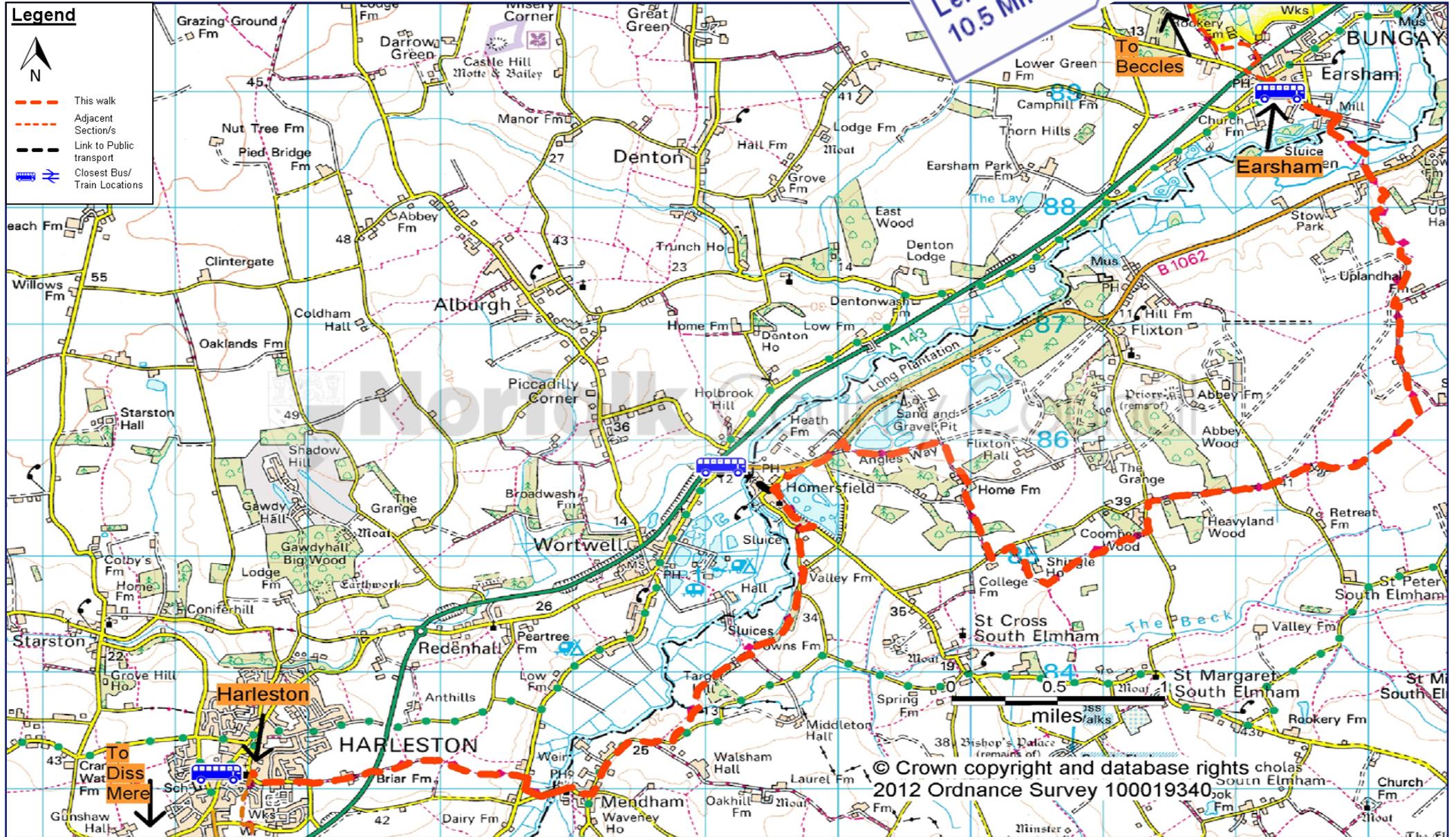


L4

Angles Way Long Section 4 (of 7) Earsham to Harleston

Length:
10.5 Miles



Along the way

When walking along the quiet farm tracks and listening to the skylarks from the plateau above the Waveney Valley, it's difficult to imagine a time when this peace was shattered by the roar of aircraft. Imagine the ghosts of B24 Liberators particularly when walking on a concrete remnant of Bungay airfield, a bomber base for the American Eighth Air Force from 1942. The airfield closed in 1955 and the control tower, hangars and other wartime buildings have long since been demolished, along with most of the runway and perimeter tracks. The Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum on B1062 at Flixton tells the fascinating story of this airfield.

Enjoy panoramic views in Homersfield from the high ground above a large area of open water, known as Flixton Pits. The pits were created initially by horses and carts extracting sand and gravel before large scale excavation during the 1960s and 1970s enlarged the pits. During the sand extraction, a mammoth tusk was found. Pause at the Flixton Park Quarry information board on bank above the quarry to find out more. Flixton Pits are rich in wildlife and particularly noted as an outstanding site for beetles associated with sand and mud habitats.

Homersfield Bridge on the River Waveney is a great place to just stand and watch the river below you. Built in 1869 over the Waveney straddling the boundaries between Norfolk and Suffolk, the wrought iron framework of the arch is encased in concrete and is of considerable historic interest as a forerunner of modern reinforced concrete structures. An information plaque on the bridge tells the story, and that of the 'The bloody hand' coat of arms – a story worth reading!

Harleston is an ancient market town close to the River Waveney. In its earlier days the town was nothing more than a collection of market traders. The market prospered, houses replaced the stalls and the town grew. Its future was assured when in 1259 it was granted the right to hold a fair and a market. Now it is a vibrant and lively town with shops, a small museum, eating places and pubs to enjoy.

Further information on this walk is available in two short sections, including more detailed maps. See Short Section S9; Earsham to Homersfield, and S10; Homersfield to Harleston at www.norfolk.gov.uk/anglesway



www.norfolk.gov.uk/trails



Walk summary

Ramble through an undulating landscape of peaceful country roads, footpaths and farm tracks for 10.5 miles between Earsham and Harleston

Getting started

This section is between the bus stop at The Queens Head, The Street, Earsham (TM322890) and the junction of Mendham Lane/Love Lane, Harleston (TM245831).

Getting there

Bus service Anglian Service 80

Bus stops The Queens Head, The Street, Earsham and Malthouse Court, London Road, Harleston

Traveline enquiries: 0871 200 22 33.

www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Maps Southwold and Bungay 231 and Diss and Harleston 230

available from Ordnance Survey shop

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite

What to expect

Farm tracks, footpaths, moderate hills, marshland grazing meadows, stiles, quiet country roads and a busy section of the A143 to cross.

Facilities

Parking, accommodation, camping, restaurant, café, pub, shops

Further information about planning a break in this area is available from www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/visiting/index.asp and www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/tourism



Waveney Valley