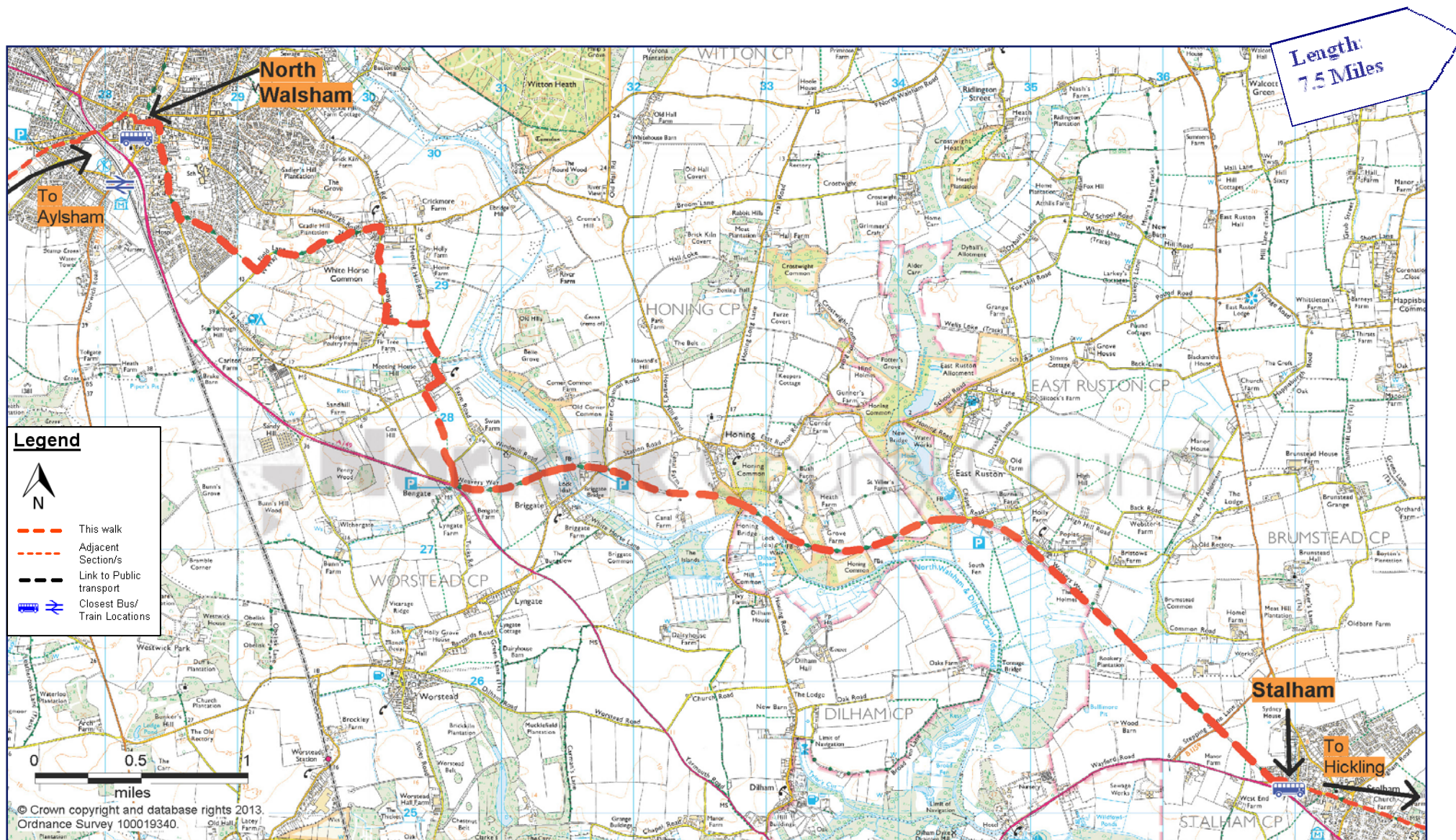


S5

Weavers' Way Short Walk 5 (of 11) North Walsham to Stalham



Along the way

From St Nicholas Church in North Walsham's centre, the route leads south past The Oaks, a memorial park that holds the town's war monument. Leaving North Walsham behind, the route travels south along quiet lanes amidst arable fields and alongside White Horse Common before passing through Meeting House Hill, a small community built up around an early Baptist Chapel. The original chapel was founded in 1717 but the existing building dates from 1829. Gravestones can be seen in the garden in front of the chapel. A little way south of here at Bengate, the route rejoins the disused Midland & Great Northern railway line next to the A149. From the path here there are views north to Worstead Mill, a mid 19th-century four-storey tower windmill with a boat-shaped cap.

The path continues beneath a cast iron and brick bridge and past the former railway platform at Briggate, which once belonged to Honing station, before crossing the now-disused North Walsham & Dilham Canal. This narrow manmade waterway, Norfolk's only canal and the only one built specifically for wherries, was constructed in the early part of the 19th century to link the Bure and Ant rivers and allow goods to be transported from the bone mills of Antingham northwest of North Walsham to Great Yarmouth via the River Bure. It soon became clear that trade was insufficient to make the venture profitable but the canal survived until the 1920s. The North Walsham and Dilham Canal Trust was set up in 2008 to protect, conserve and improve the route of the canal and its branches for the benefit of the community and environment. After crossing the canal, the route continues along the dis-used railway, through the woodland of Honing Bridge Carr, a county wildlife site, and alongside the wet grassland of Honing Common, which lies between the railway and the North Walsham & Dilham Canal. Skirting the village of East Ruston a little further on, the route bends southeast for the final long straight section that leads into Stalham where it ends at the Old Railway Station at the start of the High Street.

Walk summary

This walk follows lanes and the route of a disused railway line through arable farmland, heaths and fens. It also crosses the course of the disused North Walsham & Dilham Canal.

Getting started

This walk starts in North Walsham at St. Nicholas' Church (TG283302), (also the starting point of Paston Way) and ends in Stalham at the junction with High Street, near the Old Railway Station (TG369252)

Getting there

Train North Walsham Rail Station
National Rail enquiries: 08457 484950.

www.nationalrail.co.uk

Bus service (Service days vary)

North Walsham – Aldborough Community Bus 3,
Sanders Coaches (various), Aldborough Community Bus 6

Stalham – First 12/12A, Sanders 6, 34, 36.

Bus stops Market Place (North Walsham) and Old Rail Station (Stalham)

Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33

www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 252, Norfolk Coast East, available from Ordnance Survey shop www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/

What to expect

Mixed surfaces of pavements, country lanes, cross-fields and rural paths (dis-used railway). No stiles on this walk.

Facilities

Pubs, cafés and tea rooms, shops and accommodation in North Walsham

Pubs, cafés and tea rooms, shops, and accommodation in Stalham.