

# S10

## Weavers' Way Short Walk 10 (of 11) Halvergate to Berney Arms



## Along the way

The route begins in the village of Halvergate and leads along Marsh Road past the thatched Red Lion pub out onto the Halvergate Marshes. The marshes were part of a great estuary in Roman times but the area was drained and settled in the early medieval period and now makes up the largest expanse of grazing marsh in East Anglia. The whole area is designated as a site of special scientific interest and has several international designations too. The marshes support internationally important numbers of wintering Bewick's swan and populations of other waders and wildfowl that include ruff, golden plover, lapwing, bean goose, European white-fronted goose and wigeon. Other species breeding on Halvergate Marshes include snipe, oystercatcher, yellow wagtail and bearded tit; short-eared and barn owls are frequent winter visitors.

A little less than a mile out of Halvergate, the Weavers' Way leads away from the road and along a path to cross Halvergate Fleet, a salt marsh watercourse that the former road to Yarmouth used to run along until the construction of the Acle New Road (Acle Straight) in the 1830s. The path passes between two of the many drainage mills on the marshes. To the north is Mutton's Mill, a four-storey brick tower with a pair of sails that can often be seen turning. To the south is Stone's Drainage Mill, which is now derelict.

The route continues across the marshes to reach the Berney Arms railway station. The railway line between Norwich and Great Yarmouth was built in 1844 and this very isolated station still has a regular request stop service. At 3.5 miles from the nearest road, and only accessible by rail, boat or foot, this is one of most remote stations in the country. The station takes its name from Thomas Trench Berney, the local landowner and owner of a nearby cement works, who sold the land to the railway company on the condition that they provided a stopping place in perpetuity. A post office used to operate at the station between 1889 and 1967.

### Walk summary

A walk through the flat open landscape of Halvergate Marshes, rich with wildlife and windmills, that ends at one of the most remote railway stations in the country.

### Getting started

This walk starts in Halvergate at Squires Road/Marsh Road junction (TG420069) and ends at Berney Arms rail station (TG460053).

### Getting there

**Train** Berney Arms Rail Station request stop on limited service. More trains on Sundays. National Rail enquiries: 08457 484950.

[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

### Bus service

Halvergate – Our Bus 292 (Tuesday only), Ambassador Travel 730.

**Bus stops** Squires Road (Halvergate)

Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33

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

### Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL40, The Broads, available from Ordnance Survey shop [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/)

### What to expect

Mixed surfaces of pavements, country lanes, farm tracks and marshes. Two stiles, a squeeze stile near Wickhampton Marshes and a rambler gate near Stone Road (Halvergate). Binoculars are useful to spot waymarks across the open marshes.

### Facilities

Accommodation and pub in Halvergate.

Pub in Berney Arms (open seasonally only)