

Along the way

At the beginning of the section is the small village of West Acre. Here you will find an Augustian Priory founded 1140-54. There is also a church which is mostly 13th and 14th Century. Alongside this church is the gatehouse of the former Abbey.

Along this section the route meets the River Nar. In the upper reaches of the river, extensive areas of traditionally managed unimproved pasture survive. A combination of summer cattle grazing and hay making have encouraged the establishment of a variety of wetland species, including southern marsh orchid, yellow rattle and bogbean.

The route passes through Castle Acre Common a beautiful walk where you can walk alongside the River Nar and through quiet woodland. This common is designated an SSSI as it is the most important valley grassland site in West Norfolk County Council.

Towards the end of the section to are the remains of the Cluniac Priory on the west side of Castle Acre. The Priory was founded in 1089 by William de Warenne the son of the first duke of Surrey. These remains are some of the most spectacular that you will find in the county and managed by English Heritage with a shop, toilets and picnic area. At the end of the section is the 12th Century St James' church

Walk summary

A 2.5 mile walk along meadows and through woodland inter-crossing the River Nar.

Getting started

This section is between West Acre at the junction of Church Green and River Road (TF778152) and Castle Acre at the Bailey Gate (TF817151)

Getting there

Bus service Peelings 1, Swaffham Flexibus or West Norfolk Community Transport 32

Bus stop

Castle Acre, adj Costcutter
West Acre, adj Top Road
Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 2233

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 235, King's Lynn, Downham Market & Swaffham, available from Ordnance Survey shop

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite

What to expect

Mainly footpaths and small rural roads. No stiles on this section.

Facilities

Shops and a post office in Castle Acre.
Café and Tea room in Castle Acre.
Pubs in Castle Acre and a pub in West Acre
Shop, toilets and picnic area at Castle Acre Priory.