

Stepping back in time

5 miles



Walk Information

Start point: White Horse, 17 Chapel Road, Upton, Norfolk, NR13 6BT

Grid reference: TG 396127

Map: Ordnance Survey – Explorer OL40

Walking time: 2.5 hours

Walk Summary

This walk is one of a series of walks starting from the White Horse pub and is designed to help you explore the beautiful **Bure Valley Living Landscape**.

This particular route will take you along the River Bure, passing grazing marshes and dykes. As you head towards Acle try and imagine what the area would have looked like during the time of the Romans - a busy port on a huge estuary. As you walk to Fishley over higher ground you will past the isolated Fishley Church, affording wonderful views of the surrounding countryside.

Please note:

- Dogs are welcome on this walking route but should at all times be kept on a lead and under close control.
- At times this walk can be very muddy.
- Extreme care should be taken when crossing all roads, especially when crossing the A1064.

Walk Notes

1 From the pub turn left and walk down **Marsh Road**. At the crossroads continue straight ahead along the concrete track.

2 After passing through two gates, immediately cross the gated bridge on the right-hand side. Take the footpath which follows a dyke on the right and leads you through grazing marshes. At the end of the path you will reach **Upton Boat Dyke**.

3 At **Upton Boat Dyke** turn right and walk around the end of the dyke to the opposite bank. Keep on this footpath as it eventually leads you along the bank of the **River Bure**, passing Clippeby Mill and the Northern Rivers Sailing Club on your left. Follow the River Bure for approximately 1.5 miles until you reach a **boat yard**.

4 When you reach the boat yard walk through the **car park** and head towards the main road. This is an extremely busy road. Turn left along the pavement and cross the bridge at the crossing point on the **brow of the hill**.

Acle Bridge was formally known as Weybrigg. In Roman times there was a huge estuary in this area, and at Acle Bridge the estuary was probably a mile and three quarters wide.

5 Once you have crossed the road turn right along the pavement, following the **A1064** past the pub car park entrance. Take the permissive footpath, signed on the left, and walk towards **Acle**.

6 When you reach the houses carefully cross over the **A1064** to the pavement on the opposite side. Pass Hermitage Close and then bear right on to **Old Road**. Continue past The Drive, Fletcher Way and De Carle Smith Road. Shortly the road splits, bear right onto **Bridewell Lane**.

Acle sits on what was once the shoreline of a great estuary with what is now Great Yarmouth and the intervening marshland under the sea. The Romans established a trading port in Acle as it occupied high ground.

7 Walk past the library and Methodist Church then turn right into **Pyebush Lane**. Continue along this road; when you reach the cemetery bear left and follow the track. Eventually the footpath bears right. Follow the path as it heads towards **Fishley Church**.

8 Walk past **Fishley Church** and at the farm track take the footpath opposite which cuts diagonally across the fields. Head towards **Upton village** which you will see in the distance, keeping Upton Church on your left.

As you can see **Fishley Church** has a round tower. There are approximately 185 surviving examples of round tower churches in the country, 124 of these are in Norfolk.

9 Eventually the path leads through a wooded area, bordered by gardens and brings you out onto a road. Turn left, walk past the **village pond** and at the crossroads turn right onto **Chapel Road**, back towards the pub.



Key

- P Parking
- Public right of way (walk route)
- Public road (walk route)
- Permissive (walk route)