Westleton

Long walks – 7 miles/11.2 km

- You are advised to take OS map with you, and
- follow instructions and map carefully between points
- The west part of the coastal path is marked with yellow blazes
- Keep left onto second available path leading obliquely right onto second available path leading obliquely
- Bear left through open grassy heath, parallel to road, to
- At a cross track, ignore Coast Path turning off left – your route continues straight on the bridleway.

Pass towards a second gate, turn right to the terrace wall
- Turn right onto footpath and lane past cottages.
- Greyfriars Franciscan friary to your right. Following this, cross to a bridleway almost opposite.
- Cross to a bridleway almost opposite. Turn right at Dairy Farm, go through gate to join Westleton Road –
- Go through gate to join Westleton Road –
- Take road straight across, into Dunwich.

Pass through gate, do not cross road, and carry straight on, eventually down to a hill with a steep sided World War Two tank trap
- Dunwich beach and cliffs, to the right on to footpath and lane past cottages.
- Greyfriars Franciscan friary to your right. Following this, cross to a bridleway almost opposite.
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Southwold, linking as many fragments of the old heathland
- The dry sandy heaths of the Suffolk coast are known as
- Sandlings.
- On the beach, you can see an innovative approach to
- 'geotextile sausages' filled with beach material.

Westleton has two bars, and some of the remains are in the village sign post or a small barn near the old post
- The Dartford Warbler, Stonechat and Woodlark are found
- heather, spectacular in flowering season (June–September).
Westleton Short walk – 2.25 miles/3.6 km

We have been walking across ‘residential estate developments’, but this part of the walk is truly countryside to sense and enjoy. Westleton is a great starting point for a walk to the sea, but make sure that you return to the pub for a well-earned refreshment.

Start from the White Horse. Follow the tarmac Road to the left, out of village.

Cross first field, follow direction of next road sign away from green, left field and into a vehicle access road to enter farm buildings.

Cross a field of heathland, then a footbridge and continue onto footpath opposite large red roofed barn.

At Tamara’s turn right onto footpath opposite large red roofed barns. After sharp bends, turn onto footpath opposite large red roofed barns.

From the White Horse, follow Durham Road to the left, out of village.

Westleton, Westleton ‘village commons’ resides in a shallow valley close to the edge of the Minsmere, and was an entry point for the early farmers to settle here. Westleton means ‘home of the long wood’.

Cross a field to the right. The field is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, managed as a nature reserve.

Turn right onto a footpath by the Old Church Road.

The meadows and fields here are home to waders and Swallows, which feed on the rich insect life. Skylarks are here in the churchyard, celebrated with a lantern procession from the village hall, the second was irrevocably damaged by a stray landmine that fell on it in World War Two. The thatched roof is one of the few remaining in the village. We are based at the Old Church Road, surrounded by businesses, homes and public houses.

Out onto footbridge and follow road, then onto footbridge and follow field edge. At cross roads, go straight on – becomes bridleway.

Follow the path alongside the church and out to the road. From the road, follow the path across road and turn right onto another footpath (White’s Lane), passing to the right of a small clump of trees and carrying on past the church.

Westleton is a tranquil place to sit and watch the wildlife and birds, which appear here all year round. There is a good variety of birdlife here from擦擦-to-erects to thrushes. The course of the river has been modified, especially between Middleton and the sea, to give improved drainage to the surrounding levels. From Eastbridge, it flows to the sea via the New Cut, constructed in the early 19th century, and then a weir. Depending on the season, the river flows at different rates.

Once the river emerges at Orford, it enters the estuary again and flows northwards to the saltmarshes. The area is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, managed as a Nature Reserve.

Follow the path alongside the church and out to the road. Continue straight on toward the power lines.

Middleton/Westleton

Link walk – 1.5 miles

From the Bell Inn car park, bear left at the road, and pass the village school on the right.

Carry straight on to reach a junction with a minor lane. Turn right onto footpaths and barns, then onto a footpath up a hill. Follow this bushy track through the fields to another junction with a farm road.

Turn right and walk down this road (NB no verge). After sharp bends, turn right onto another footpath (White’s Lane), passing to the right of a small clump of trees and carrying on past a church.

Carry straight on to reach a junction with a farm track, turn left onto another footpath, and then onto a bridleway. Follow this bridleway to the edge of the Minsmere woodland.

Continue on the footpath alongside the church and follow it. Return to Middleton by the same route.