

# Winterton-on-Sea Walks

## Walks in and around the coastal village



1. Explore the village - 1.5 miles
2. Mill Farm and East Somerton - 3.5 miles
3. Low Road and Winterton Holmes - 5 miles
4. Martham Broad - 9 miles (5.5 / 7.5 mile options)
5. Horsey seals and village - 11 miles (7.5 / 9 mile options)



# Walk 1: Explore Winterton-on-Sea village

A short stroll around some of the prettiest parts of the village

1.5 miles  
45 mins

Start: Beach car park (charges apply)  
Grid Ref: TG498197 Postcode: NR29 4AJ  
Terrain: Village streets, unsurfaced tracks and sandy paths. No stiles.

Start the walk by heading into the village alongside Beach Road, enjoying the views of the lighthouse up to the left. The lighthouse was built in 1849 and has recently been renovated. Entering the village, walk on past the small village hall and the pretty Village Store and Post Office.

Just after the post office, turn left down The Lane, along which you'll pass between the Fisherman's Return pub and the stunning thatched cottages of Marine Crescent.

Turn right at the end of The Lane then shortly turn right again down Winmer Avenue, which opens into a lovely grassy area where you can see the Winterton-On-Sea village sign and enjoy bursting flowerbeds and cherry blossom in the spring.

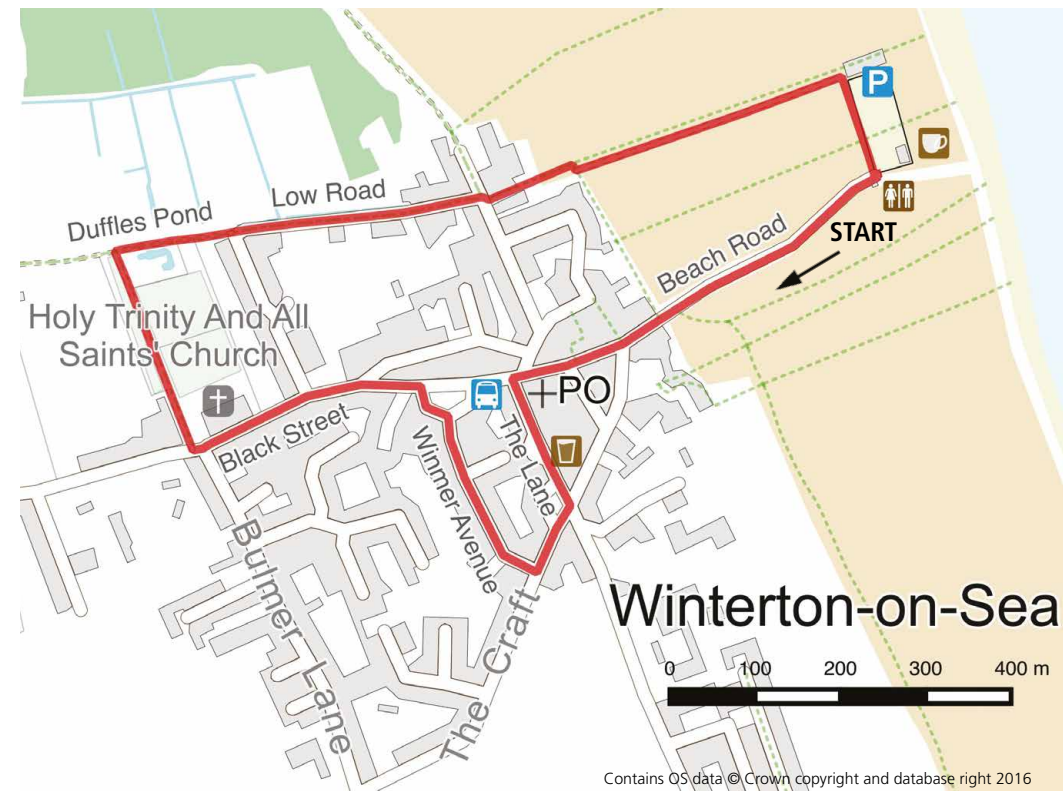


From here, head up the main street (Black Street) towards the beautiful Trinity and All Saints church, which can be seen from miles around. The tower was built as a landmark to guide ships at sea and, at over 40 metres high, is apparently the third tallest in the county. During the summer you can sometimes climb the tower to enjoy the view.

Immediately past the church, take the track on the right and head down between the allotments. Near the end of the track, pop into Duffles Pond community wildlife area to see what you can spot,

before continuing to the end of the track. Turn right onto a pretty double-hedged track (called Low Road), heading back towards the beach.

At the end of Low Road, go up the lane almost opposite, first walking between houses and then following it right then left, up through the dunes, back to the car park and the Winterton Dunes Beach Café.



# Walk 2: Mill Farm and East Somerton

Explore the farmland around Winterton and discover a magical ruined church

3.5 miles  
1.5 hours

Start: Beach car park (charges apply)  
Grid Ref: TG498197 Postcode: NR29 4AJ  
Terrain: Village streets, tracks, quiet lanes and sandy paths. No stiles.

This route follows a Norfolk Trails circular walk, indicated by blue discs ([www.norfolktrails.co.uk](http://www.norfolktrails.co.uk)).

From the car park, walk down to the village alongside Beach Road. Just past the pretty Village Store and Post Office, turn left down The Lane, which takes you past the Fisherman's Return pub and gorgeous thatched cottages.



At the end of The Lane, turn right onto The Craft, with views across farmland, and head up to meet the main road into the village (Bulmer Lane). On the left, take the permissive footpath a short way along the field-edge before crossing the main road to join another permissive path, along to Mill Farm Eco Barn.

Head straight through the farmyard (please keep dogs on a lead owing to free-range chickens), and onto a well-defined track out into the beautiful arable landscape. At the end of the track turn right, to pass High Barn Farm. The wind turbines on the left have recently replaced several older ones that made up Norfolk's very first wind farm. Looking to the right, enjoy views across Winterton, with the church tower standing proud.



At the end of the lane, cross over Winterton Road and head down Manor Farm Road, almost opposite. Follow the road to the atmospheric ruins of St Mary's Church, parts of which date from the 13th and 15th centuries. The remains are covered in ivy and are surrounded by trees. An oak tree has even grown inside the roofless nave.

After exploring the ruins, head back to Winterton village along Low Road, (which becomes an unsurfaced track) passing attractive buildings and beautiful countryside, with occasional views of Winterton Church.

At the end of Low Road, first turn left towards the dune area and then right, up through the dunes, before heading right again, back to the car park and Winterton Dunes Beach Café.



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# Walk 3: Low Road & Winterton Holmes

Admire an early Georgian Hall and follow tracks between woodland, grazing marshes and through a National Nature Reserve



Start at the far end of the car park, on the landward side of the wooden boat sheds. With your back to the beach, follow the main sandy track opposite, heading towards the church, soon passing between a row of houses.

At the end of the row, head down Low Road, opposite. Low Road becomes a pretty double-hedged track, passing by the allotments and Low Farm Barns. Stunning views open up across fields to woodland beyond. With barn owl boxes set up in the

trees you might be lucky to see an owl silently hunting over the adjacent fields, even in the daytime if the conditions are right. Continuing along Low Road, the track joins a quiet vehicular lane, meandering on to East Somerton, passing ponds and farm buildings at Manor Farm.

Just past Manor Farm, take a few moments to explore the ivy clad ruins of St Mary's Church before carrying on along the concrete track, past the rear of impressive Burnley Hall – this private residence is a grand red brick building dating from the early 1700s.

Just after the Hall, take the concrete track round to the right, heading into the Burnley Estate and on past the pretty thatched cottage at Honeypot. Continue on the concrete track as it meanders past arable land and woodland before opening out into stunning grazing marshes, criss-crossed by ditches. Listen out for buzzards mewing over the farmland, chiffchaffs in the woods, and lapwings 'peewiting' over the marshes.

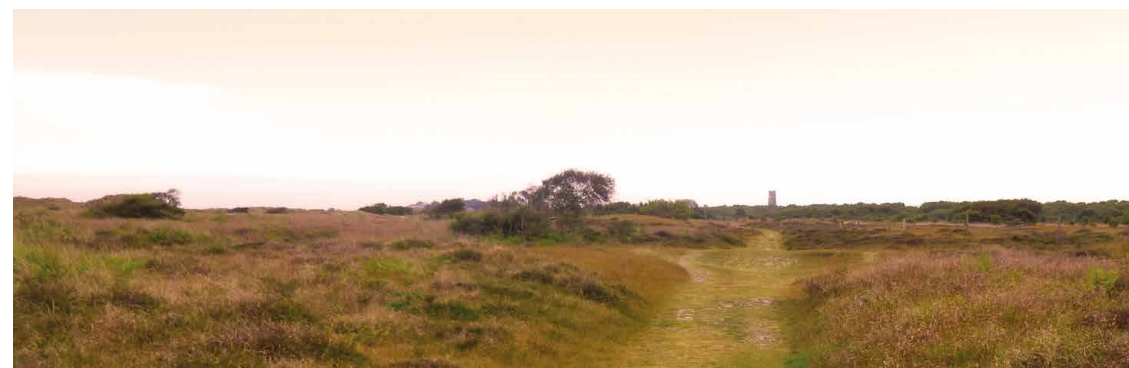
Leave the concrete track, following the public footpath signs, and follow a farm track zigzagging alongside hedgerows and in front of old farm buildings, before passing through woodland and into the Winterton Dunes National Nature Reserve. The area is very special, showing complete coastal succession from foreshore to dunes, slack, dune heath and birch scrub.

5 miles  
2.5 hours

Start: Beach car park (charges apply)  
Grid Ref: TG498197 Postcode: NR29 4AJ  
Terrain: Tracks, quiet lanes and sandy paths. No stiles.



Immediately after passing between the World War II tank trap blocks, turn right and follow the track back to Winterton, enjoying the unique dune heath habitat and keeping an ear out for stonechats and skylarks singing.



# Walk 4: Martham Broad

Enjoy the stunning landscape and wildlife of the Broads, surprisingly nearby!

From the boat sheds at the far end of the car park, cut inland through the dunes, before skirting the edge of the village along Low Road, heading out into beautiful countryside.

Continue on through East Somerton, past the ruins of St Mary's church, then Burnley Hall. Head round to Honeypot and on to The Street, before taking a footpath between houses, and over a stile, through to West Somerton.

Take care walking alongside the B1159 round to Staithe Road, and follow this to join a footpath



9 miles (or 5.5 and 7.5 mile options)  
4.5 hours

Start: Beach car park (charges apply) / Winterton bus stops  
Beach Car Park Grid Ref: TG498197 Postcode: NR29 4AJ  
Terrain: Village roads, tracks, quiet lanes, grassy riverbank paths and footpaths through farmland. One stile (The Street).

down to the River Thurne. The stunning broadland landscape includes drainage mills, vast reedbeds and the open water of Martham Broad. The area is rich in wildlife; birdwatchers are in for a treat, with marsh harriers, warblers and reed buntings regularly seen.

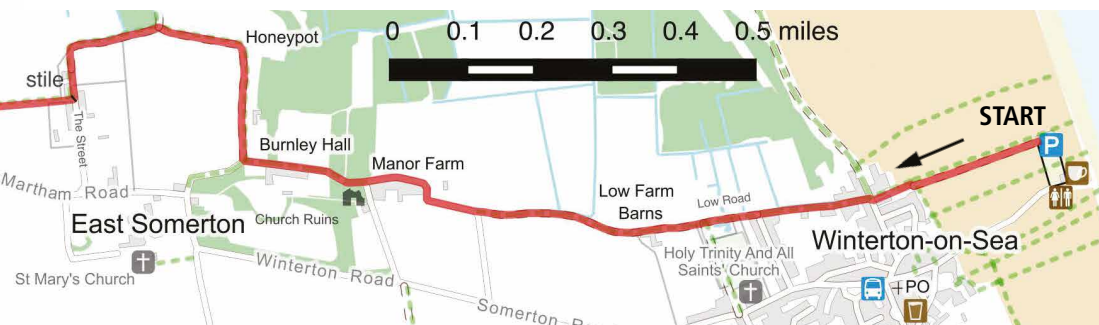
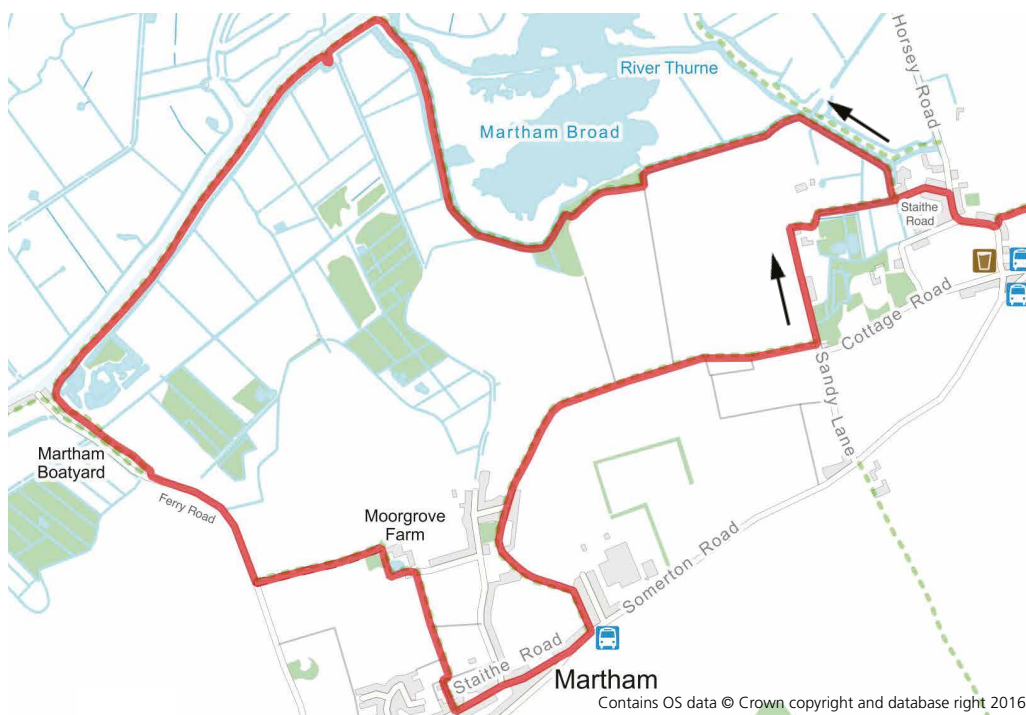
After following the path round to Martham Boatyard, head down Ferry Road and then take a track to the left across farmland, before zigzagging past Moorgrove Farm. Skirt the edge of Martham village, with its pretty thatched buildings. Then head across farmland to Sandy Lane, shortly rejoining the circular route near Staithe Road, before retracing your walk back to Winterton.

## Walk variations:

Shorten the walk by taking the bus between Winterton-on-Sea and West Somerton. To link in with the circular walk, avoid walking along the busy B1159 using quieter Cottage Road to join the route at Sandy Lane.

**5.5 miles / 2.5 hours:** Bus to and from West Somerton

**7.5 miles / 3.5 hours:** Bus to or from West Somerton

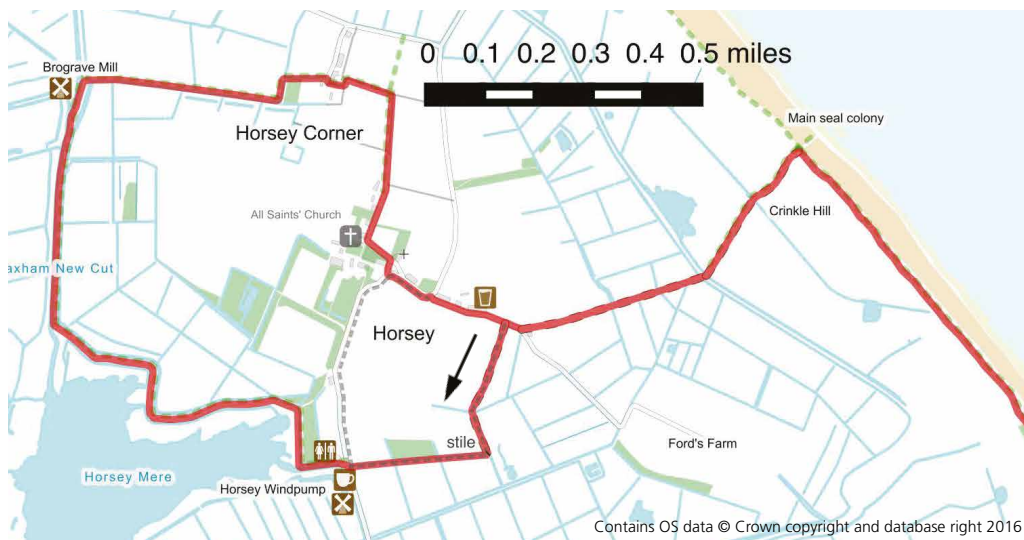


# Walk 5: Horsey seals and village

A coastal walk with stunning views and wildlife

11 miles (or 7.5 and 9 mile options)  
5.5 hours

Start: Beach car park (charges apply)  
Grid Ref: TG498197 Postcode: NR29 4AJ  
Terrain: Sandy tracks, grassy flood banks, field-edge paths.  
One stile. Access to beach requires climbing over flood barriers.



From the wooden boat sheds, follow the sandy track inland towards the church. After passing between a short row of houses, turn right, along a road and into the edge of the dune system.

Take the left hand sandy track and keep left all the way along the edge of the dune heath habitat to reach the World War II concrete blocks at Winterton Ness. The special habitat supports a wide variety of wildlife including stonechats, nightjars, short-eared owls and rare natterjack toads.

Walk between the blocks and turn right, continuing along the edge of the dune system, passing beach access points until you reach Crinkle Hill, where the main grey seal colony can usually be seen. Please stay a safe distance from the seals and keep to any roped off viewing areas, particularly at pupping time. Advice and information can be found at [www.friendsofhorseyseals.co.uk](http://www.friendsofhorseyseals.co.uk).



Next head inland, past the gate and along the track between grazing marshes. When you reach the road, turn right. **For a 7.5 mile walk** continue a short way on to the Nelson's Head pub, then retrace the route back to Winterton. **For a 9 mile walk** take the track just up on the left. After the stile, turn right to Horsey Windpump (National Trust) and staithe, with visitor facilities and a wildlife garden. Retrace the route back to Winterton.

## 11 mile walk:

For a longer walk, from the staithe head along the right-hand bank. You'll glimpse views of Horsey Mere and pass the ruins of Brograve Drainage Mill. Dogleg between the houses at Horsey Corner and follow field-edge paths

down to the stunning thatched All Saints church. At the main road, cross over to follow a field-edge permissive path back towards the pub, then retrace your route back to Winterton.



## Alternative return option:

From Winterton Ness, take the sandy path up into the dunes directly to the right side of the beach access, for an elevated undulating walk with stunning views of both beach and countryside. (From October 2016 this forms part of the England Coast Path / Norfolk Coast Path).

# Winterton-on-Sea Walks

Winterton on Sea is a charming historic fishing village, just 8 miles north from Great Yarmouth.

A stroll on the beautiful beach at Winterton is always a wonderful trip out, but there is much more to discover on your visit to the area.

This booklet includes just a few of the brilliant walks you can enjoy in and around the village.

With a variety of distances to choose from, find one to suit your needs; whether you live here, are staying in the area or are just out for the day.



Please keep to paths and tracks, particularly through Winterton Dunes National Nature Reserve, to help prevent any damage to sensitive habitats and to avoid disturbing wildlife. Please keep dogs under close control and clear up after them, using the dog bins where available.

**Travelling by bus:** First Bus 1 - Regular buses to and from Winterton. Route runs between Lowestoft and Martham via Great Yarmouth.

**Travelling by car:** Parking at Beach Road car park (charges apply).

Map - OS Explorer Map OL40 The Broads

Public rights of way - [www.norfolk.gov.uk/publicrightsofway](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/publicrightsofway)

Norfolk Trails - [www.norfolktrails.co.uk](http://www.norfolktrails.co.uk)

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