The walk begins on the raised river bank next to the sailing club. As you walk along there are excellent views to the left across the River Alde to Sudbourne marshes, while to the right are views across the town marshes where dykes cross mainly rough pasture land. The path continues along the raised bank following the course of the river. Along Short Reach there was historically a ford where the river could be crossed at low tide. Follow the path as the river elbows northwards, from here you can see Cob Island a frequent haunt of Cormorants. Continue until you reach a footpath sign, follow the path over a stile and across farmland. The footpath passes through the middle of several fields, crossing four bridged dykes. Eventually the path reaches some allotments go through these and turn right. Follow this walled footpath until it meets with a forked track which leads back into the marshes eventually joining back to the footpath on the raised river bank on the river’s edge.

There are many estuary and marshland birds which can be seen with patient observation. The reedy dykes are frequented by Kingfishers, Snipe and Reed buntings, while during migration Green sandpipers may be seen. In winter the wetter parts of the marsh attract White fronted and Brent geese and Bewick swans. Short eared owls, Hen harriers, Sparrowhawks and Merlins hunt smaller birds such as Meadow pipits and Skylarks which frequent the marshes, gorse and Bramble scrub. In spring Ruff, Greenshank and Whimbrel may be seen, whilst across the mud flats and on the river look out for Herons fishing and a further array of wading birds including Curlews, Redshanks, Avocets, Godwits, Ringed plovers and Dunlin.

Circular walk around Aldeburgh Town Marshes approximately 4 miles.
The Aldeburgh Town Marshes lie to the south west of the town on the banks of the River Alde. The marsh trail skirts around the marshes following the course of the river and then the edge of the town. The walk may take up to 2\frac{1}{2} - 3 hours and suitable walking shoes are recommended as the ground is quite rough in places. Car parking is available in the Fort green car park by the Coast guard station or on the Slaughden sea wall. The sea wall forms a vital sea defence protecting Aldeburgh. It has recently been improved at a cost of many millions of pounds hopefully securing the future of the town. The sea wall is all that remains of the village of Slaughden which was recorded as a harbour in the 1550’s. The town marshes have been owned by the Aldeburgh Town Council since the 16th century. Today the marshes are leased to a local farmer who manages much of the land by traditional livestock grazing and some is cultivated for arable crops. Please help the farmer by keeping to footpaths and controlling your dogs.

White fronted geese