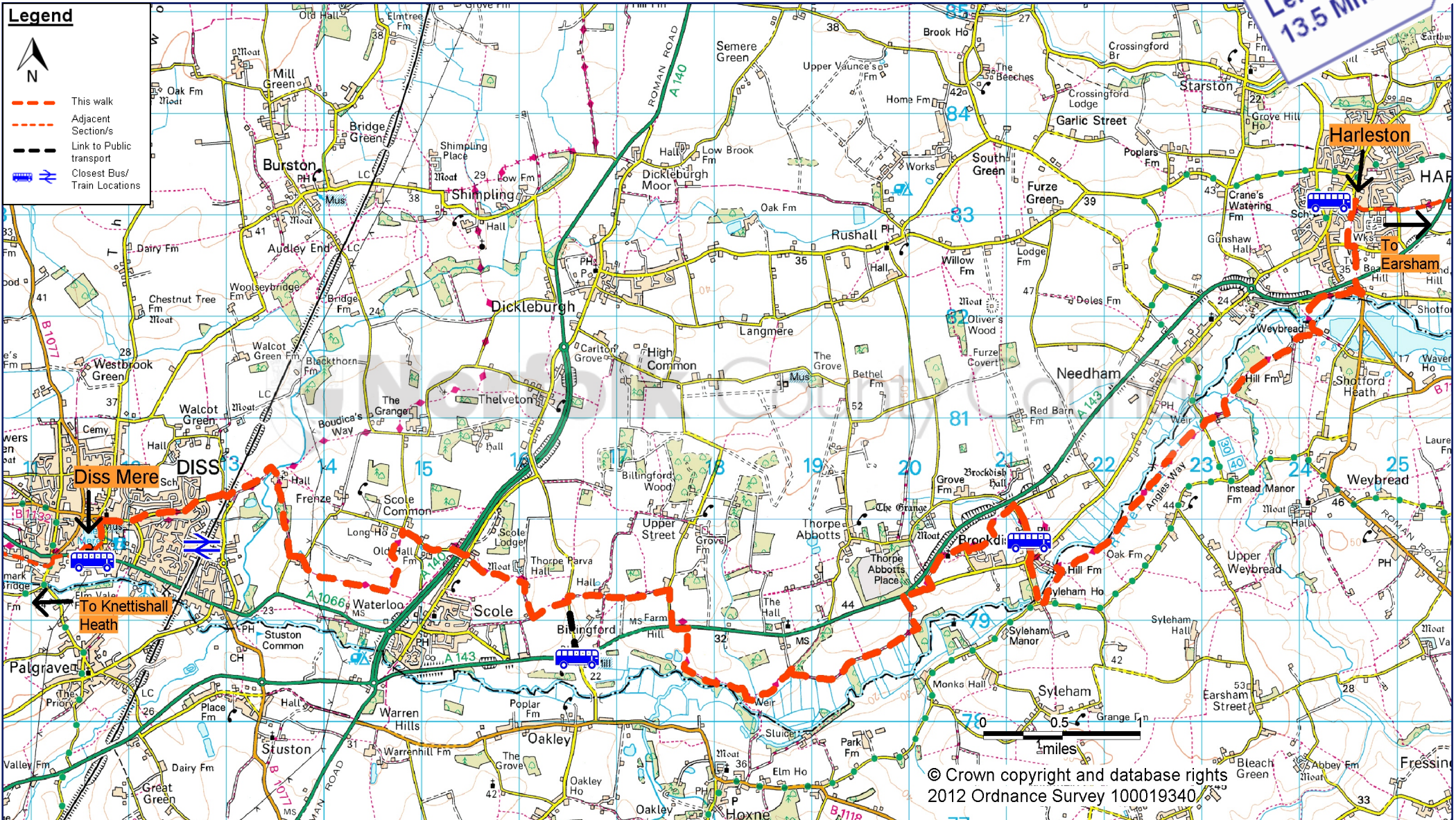


L5

# Angles Way Long Section 5 (of 7) Harleston to Diss Mere

Length:  
13.5 Miles



## Along the way

Between Harleston and Diss Angles Way crosses the River Waveney twice. Now a considerably smaller river than it was at the eastern section, the lush grazing meadows beside the river and diverse aquatic flora and fauna in the river has given some sections areas around the river County Wildlife Site status.

Several crossing points for the Waveney housed watermills. One example is the watermill at Syleham by the toll bridge to Brockdish. Originally a corn mill, it was converted in 1839 to a linen mill and thriving garment factory which employed over 100 people into the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The wealth from the weaving trade is reflected in many villages along the Waveney, including Brockdish's pretty colour-washed cottages. The mill has been converted into private houses and the factory site now has four houses built at the turn of the 21st century.

Several veteran trees are dotted along the skyline above the valley in Billingford. These old trees support a rich range of biodiversity with many different species of fungi, insects, birds and mammals living in or visiting the trees for food and shelter.

The picturesque market town of Diss lies on the Norfolk – Suffolk border. Mentioned in the Domesday Book as a moderately sized Royal Manor, the importance of Diss increased when a market was established which brought wealth to the town. Flemish weavers came across the Channel and throughout the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries wool, hemp and linen were the chief industries.

A focal point of the town is the 6 acre Mere, an important example of a natural lake basin with the water level maintained by a number of underground springs. The sediments of Diss Mere have been used to investigate the past environment of Norfolk and the Mere is an important site in the development of this science. A thriving and bustling town has grown up around the Mere and retains a great sense of history with its 13<sup>th</sup> century church, beautiful old buildings and busy Friday market.

*Further information on this walk is available in three short sections, including more detailed maps. See Short Sections S11; Harleston to Brockdish, S12; Brockdish to Billingford and S13 Billingford to Diss at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/anglesway](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/anglesway)*



[www.norfolk.gov.uk/trails](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/trails)



### Walk summary

Enjoy a 13.5 mile walk between the historic towns of Harleston and Diss, sometimes closely following the meandering River Waveney, sometimes leaving it to enjoy the fabulous views from higher ground over the Waveney Valley.

### Getting started

This section is between the junction Mendham Lane/Love Lane, Harleston (TM245831) and Diss Mere (TM116797)

### Getting there

**Bus service** Anglian Service 80

**Bus stops** Malthouse Court, London Road, Harleston and Diss Bus Station, Park Road, Diss  
Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33.

[www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk](http://www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk)

### Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map Diss and Harleston 230 available from Ordnance Survey shop [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite)

### What to expect

Footpaths, farm tracks, marshland grazing meadows, stiles, country roads, moderate hills, a busy section of the A143 to cross and short busy section of country road at Sandy Lane, Diss.

### Facilities

Parking and toilets, accommodation, pubs, cafes, restaurants, shops

Further information about planning a break in this area is available from

[www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/visiting/index.asp](http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/visiting/index.asp) and [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/tourism](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/tourism)



Waveney Valley