of homemade cakes. The Coasthopper picks up from just outside the car park here.

5 Leave the path via The Drove at Burnham Deepdale which brings you out onto the A149. Crossing the road will take you to the Deepdale Farm complex, which is an exemplar of farm diversification in the region. There is now a very successful complex of shops, tourist information centre,



Getting there:

By Bus - CH = Coasthopper. King's Lynn to Cromer along the coast. (Summer: 1/2 hourly, rest of year: hourly, alterations on Sundays) From Norwich: Norfolk Green's x29 service to Fakenham then onto Wells to meet the CH.

By Rail - The CH service is accessible from King's Lynn and Cromer/ Sheringham stations.

Disabled Parking: There are no specific disabled parking spaces, however there are car parks at Brancaster beach and Brancaster Staithe Harbour.

Additional Info: Note to wheelchair users regarding the CH bus: Norfolk Green can't assure that all buses are fully wheelchair accessible during busy periods. If you need to make sure that your bus will be accessible, then call them on tel.:01553 776980 24 hours before you travel.

Contact us and let us know how you've got on. www.nationaltrail.co.uk
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