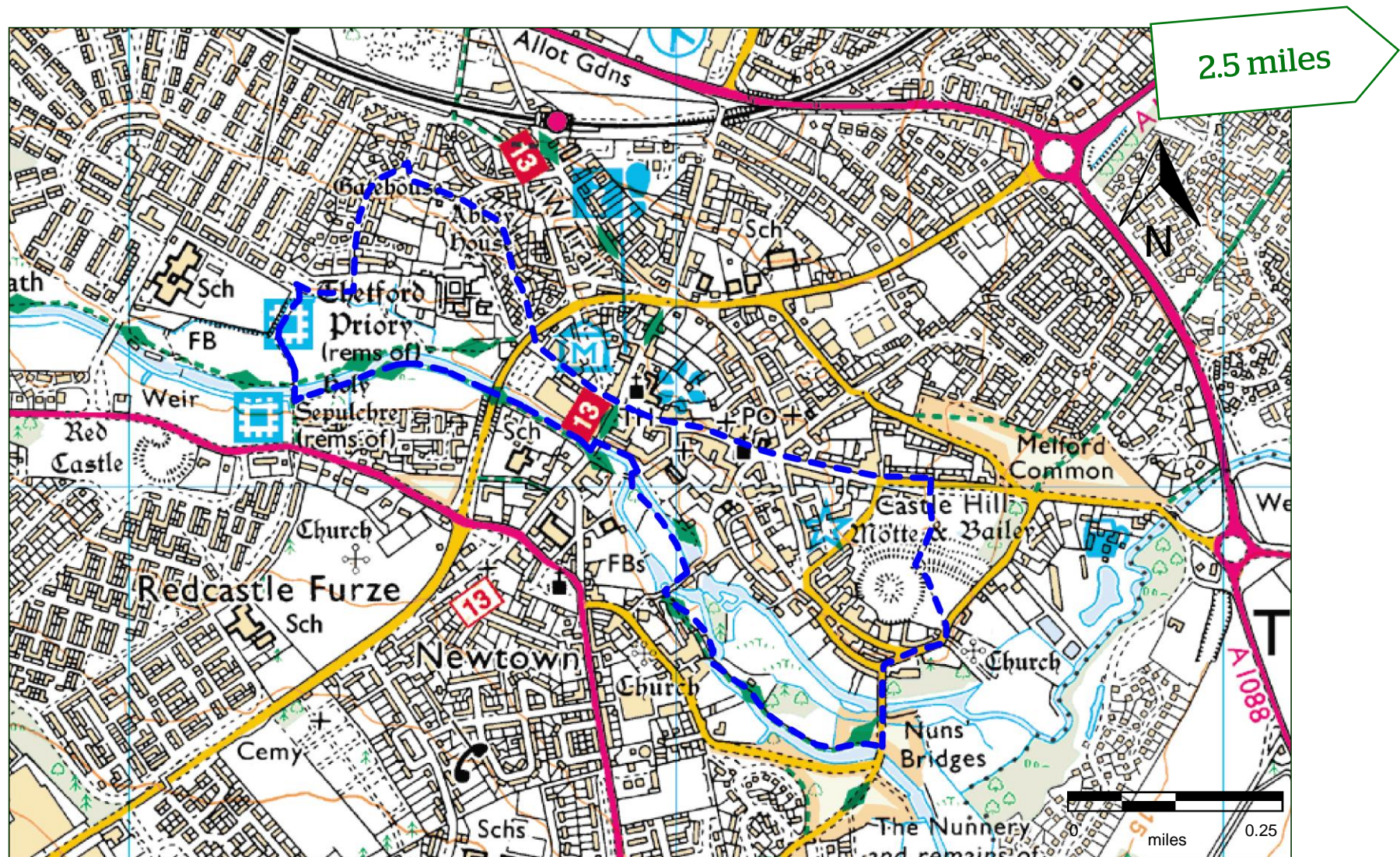


Circular Walk

The Architecture Trail, Thetford



Along the way

The trail starts at the Nuns' Bridges - three bridges spanning the Rivers Little Ouse and Thet and the Thet stream, marking the place where the prehistoric Icknield Way may have crossed the water via a ford, and giving the town its name.

The streets north of the river are among the oldest in Thetford with some buildings medieval in origin. The Gaol House on Old Market Street is worth a detour - now a private property it retains the manacle sign over the doorway. The Ancient House Museum is one of the town's best-preserved timber-framed buildings, constructed c.1490 it was originally a merchant's residence.

Continuing along Minstergate you will see the magnificent ruins of the Priory of Our Lady of Thetford, founded over 900 years ago as part of the Cluniac order and in its day the most powerful of the town's many religious establishments. You can't help but admire the splendid and exceptionally intact 14th century gatehouse.

Walk summary

Thetford is home to an impressive array of important historic buildings and architecture and this trail showcases the finest examples the town has to offer.

Getting started: The trail starts at Nuns' Bridges (TL8737 8247).

Getting there: Thetford is well served by good bus and rail links. Parking at the start point is free, as is parking at Water Lane.

Maps and guides: Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 229, Thetford Forest in The Brecks.

What to expect: Surfaced roads and pavements with some unsurfaced footpaths.

Facilities: This walk begins and ends in Thetford where you will find good facilities, shops selling local produce as well as local cafes.