

The Brecks Thetford Architecture

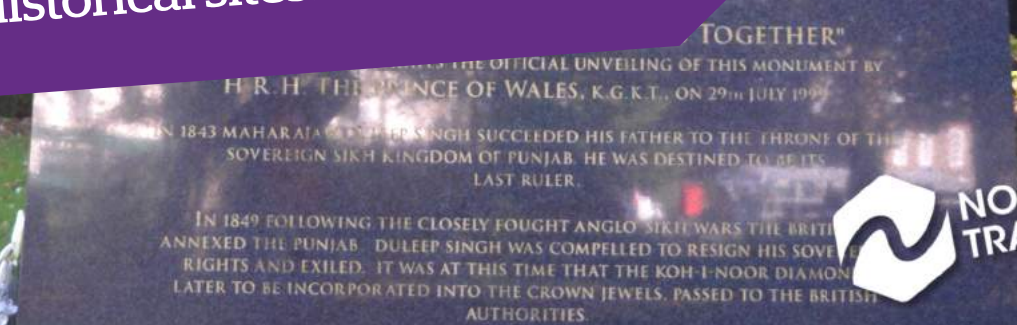


Access
Tested

2017

Route Summary

A 2 ³/₄ mile circular walk around Thetford town centre following the Little Ouse river past various historical sites.



NORFOLK
TRAILS

Route Description

An urban fringe walk that is 95% surfaced. The route follows the river for the most part. Frequent bridge crossings present the biggest challenge to wheelchair users.

This route has been reviewed to support people accessing the countryside. It was audited and checked for potential accessibility difficulties along the route. Maps are provided on p4 -5 showing point numbers which correspond to photos and descriptions of the route, so that you can decide if this walk is suitable for you.

The walk starts at Nuns Bridges car park and crosses over the River Ouse on the pedestrian bridge. It then follows Spring Walk along the river until it reaches Bitten Island. At the island, the route goes north on Bridges Walk. The route then takes Nether Row up Rampart Way past Castle Hill.

At the top of Rampart Way, the walk turns east on Castle Street until the route meets the pedestrianised town centre on King Street. The path continues east under London Road and emerges by the Cluniac Priory. The Priory is accessible and worth a detour. The route loops through Abbey Meadow before crossing back over the river along Haling path to Bitten Island.



Start point: Nuns Bridges car park



Distance: 2.7 miles



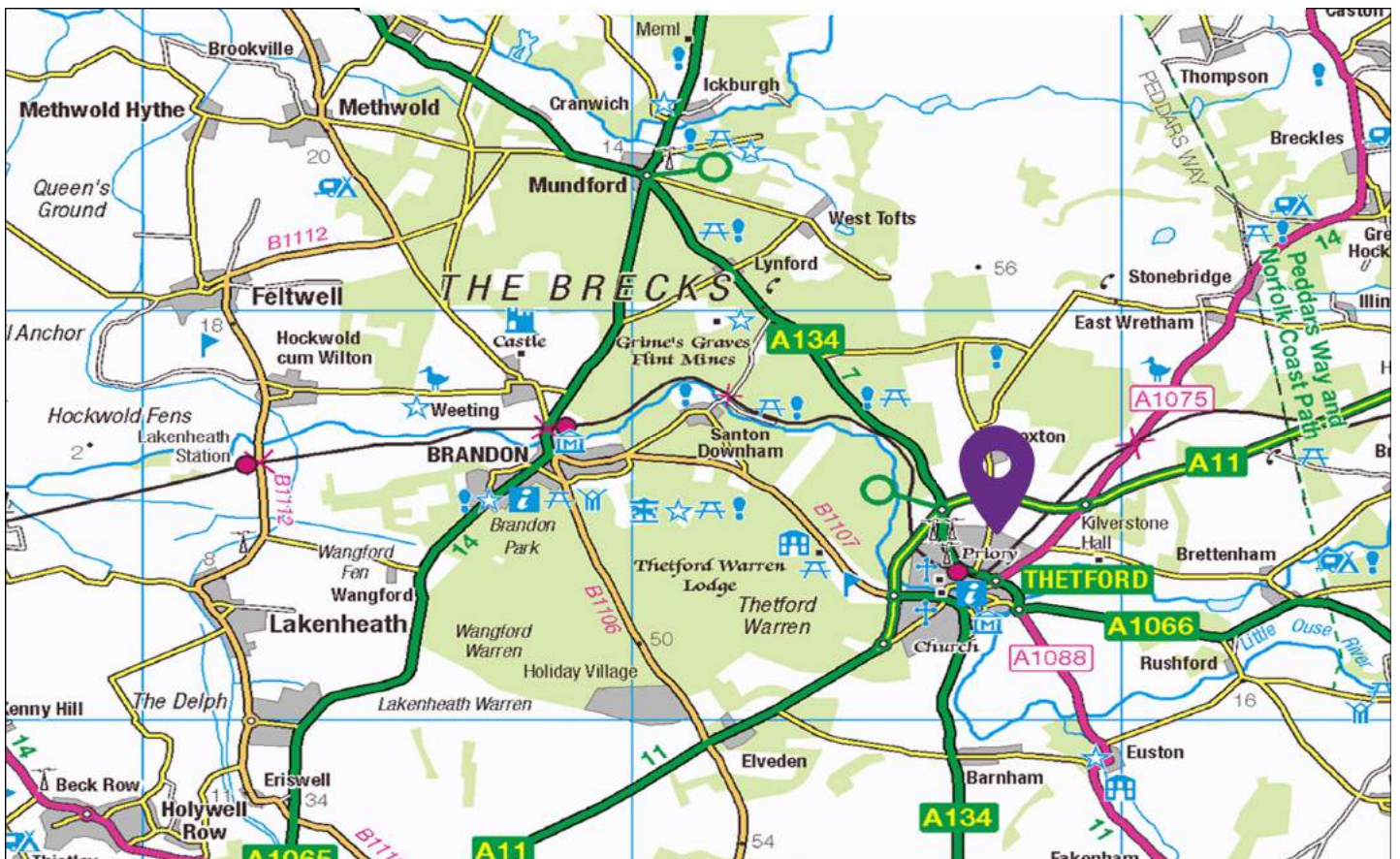
Accessible facilities: There are accessible toilets on Bridge Street, Cage Street and on Castle Meadow



By car: Free car parking at Nuns Bridges and limited spaces at the Priory



By bus: Catch the 84 from Bury St Edmunds or a National Express coach from Norwich. The bus station is next to the Priory on Norwich Road




KEY

-  Circular route
-  Link to Nuns Bridges
-  Optional route past Castle
-  Audit Point
-  Car park
-  Cafe
-  Accessible Toilets
-  Ruins
-  Bus stop







KEY

 Circular route

 12 Audit Point

 Bus stop

 Car park

 Cafe

 Ruins

 Accessible Toilets

Bridge Street



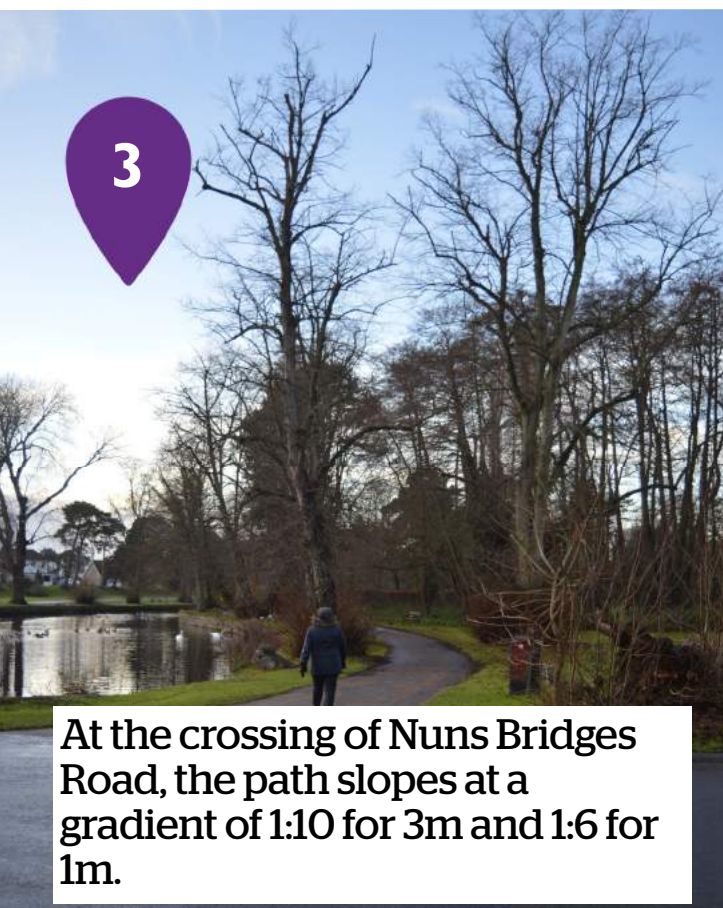
Accessibility Information



Start at Nuns Bridges car park. There is loose gravel (20mm diameter)



The footbridge has a gradient of 1:9 and steps of 40mm at either end and for 10m



At the crossing of Nuns Bridges Road, the path slopes at a gradient of 1:10 for 3m and 1:6 for 1m.



The start of Spring Walk There is an uneven surface for 10m.




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Tree roots have made the surface uneven for 200m



6

At the second bridge there are two slopes of 1:8 for 5m and 1:10 for 5m



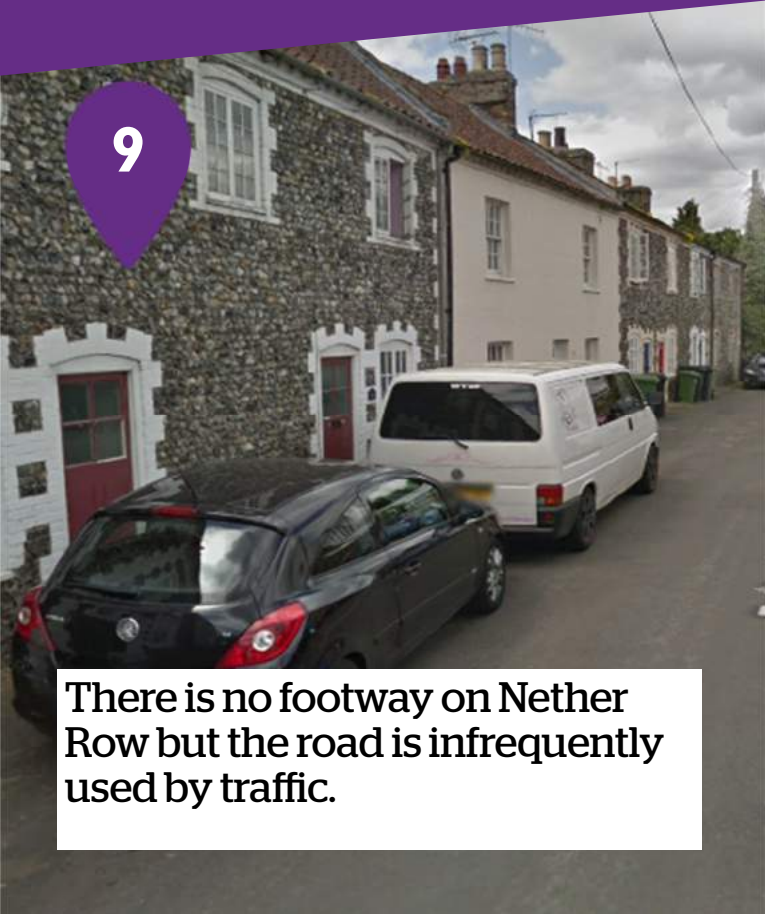
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The island is unsurfaced but firm. Join Bridge Walk going north. The path is constructed with some loose gravel (20mm diameter)



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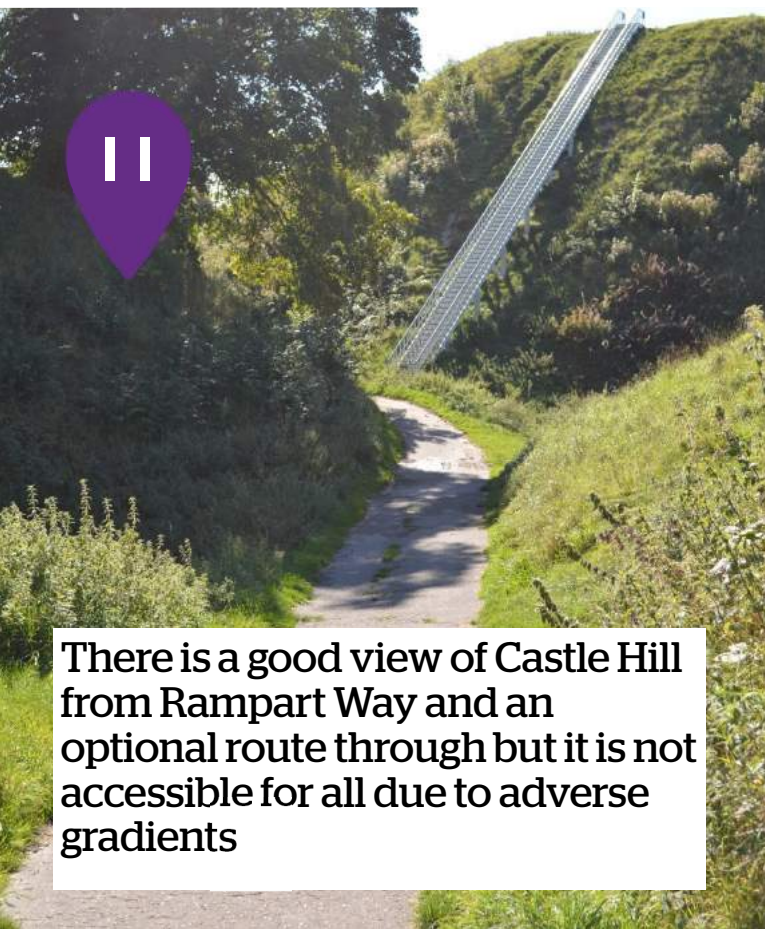
Bridge Walk emerges onto School Lane where there is a step of 30mm and a car park



There is no footway on Nether Row but the road is infrequently used by traffic.



On Rampart Way there is a steep cross gradient of 1:9 for 60m with a drop to one side. Wheelchair users are advised to cross over the road here



There is a good view of Castle Hill from Rampart Way and an optional route through but it is not accessible for all due to adverse gradients



On Castle Street there is a cross gradient of 1:9 for 15m



The pedestrianised King Street (Thetford town centre) has a firm paved surface



King Street has seating and accessible places to eat and drink



Bench by the statue of Thomas Paine



Underpass at the end of Minster Gate



17

There are several squeeze gates between the Priory and Blaydon Bridge which restrict the path width to 850mm



18

Take the lower path here



19

Roots have made the path surface uneven here for 10m



20

Here there is a 1:13 slope down to the squeeze gate



20

Small bridge with squeeze gate
(850mm restriction)



21

Uneven surface for 30m



22

At Blaydon Bridge there is a squeeze gate and the surface is uneven and steep (15mm step and 1:10 gradient)



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The route continues along Haling Path. Take care as there is a cross gradient of 1:10 for 10m by the water



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Haling Path passes under London Road. The ceiling height is 1970mm



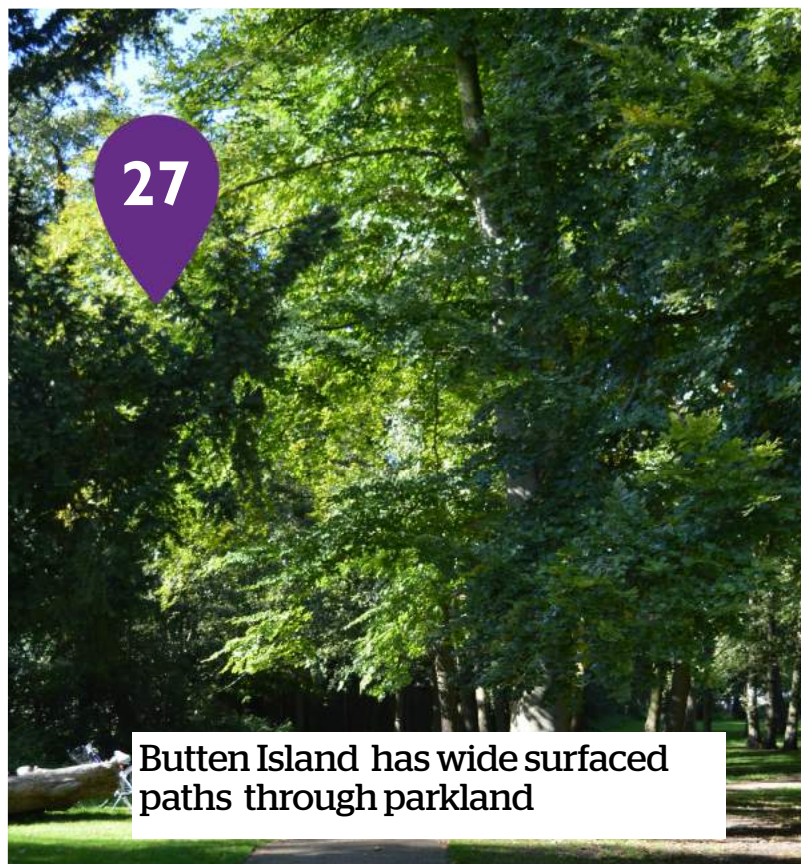
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There are benches by Town Bridge



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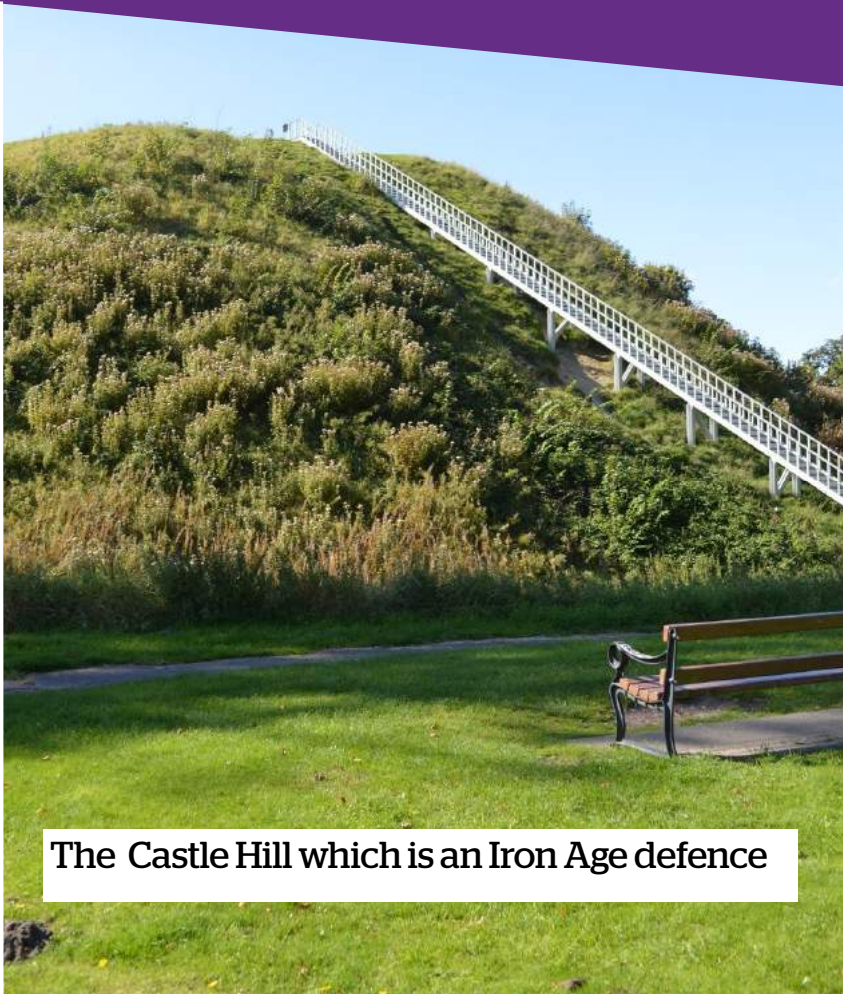
At the bridge to Butten Island there are ramps which measure a gradient of 1:12 on both sides for 40m



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Butten Island has wide surfaced paths through parkland

Points of Interest



The Castle Hill which is an Iron Age defence



Thetford Priory

Try More Trails...

This is one of three trails in Breckland that have been audited for accessibility.

Walks around Brandon, and Weeting complete the trio. For more information, 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 individual to decide whether or not the route is suitable for their ability.



**To find out more about Norfolk Trails
visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/trails**