

Along the way

This walk begins on the sea defences at Overstrand. It follows the promenade along the concrete wall east for a short while before heading up into the outskirts of the village, past the edge of Overstrand Disused Railway county wildlife site, an extensive area of scrub and coppiced woodland.

After a short section along the coast road, the route heads back towards the sea at Manor Farm to take you along the top of Sidestrand and Trimingham Cliffs. The cliffs are a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest, important for both their geology and as one of the best cliff sites for invertebrates in East Anglia. The old church of St Michael's at Sidestrand used to stand on the cliff edge here but it was demolished apart from its tower, which finally fell into the sea in 1916. In 1881 a new church was built further inland to the same design using material from the earlier church – this can be visited by making a short diversion south to Sidestrand village on the main road.

The route continues past the small village of Trimingham, which has the Perpendicular-style Church of St John the Baptist with a short, heavily buttressed tower. Beyond the village, at Beacon Hill, the way passes the former site of RAF Trimingham, a radar station established in 1941, although no traces of it remain today.

Just before arriving in Mundesley the way returns to the coast at Mundesley Cliffs county wildlife site. The cliffs frequently slip here, exposing bare areas of sand and chalk. Venturing inland once more past a caravan park, you can see a conical early 19th century brick kiln that was converted into a house in the early 20th century. Further on, back at the coast, the concrete plinth of a World War II coast defence battery, the only one left intact in Norfolk, can be seen on the cliff top. The route finishes at the Old Coastguard Lookout Station in Mundesley. This small two-storey building now serves as the Mundesley Maritime Museum.

Walk summary

This varied walk between two seaside villages takes in a wide range of scenery as it ranges from coast to a little way inland and passes through the village of Trimingham along the way.

Getting started

This walk starts in Overstrand at the west end of the promenade (TG248410) and ends in Mundesley at the Old Coastguard Lookout Station (TG314367).

Getting there

Bus Service: (Service days vary) Overstrand – Sanders 5 Mundesley – Sanders 5, 34, 55 **Bus Stops:** Post Office (Overstrand) and Station Road or High Street (Mundesley)

Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33. www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 252, Norfolk Coast East, Cromer & North Walsham, available from Ordnance Survey shop <u>www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk</u>

What to expect

Mainly rural footpaths with short sections along minor roads.

Facilities

Pubs, cafés, tearooms, accommodation and shops in Overstrand and Mundesley

