Aylsham: Marriott’s Way and Green Lane

Information

| Start point | Bure Valley Railway, Station Road, Aylsham  • Grid Reference TG196265 |
| Parking     | Bure Valley Railway car park |
| Distance    | 3.25 miles |
| Details     | Minor gradient, 80% soft |

Walk instructions

From the Bure Valley Railway, turn left at Station Road and then left again onto the main Norwich Road. Cross at the crossing point just after the mini-roundabout, then enter Marriott’s Way through the gate.

Walk along Marriott’s Way for 1.25 miles. The route takes you under a bridge, across Mileham Drive, over Cawston Road near St Michael’s Hospital and into open countryside. Upon reaching a quiet country lane (there is a metal gate just before this), leave Marriott’s Way and turn right into this lane, then immediately right again onto a grass track, Green Lane.

Follow the track to the junction with a tarmac road and turn right into this road (Holman Road). Continue along Holman Road, ignoring side roads until the small crossroads just after the 20mph sign, turn right at this junction into Pound Lane and walk to the T-junction.

Turn right at the T-junction onto Cawston Road, cross the road and turn left at the public footpath sign into Stonegate Lane just before the grass verge. Continue along Stonegate Lane to the steps up to Marriott’s Way.

To avoid the steps turn left off Stonegate Lane into the new housing estate at Proudfoot Way just before the steps, bearing right into Mileham Drive and then left into Marriott’s Way.

Turn left onto Marriott’s Way and return to the start.

- Marriott’s Way is a Norfolk County Council long distance trail owned and managed by Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council. It follows two disused railway lines, the Great Eastern Line from Aylsham to Themelthorpe and the Midland and Great Northern Line linking Themelthorpe to Norwich and was named after William Marriott, the Chief Engineer and Manager of MGN for 41 years.

- Stonegate Lane has a few remaining old coppice stools and boundary banks just visible indicating that this route could have been an ancient track. Looking on a current map, Stonegate Lane crosses Marriott’s Way, Henry Page Road and cuts the corner of a field almost in a direct line to the hamlet of Stonegate. It finishes close to the town centre, a short walk from the medieval archery butts (now the Buttlands car park).
An ideal walk for a leg stretch out along Marriott’s Way before returning along Green Lane, one of several old routes radiating out from the town.