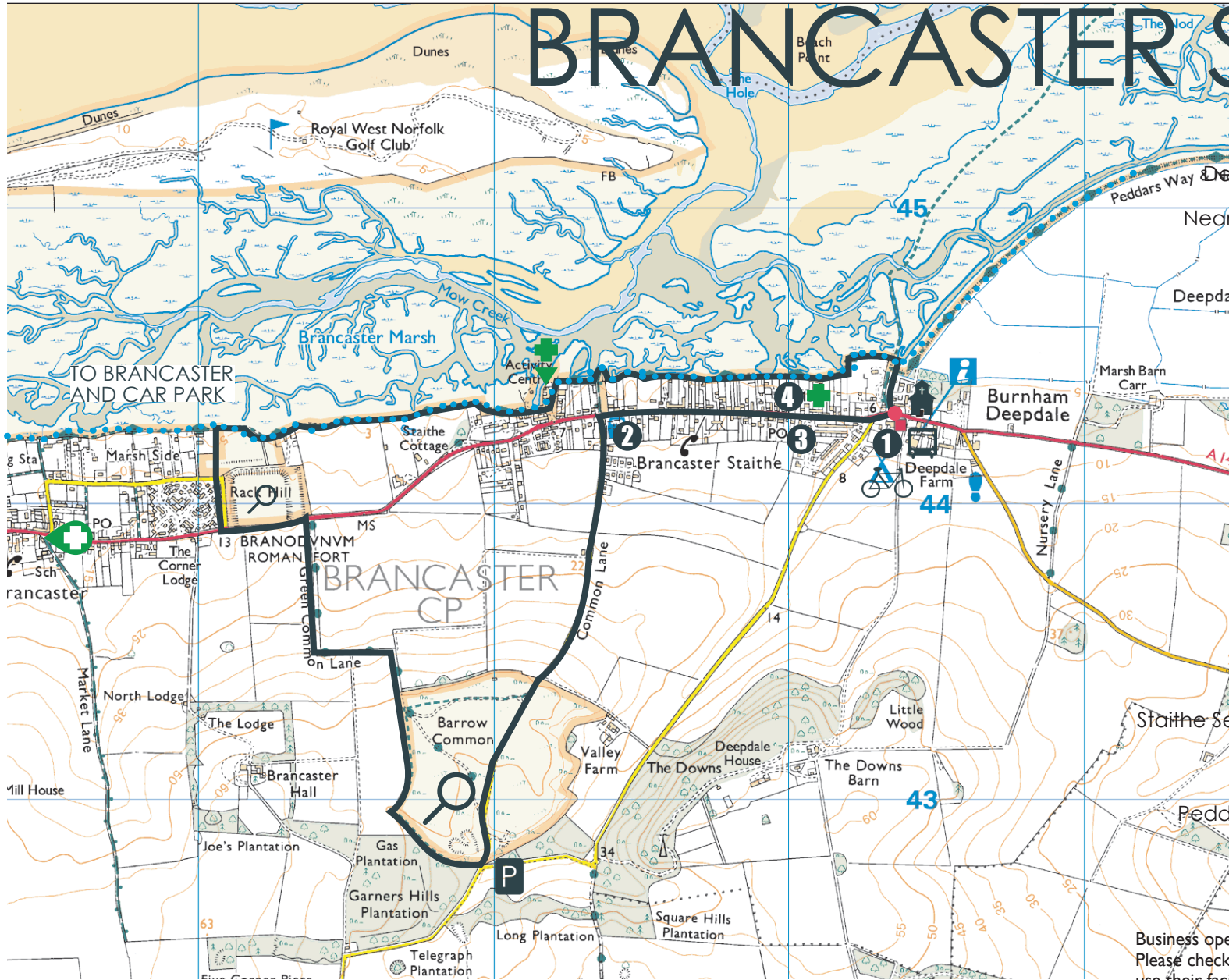


BRANCASTER STAITHE

5 miles / 8 km



- Defibrillator (AED) map location.
- Nearest defibrillator (AED) off map.
- Business location.
- Route.
- Start point.
- Bus Stop
- Parking
- Bicycle Hire
- Point of heritage interest
- Church
- Deepdale Cafe
- Jolly Sailors Brancaster
- Staithe Seasons Gift Shop & Post Office
- White Horse Brancaster
- Peddars Way & Norfolk Coast Path

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



The Brancaster Staithe walk is a contrast of saltmarsh and sailing regattas, wind and woodland. The views from the highpoint at Barrow Common are breathtaking. From here it is easy to picture traders visiting Branodunum, the Roman fort built near the shore to defend the coastline.

The Bronze Age, the Roman occupation, and the Saxon and Norman periods all left their mark on the landscape around Brancaster Staithe. Each chapter in the village's history has left us with a fascinating archaeological record that has helped enhance our understanding of north-west Norfolk's history.

One mile to the south of the village lies Barrow Common, the site of a small hill presumed to be a round barrow. These mounds of earth were raised over places of burial during the Bronze Age, mostly between 2200 BC and 1100 BC. Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery has also been found on the site.

The Roman fort of Branodunum sits between Brancaster and Brancaster Staithe, and is accessible from this route. The fort was one of the Saxon Shore forts constructed along the south and east coasts of England. They were built to prevent seaborne invasion by the Frisians, Angles and Saxons from across the North Sea. The fort developed in several phases from around 200 AD but was abandoned around 400 AD as Roman rule in Britain came to an end. The walls were eventually dismantled in the 1700s, with stone being incorporated into several buildings around the parish.

Immediately to the east and west of the fort lay two *vici* or Roman civilian settlements. Detailed excavations in the 1970s, along with a series of aerial photographs, revealed many artefacts and helped archaeologists map their layout. The western area is now covered by a modern housing estate.

Fragments of Saxon pottery, a brooch and a comb have been found in Brancaster Staithe, and the round-towered St Mary's Church at Burnham Deepdale is believed to have Saxon origins. The church's nave houses a beautifully designed Norman font which details the 'Twelve Labours of the Months', with depictions of seasonal activities such as digging in March, mowing hay in July and feasting in December.

The route of Brancaster Staithe Circular Walk crosses Barrow Common as well as passing the sites of the Roman settlements and fort. St. Mary's (Burnham Deepdale) is also within a few steps of the trail.



Getting Started

The route's starting point is outside Deepdale Café (TF803442).

Getting There

There is a bus stop at the route's starting point served by Lynx Coastliner service 36. Limited car parking along A149 Main Road and Barrow Common (see map). Alternative parking at Brancaster Beach Car Park, Broad Lane, PE31 8AX with a mile walk to join with route. Car parking fees may apply. Please check Brancaster tide times: high tides can flood the road leading to the car park.

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FEEDBACKFORM

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