

www.angles-way.co.uk

Along the way

A fair has been held on Fair Green, just south of Diss, for 800 years; look for the inscribed stone pillar near the car park celebrating this. The green is surrounded by an attractive mix of timber framed; clay lump and brick built houses dating from the 16th century through to the present day; a good example of how settlements evolved around a common green.

This section takes you past Roydon Fen, a Local National Reserve and County Wildlife Site managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust, along with the stunning Redgrave and Lopham Fen, also owned and managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen is an internationally important spring-fed valley fen, the largest remaining river valley fen in England. Together with the adjoining land, its area extends to over 400 acres and as one of the most important wetlands in Europe has international protection. The underlying acid and alkaline geology has resulted in characteristic wildlife including many species now rare in Britain, including the rare Fen Raft Spider.

The unique landscape of spring-fed sedge beds, rush and grass meadows, wet and dry heath, woodland and aquatic pools provides a rich wildlife environment. The site feels truly wild and is managed by grazing with a herd of resilient Polish Konik ponies, cattle and sheep.

A highlight of this section of the walk is to find both the source of the River Waveney and also the River Ouse. At grid reference TM039790 on Redgrave Road, alongside Redgrave and Lopham Fen, a small bank forms the watershed between the catchments of the Ouse and Waveney and marks the source of both rivers, with the Waveney flowing east and the Ouse flowing west.

As a contrast to the somewhat damp fens, Angles Way also crosses Wortham Ling, a large area of common land in the village of Wortham. The site is heathland and acid grassland and is very similar to a Breck heath despite lying in the claylands.





Walk summary

Enjoy the contrast between the bustling market town of Diss and the complete sense of peace and guiet of Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Redgrave and Lopham Fen. the source of the River Waveney, on this 7.5 mile walk.

Getting started

This section is between Diss Mere (TM116797) and the B1113 crossroads of Hinderclay Road and The Street at Redgrave Common (TM040786).

Getting there

Train London to Norwich line. Diss Rail Station. Station Road, Diss National Rail enquiries: 08457 484950. www.nationalrail.co.uk/ Bus service Simonds 304 Bus stops Diss Bus Station, Park Road, Diss and Redgrave Village Sign, The Street, Redgrave. From the bus stop in Redgrave, Angles Way is approximately half a mile north along The Street. Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33. www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map Diss and Harleston 230 available from Ordnance Survey shop www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite

What to expect

Footpaths through and beside fens which are usually wet throughout the year. Farm tracks, heathland, pasture, stiles and quiet country roads.

Facilities

Parking and toilets (Diss only) Accommodation, pubs, restaurants, shops Further information about planning a break in this area is available from

www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/visiting/index.asp

