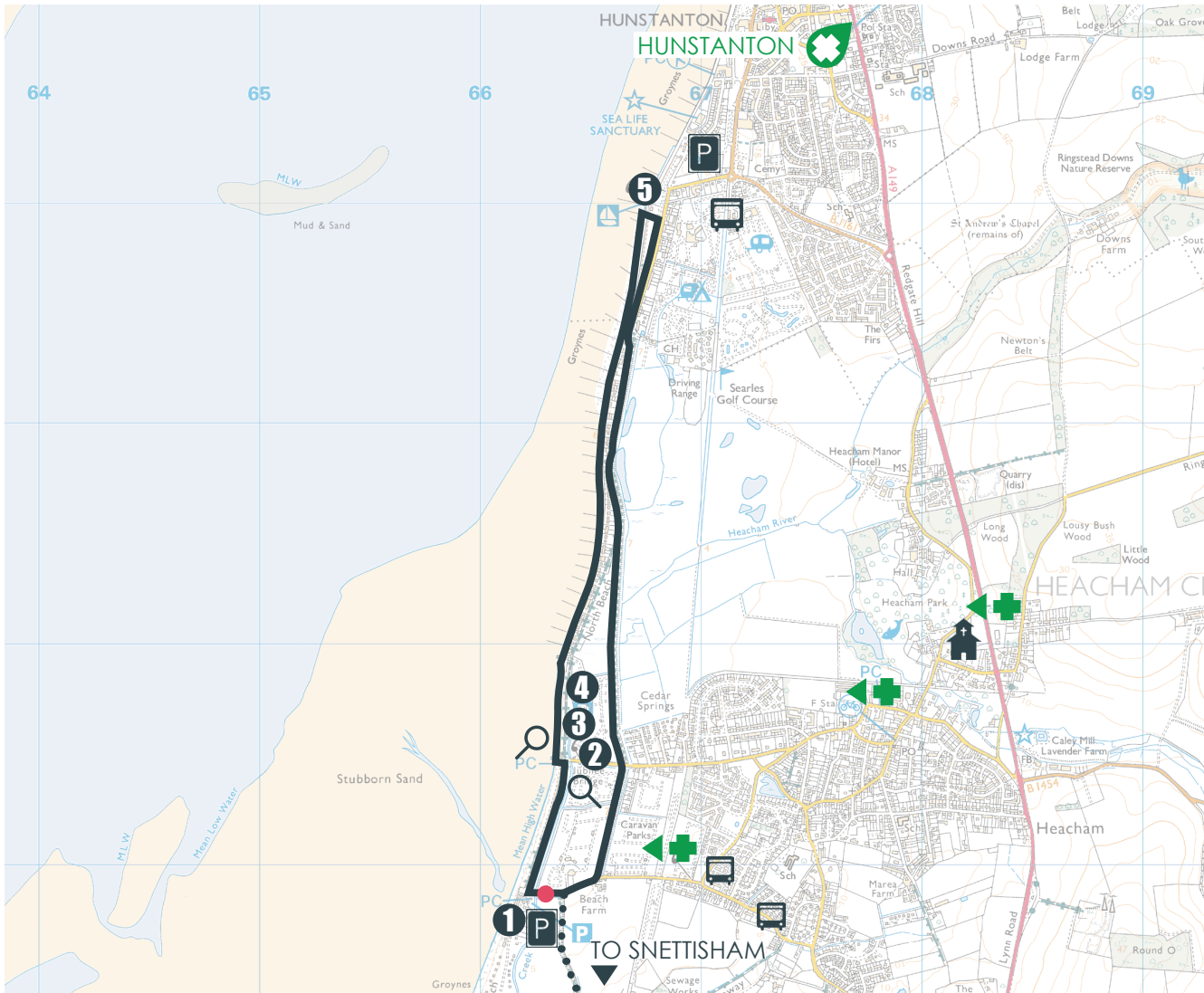


# HEACHAM


4.25 miles / 7 km



Defibrillator (AED) map location. 

Direction of nearest defibrillator (AED) off map. 

Business location. 


Route link. 


Route. 

Start point. 

Bus Stop 

Parking 

Heritage point of interest 

Church 

Heacham Halt Cafe 

North Beach Fish Bar 

Sunset Grill 

Silver Sands 

The Boat House Cafe 

Business open times may vary.  
Please check with venue if you look to  
use their facilities & services.

A short and very accessible route, the Heacham circular often provides sparkling views across the Wash. On clear days 'Boston Stump', the tower of St Botolph's Church in Lincolnshire, can be seen. As well as a long and interesting history, you'll also find great fish and chips at Heacham.

Heacham existed long before the development of Hunstanton, its Victorian neighbour. The parish church has its origins in the 1200s and the village has long celebrated its connection with Pocahontas, the Native American who was married to and brought to England by Heacham resident John Rolfe in the early 1600s. The rise in popularity of seaside holidays during the mid 19th Century lead to an expansion of Heacham, particularly after the railway station opened in 1862. It closed in 1969, but the village is still a popular venue for seaside visitors.

In the past, access to the beach was impeded by the Heacham River running between the village and the shore. In 1887 though, Jubilee Bridge was installed to celebrate Queen Victoria's 50th year on the throne. It connected the railway station to the shoreline by the newly constructed Jubilee Road. Today Jubilee Road is lined with caravans and chalets used by the thousands of holiday-makers that come to enjoy the beach.

Jubilee Bridge was made at Frederick Savage's St. Nicholas Ironworks in King's Lynn. Originally associated with agricultural machinery, Savage's of Lynn later became famous for producing steam-driven fairground roundabouts. The bridge has since been replaced, but two plaques attached on the landward side still record its construction.

On 20 June 1929 beachgoers at Heacham had an unexpected visitor. The endurance swimmer, Mercedes Gleitze, emerged after 13 hours and 17 minutes at sea, becoming the first person to swim the Wash. She had intended to land at Hunstanton but was driven off course by strong currents. It was her second attempt that month, having been pulled from the water after 8 hours during the first.

During the Second World War the coast was heavily defended against invasion from the sea. Several anti-tank defence positions can still be seen around Heacham.

Heacham Circular Walk runs to and from the shore at Heacham and the southern tip of Hunstanton. It passes a plaque commemorating Mercedes Gleitze's historic swim, the Jubilee Bridge and a monument to local victims of the 1953 East Coast Floods. The top of the extensive modern sea defence forms part of the route.



## Getting Started

The route's starting point is on South Beach (TF663368).

## Getting There

There are bus stops a short distance from the route's starting point served by Lynx service 34, 35 & Coastliner 36. Car parking is available at South Beach car park, PE31 7LH. Car parking fees may apply.

.....

## FEEDBACK FORM

**How many people are in your party? (including yourself) Please write in number**

Male  Under 18  18-35  36-60  Over 60   
Female  Under 18  18-35  36-60  Over 60

**Are you:** Walking  Dog Walking  Cycling  Other .....

**Which ONE of the following BEST describes your visit to this Trail?**

SHORT visit (less than 1 hour)  PART-day visit (1-4 hours)   
FULL-day visit (5 or more hours)  LONG DISTANCE trip (more than 1 day)

**Where is your permanent residence?** (This is just to help us monitor where visitors come from) .....

**Did you use a website to find out information about the route before your visit to this Trail?** YES  NO  if YES which website? .....

**During your visit to this Trail, approximately how much have you spent on the following, per person, per day and where? Please write in £**

Accommodation [£ ] Food and drink [£ ]  
Where:..... Where:.....

**Is this your first visit to this Trail?** YES  NO

**Returned forms can be posted to Norfolk Trails, Floor 6, County Hall, NR1 2DH**