

Marriott's Way

Norwich to Hellesdon



Route Summary

A 2.5 mile access tested route along Marriott's Way starting at Barn Road roundabout in Norwich and ending at Gunton Lane in Hellesdon



Route Description

This walk has been audited to support people accessing the countryside and to improve quality of life. The walk audit checked for potential accessibility difficulties along the route. Maps are provided showing point numbers which correspond to photos and descriptions of these areas so that you can decide if this walk is suitable for you.

The route is a 2.5 mile linear section of the Marriott's Way. The route starts at Barn Road roundabout at the entrance to Marriott's Way, a 26 mile-long disused railway line. At the start of the route, you will pass through the site of where Norwich City Station once stood. From the trail, you may even spot some of the historical railway features still there, including the old platform and the engine shed. As you travel further along the trail you will pass through Wensum Valley County Wildlife Site. The route crosses the river at Dolphin Bridge where you can see beautiful views of The Wensum Valley. You will then pass by Anderson's Meadow, a lovely open space to stop for a picnic. As you reach Hellesdon, you will pass over the River Wensum again on an original railway bridge, a great place to stop and spot wildlife. The route section ends at Gunton Lane Car Park.

The route is level for the most part and the surfaces are firm and constructed from tarmac, crushed aggregates and concrete. There is a short section of natural path through the site of the old Hellesdon station that can be explored but it is not suitable for wheelchair users at this time.



Start point: Marriott's Way entrance at Barn Road roundabout. Grid Ref: TG 225 092



Distance: 2.5 miles linear (5 miles return)



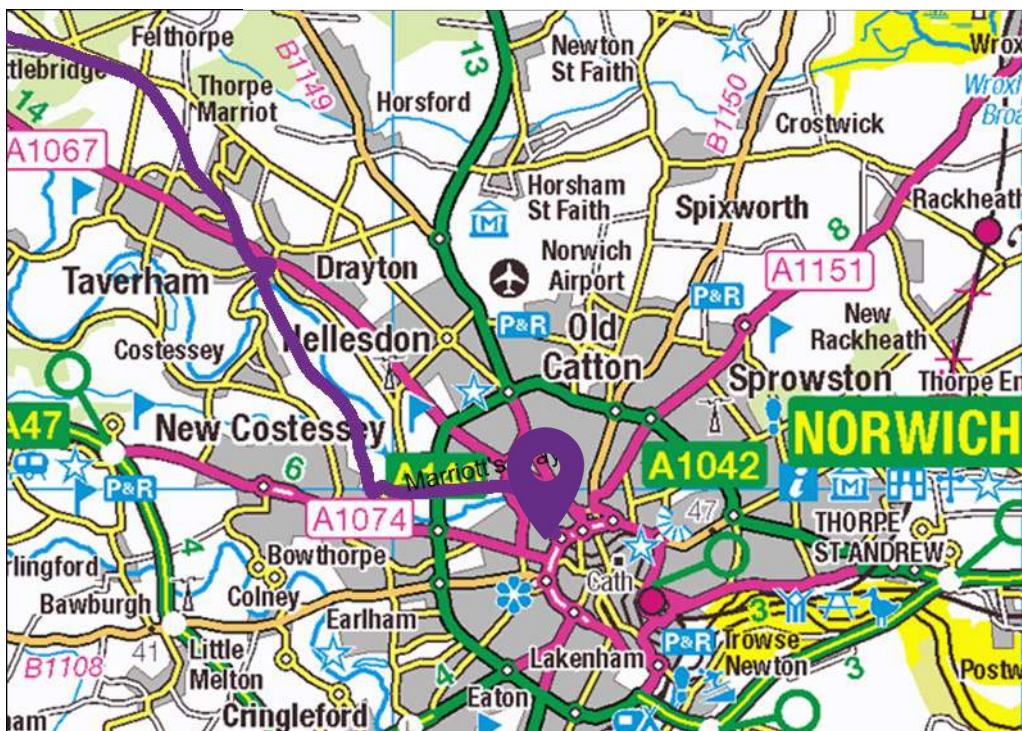
Accessible facilities: Accessible toilets are available at Go Outdoors on Barker Street. There are non-wheelchair accessible public toilets at Sloughbottom Park



By car: Car park at on Gunton Lane (NR5 0DQ) is free. Chatham Street car park, NR3 3AW is pay and display



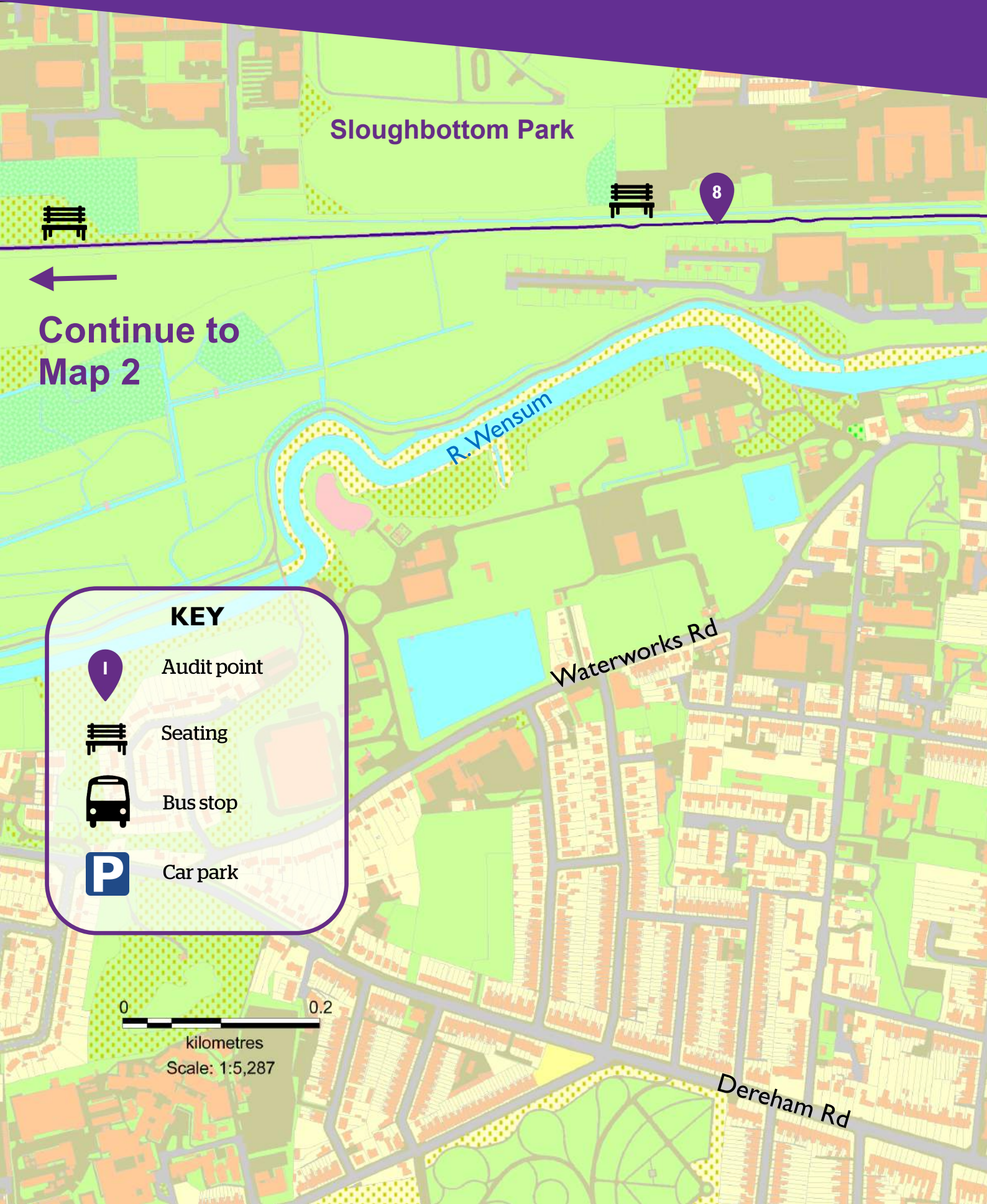
By bus: Nearby bus stops are on St Crispin's Road and Magdalen Street
See travelineeastanglia.co.uk



Map 1



Map 2



Sloughbottom Park

8

Continue to
Map 2

R. Wensum

Waterworks Rd

Dereham Rd

KEY



Audit point



Seating



Bus stop



Car park



kilometres
Scale: 1:5,287

Map 3



Map 4



Accessibility Information





5

As you reach Dolphin Bridge the path is shared with cyclists and can be very busy



6

There is a cross gradient of 1:10 on either side of the path for 40m after Dolphin Bridge



7

As you approach Anderson's Meadow, you will cross the bridle path that links Drayton Road to Heigham Street which is busy with cyclists



8

The route continues to be well surfaced but busy with cyclists as you go under Mile Cross Road



9

The route continues to be well surfaced and busy with cyclists as you pass under Sweet Briar Road



10

At Hellesdon Road, either follow the pavement to Gunton Lane for the most accessible route or cross the road for an alternative route through the site of the old Hellesdon Station (see points 17-24 for more information)



11

At Hellesdon Road, follow the route along the footway, then continue down Gunton Lane. Take care when crossing as there are no traffic lights



12

There is an 800mm width restriction at the start of the pedestrian side of the path so you may have to use the cycle lane (200mm kerb between lanes)



13

There is an 800mm width restriction at the end of the pedestrian side of the path. You may have to use the cycle lane as there is a 200mm kerb between the lanes



14

At the end of the shared use path, there is a change of surface to firm 20mm gravel



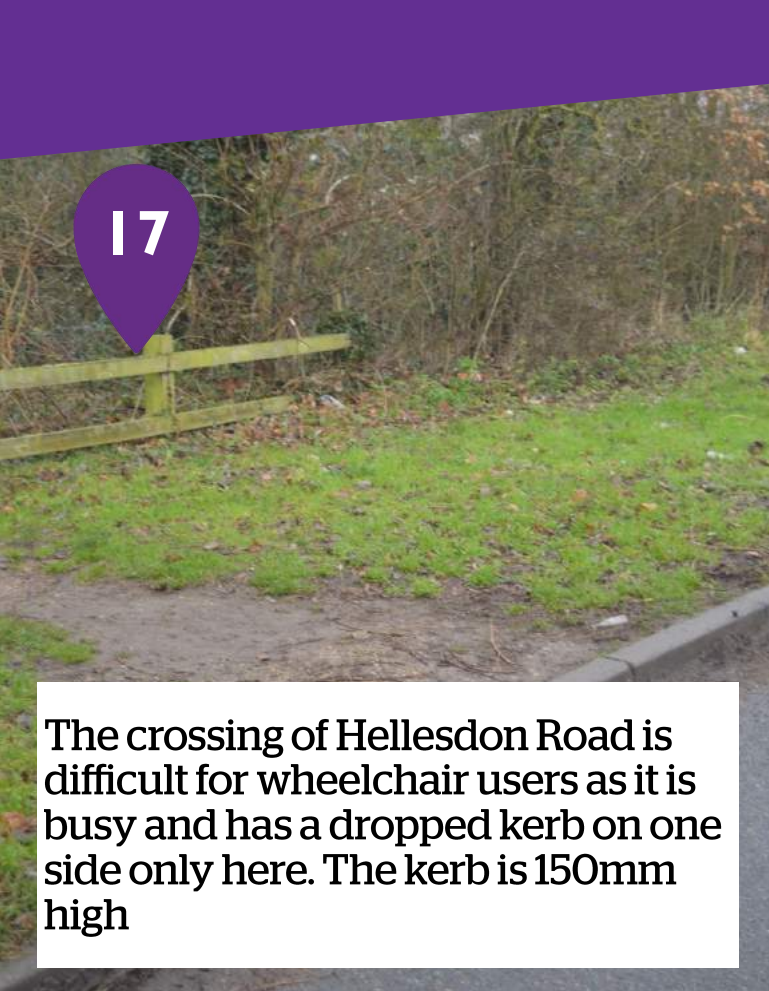
15

There are some small stones protruding from the surface. (Irregular surface of 20mm for 15m)



16

As you approach Gunton Lane car park, there are some uneven sections of trail



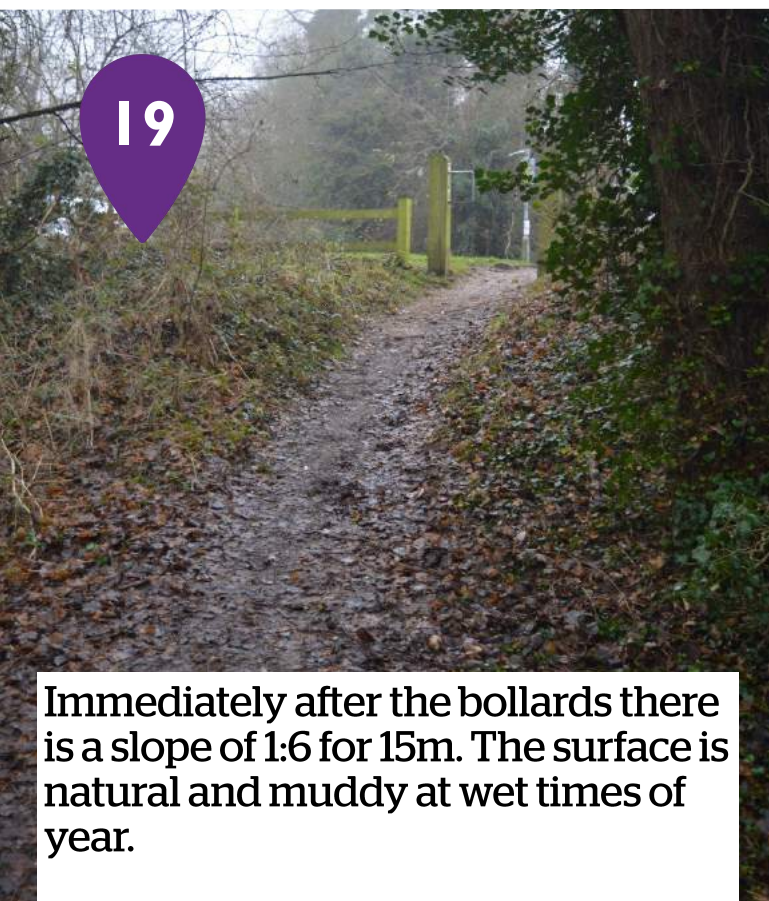
17

The crossing of Hellesdon Road is difficult for wheelchair users as it is busy and has a dropped kerb on one side only here. The kerb is 150mm high



18

The bollards have been extended to deter motorcyclists and present a restriction of 300mm. The surface beyond them is unsurfaced and gets muddy in wet conditions



19

Immediately after the bollards there is a slope of 1:6 for 15m. The surface is natural and muddy at wet times of year.



20

The platform of the old station has recently been cleared of vegetation



21

The surface of the track has been improved in places and is firm underneath leaf mulch and mud. Tree roots and stones present steps of 50mm



22

At the Gunton Road end of the old station site there is another slope which measures 1:6 for 15m. There are bollards at the top



23

The bollards make a restriction of 700mm and the track has been eroded out making the surface uneven



24

The route section ends here at Gunton Lane car park. The surface is potholed and there may be puddles in wet weather

Points of Interest



Train Wood Riverside Walk is unsurfaced but accessible for most



Site of Norwich City Station



Anderson's Meadow. Sloughbottom Park has seating, sport facilities and toilets but they are not wheelchair accessible



Site of Hellesdon Station. There is an unsurfaced alternative route of the Marriott's Way here which goes from Hellesdon Road to Gunton Road car park. This route is muddy with some steep inclines

Try More Trails..

Why not explore other access tested routes along the Marriott's Way? You could try Hellesdon to Drayton, Lenwade to Whitwell or the Aylsham Circular Walk, plus many more.

Or why not try another long distance trail? You could try The Weavers Way through Aylsham or Boudicca Way also starting in Norwich.

To find out more visit www.norfolktrails.co.uk

Disclaimer

The information given for this route is based on findings on the day of the audit and may vary according to the time of year and the weather. This document gives information about the condition of trails, in order to help people choose routes to explore, but it is up to the user to decide whether or not the route is suitable for their ability.



**To find out more about Norfolk Trails
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