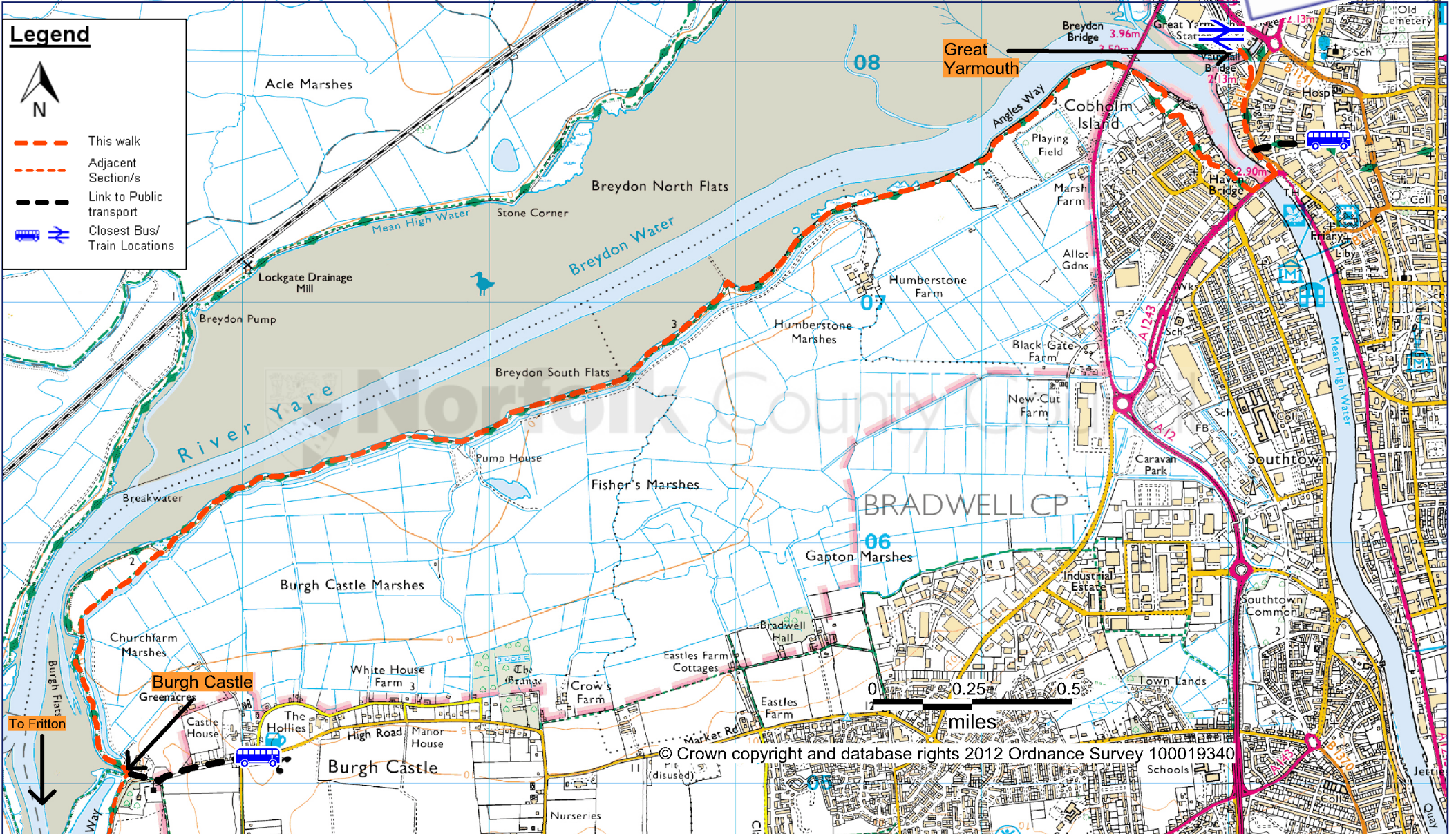


S1

Angles Way Short Section 1 (of 18) Great Yarmouth to Burgh Castle

Length:
4.5 Miles



Along the way

Angles Way starts at Great Yarmouth, a town which is an unusual gift of nature. In Roman times, a vast estuary stretched from Acle to the coast discharging freshwater from three major rivers into the sea. Later a long, thin island of sand and shingle began to emerge at the mouth of the estuary and the northern channel became blocked. As the sand spit grew and dried out it was seasonally occupied by local fishermen when herring shoaled in the autumn. Once this first settlement established permanently in the mouth of the river Yare, the town developed at a rapid pace.

Breydon Water is the last remnant of that great estuary. When walking along the flood defence bank on the south, look across to Halvergate Marshes on the other side. The marshes evolved from the estuary as it was gradually cut off from the sea. Drained of excess water, the marshes have provided grazing for at least a thousand years.

At low tide, large numbers of wading birds and wild fowl rely on the invertebrates living where salt and fresh water meet on the tidal mudflats at Breydon Water. Take your binoculars to look out over these mudflats at low tide to see heron, oystercatcher, golden plover, great crested grebe and widgeon. One of the best viewing points is from the viewing platform at Burgh Castle Roman fort.

The Roman fort at Burgh Castle is a survivor of a network of similar forts known as the Saxon Shore Forts which were built in the late 3rd century to protect the coast against Saxon invasion. Two forts stood either side of the great estuary open to the sea, the other fort being at Caister-on-Sea.

The Burgh Castle Roman site continued to be used by successive generations. It was a cemetery in middle Saxon times and possibly also the location of a monastery founded by St Fursey in the early 7th century. A Norman motte and bailey castle was constructed within the fort. In more recent times, scallops were cut out of the cliff over the marsh when materials were dug out for a neighbouring brick works. Many Yarmouth buildings are built with bricks stamped 'Burgh Castle'.

Walk summary

Start or finish Angles Way with a gentle 4.5 mile superb walk on the riverbank beside Breydon Water.

Getting started

This section is between Great Yarmouth train station (TG520080) and Burgh Castle, St Peter and St Paul's Church (TG476050). A sculpture of a wherry marks the meeting point of Angles way with Weavers Way and Wherryman's Way.

Getting there

Train Great Yarmouth Station
National Rail enquiries: 08457 484950.
www.nationalrail.co.uk/

Bus service First Bus 5

Bus stop Queens Head, Church Road, Burgh Castle

Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 2233
www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL40, The Broads, available from Ordnance Survey shop
www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite

What to expect

Footpath on the river embankment with a series of gates, no stiles. Urban streets in Great Yarmouth.

Facilities

Toilets (Great Yarmouth only), parking
Accommodation, camping, pubs, restaurants, cafes, shops.
Further information about planning a break in this area is available from www.enjoythebroads.com



www.norfolk.gov.uk/trails



Waveney Valley