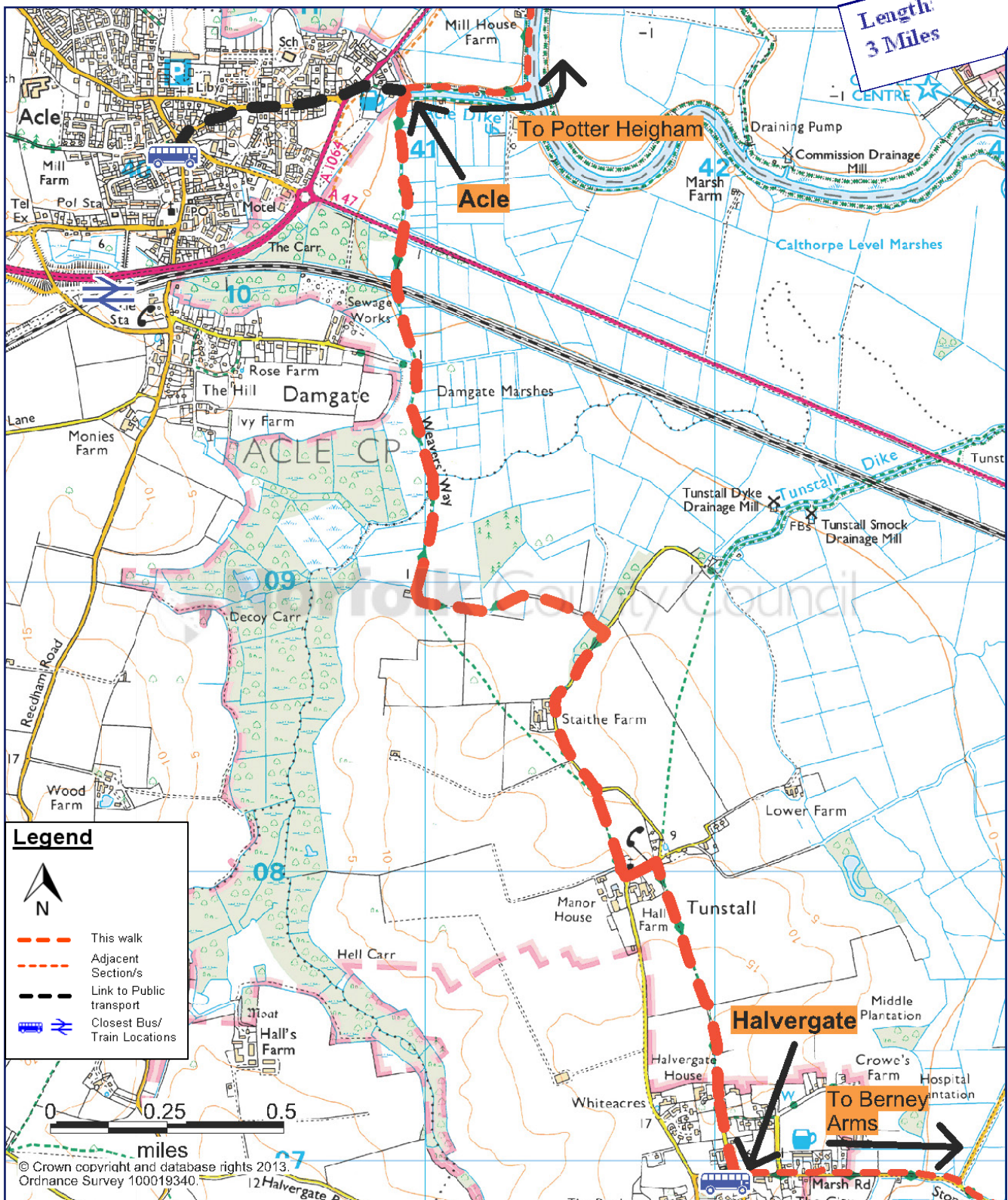


Weavers' Way Short Walk 9 (of 11) Acle to Halvergate

Length:
3 Miles



Along the way

From Acle the route crosses Damgate Marshes, which are important as traditionally managed grazing marshes and designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of drainage dykes that contain a great diversity of plants and insects such as dragonflies. Leaving Damgate Marshes, the way skirts Decoy Carr, an area of damp woodland that also has SSSI status, before climbing a little to reach higher, drier arable farmland around the small village of Tunstall.

Tunstall, a mile short of Halvergate, has the partially ruined 14th-century Church of St Peter and St Paul, which has a crude wall plaque that tells of the rebuilding of the chancel by Mrs Elizabeth Jenkinson in 1705. The nave and tower are both in a ruinous state.

A little further south, Halvergate sits on the western edge of a vast area of marshes – Halvergate Marshes. In early medieval times, before the surrounding marshes were drained by wind pumps, this would have been on the edge of the vast estuary of the River Yare and the village would have existed as a minor seaport. It now stands eight miles from the coast. The 13th-century flint church of St Peter and St Paul is surprisingly large for such a small settlement and dominates the village with its 84- foot-high tower, which once might have served as a beacon for shipping. It is claimed that with the aid of binoculars it is possible to see Cromer church from the top of the tower on fine days. The church has a fragment of a 14th century window that depicts St Christopher carrying the Christ child across the river, an appropriate subject for a watery landscape such as this. Three stone statues that originally stood at the top of the tower can be seen at the base of the tower and by the porch.

Walk summary

Following footpaths and little-used country lanes, this short but varied walk takes in a mixture of damp grazing marshes and drier arable farmland.

Getting started

This walk starts at Acle Dyke (TG409107) and ends in Halvergate at Squires Road/Marsh Road junction (TG420069).

Getting there

Coach National Express 308 and 491.

National express enquires: 08717 818178

www.nationalexpress.com

Train Acle Rail Station

National Rail enquires: 08457 484950

www.nationalrail.co.uk

Bus service

Acle – 52 Konect Bus, Ambassador Travel 730, First X1.

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

Bus stops Kings Head (Acle) and Squires Road (Halvergate)

Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33

www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL40, The Broads, available from Ordnance Survey shop

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/

What to expect

Mixed surfaces of pavements, country lanes, rural paths, farm tracks and cross-fields. Two stiles near Damgate.

Facilities

Pub, café, shops and accommodation in Acle.

Accommodation and pub in Halvergate.