

# North Somercotes

Lincolnshire Walks



**Lincolnshire**  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
*Working for a better future*



# Walk Information

**Walk location:**

North Somercotes lies close to the coast between Mablethorpe and Grimsby.

**Starting point:**

Village Hall, Keeling Street.  
Grid reference: TF 425 964  
Postcode: LN11 7QU  
what3words: numeral.mammals.blanking

**Parking:**

Village Hall (as above) or responsibly in the village.

**Public transport:**

For information call the Traveline on: 0871 2002233 or visit: [www.lincsbus.info](http://www.lincsbus.info)

**Type of walk:**

The walks use a mixture of surfaced paths, tracks, field paths and roads. There are no stiles but you may encounter livestock.

**Ordnance Survey maps:**

Explorer 283 Louth & Mablethorpe  
Landranger 113 Grimsby

**Toilets:**

Playing fields, Keeling Street

**Refreshments:**

There is a good selection of pubs and shops in North Somercotes.

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These walks and leaflet are a partnership between North Somercotes Parish Council and Lincolnshire County Council.

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## Be a responsible walker

Please remember the countryside is a place where people live and work and where wildlife makes its home.

To protect the Lincolnshire countryside for other visitors please respect it and on every visit follow the Countryside Code. Thank you.

- ▶ Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- ▶ Leave gates and property as you find them
- ▶ Protect plants and animals, and take litter home
- ▶ Always keep dogs under control and in sight
- ▶ Consider other people
- ▶ **Most of all enjoy your visit to the Lincolnshire countryside**

This leaflet is one in a series of walk leaflets produced by Lincolnshire County Council's Countryside Services Team to help you explore and enjoy the county's countryside. If you have enjoyed these walks and would like information on other walking routes in Lincolnshire then please visit our website.

If you encounter any problems whilst on these walks, such as an overgrown path or a broken signpost, please let us know so they can be put right. You will find a report a problem form on our website.

If you would like to request a copy of this leaflet in an alternative format or a different language please contact us.

### **Lincolnshire County Council** Countryside Services Team

**Tel:** 01522 782070

**Minicom:** 01522 552055

**Email:**

[countryside\\_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

**Web:**

[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coast-countryside](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coast-countryside)





## Introduction

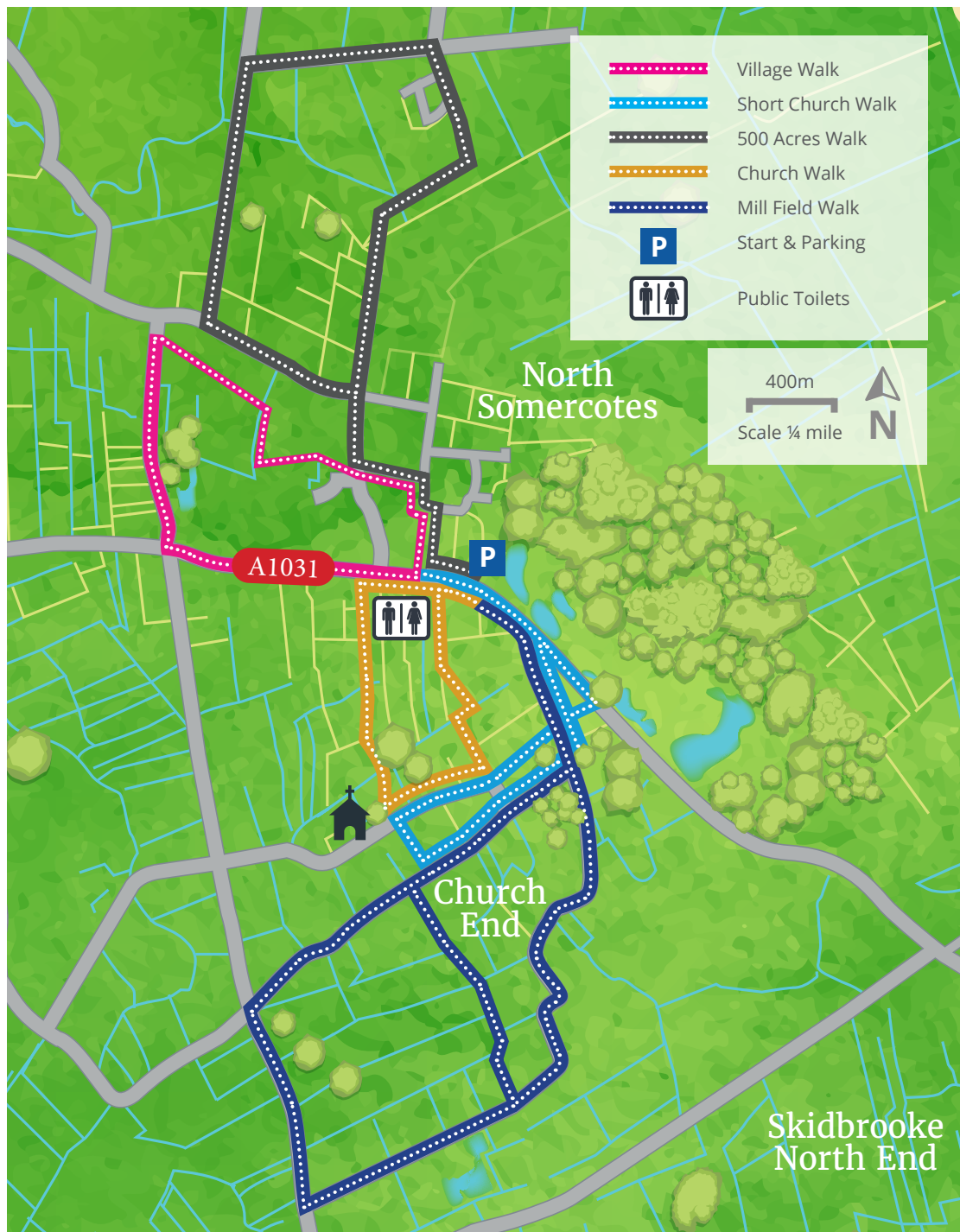
These walks are set around the village of North Somercotes and the surrounding countryside.

North Somercotes lies in the Lincolnshire coastal plain known as the outmarsh. During the 12th century this section of the coastline was several miles further inland than it is today and North Somercotes is one of a line of villages that sit along what was once the sea bank. Settlers slowly drained and reclaimed the land and during the medieval period the rich pasture was used to fatten livestock.

The North Somercotes History Group is a good source of further information and can be found on Facebook.

The individual walks in this leaflet can be linked together to form longer walks to take in village and countryside.





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# Village Walk



3 km (1 ¾ miles)



Approx 60 minutes to complete

Route:

- ▶ From the Village Hall walk into the Village past the War Memorial and turn right along Brown's Lane.
- ▶ Follow the path straight on in front of the houses to junction with a track. Turn left, in front of Humberstone Villas, and follow the path around to the right to the junction.
- ▶ Turn left and follow the footpath and road to a T-junction. Cross the road and walk straight ahead following the path between the Fire Station and the houses.
- ▶ The path bears right, and then crosses a field to the turning head in Evison Way. Continue in a straight line, ignoring the road to the right. Follow the footpath right after the last house on the right, between a fence and hedge and along a dyke bank.
- ▶ Cross the bridge and bear left to continue across the field to pass behind the village Cemetery.

The cemetery was opened in 1880 with its two Chapels - now Grade II listed buildings. Originally one was consecrated and the other unconsecrated 'for the non-conformists'.

- ▶ Turn left where the path meets Jubilee Road and then continue to the crossroads.
- ▶ Turn Left onto Keeling Street and follow it all the way back to the Village Hall.



On the Right, opposite 'Churchill Road is the former Wesleyan Chapel, now a private residence and behind this the Manse, rebuilt in 1871.



## Church Walk



2 km (1 ¼ miles)



Approx 45 minutes to complete

Route:

- ▶ Walk towards the village centre and at the War Memorial cross the road and take the footpath opposite. Follow the waymarked path straight on through several fields. Cross the dyke, turn right and then follow the path left between a fence and hedges to the road at Church End.
- ▶ Turn right and follow the road towards the Church. Turn right along the footpath about mid-point along the field before the church.
- ▶ Continue straight across the three bridges and fields to cross the village playing field past the public toilets, to the road.
- ▶ Turn right onto Keeling Street and follow it to the Village Hall.

The Church of St. Mary's can be more closely inspected if you carry on about 100m. It was mainly built in the 1200s. The font is very interesting for its illustrations of Christ rising from the tomb and the symbols of his crucifixion. From the church-yard looking south-west you can see the graceful spire of St. Peter's at South Somercotes (redundant since 1988). Almost due south the church of St. Botolph, Skidbrooke (also redundant) lies in isolation in the fields. North Somercotes village is across the fields to the north and probably relocated there 300 years or so after the village was recorded in the Domesday Book.





# Short Church End Walk



1 ½ km (1 mile)



Approx 30 minutes to complete

Route:


- ▶ From the Village Hall walk away from the village centre past the Oasis fishing lakes and primary school.
- ▶ Just after the school and opposite St Anne's Avenue turn right along the footpath.
- ▶ Cross School Lane and take the path opposite. Follow the path straight ahead beside a fence and then hedge.
- ▶ At the road turn right and follow it as it bends left.
- ▶ Continue towards the church. Before reaching the church turn left along the green lane next to the bungalow and continue to a junction of tracks and paths known as Threeways.
- ▶ Turn left onto the bridleway.
- ▶ Continue along the bridleway until it joins the road.
- ▶ Carry straight on and follow the road as it bends left and becomes School Lane.
- ▶ Follow School Lane to its junction with Keeling Street.
- ▶ Turn left to return to the Village Hall.





# Mill Field Walk

Route: 

 3 ¼ km (2 miles) or 4 ¾ km (3 miles)

 Approx 60 or 90 minutes to complete

- ▶ From the Village Hall walk away from the Village centre and take the first turning on the right, School Lane.
- ▶ After approximately 400m (1/4 mile) as the road bends to the right, carry straight on along a lane signed as a bridleway, known as Millfield Road.
- ▶ Here you can choose between the shorter or longer walk (the longer walk includes a section of road walking).
- ▶ **For the shorter walk** turn right. Walk straight across two fields to a bridge. Cross the bridge and turn left and follow the field edge to another bridge.
- ▶ Continue straight ahead along the field edge to emerge next to a bungalow onto a track and bridleway.
- ▶ Turn right and follow the track to a junction with a road.
- ▶ \*\*\* At the road carry straight on and follow it as it bends left and becomes School Lane.
- ▶ At the end of School Lane turn left to return to the Village Hall.
- ▶ **For the longer walk** continue straight on along Millfield Road.
- ▶ At the T-Junction with South Road turn right and walk with care along the road to the next junction.
- ▶ Turn right onto the bridleway and track, North Green Lane. Follow the lane, past barns on your right, to a junction with a road.
- ▶ Rejoin the directions at \*\*\* above.

In the distance over to the left you can see the Forest which was set in the Warren in the 1960s shortly after the East Coast Floods in 1953. The Warren which had previously been farmed for conies (rabbits), was developed to provide sand and gravel early last century and the ponds that remain are used for both private and public fishing.

As you follow the bridleway you will pass hummocky fields - the remains of early salterns developed around Mare Haven which became silted up around 1200. To the distant left you may see something of the back of 'Locksley Hall' popularly associated with the Locksley Hall of Tennyson's poem.

- ▶ After about 600m you enter the Parish of South Somercotes. Follow the track and walk up a slight slope to footpaths on the left and right.

# 500 acres walk



4 ½ km (2 ¾ miles)



Approx 75 minutes to complete

Route:

- ▶ Follow the directions for the Village walk to the Fire Station.
- ▶ Turn right and where the road bends left, continue straight on along a footpath and Wembley Road.
- ▶ Follow the unmade road past the houses on the left and then follow the path between two hedges.
- ▶ Where the double hedge ends, turn right across a field before crossing 'Cradle Bridge' where the path turns half right between two fields. To the left you will see part of the old RAF Donna Nook buildings.
- ▶ The path will shortly turn left and you will pass through the old camp area to the road.
- ▶ (\* if you would like to extend this walk see longer option below)
- ▶ Turn left and follow this road to a T-junction.
- ▶ At the T-junction turn left and continue to the junction of this road with Bank End and Cemetery Road.
- ▶ Turn left and on your right you will pass the village Cemetery and its unusual twin chapels.
- ▶ Continue along Cemetery Road as it bends to the right to become Churchill Road and a T-junction with Keeling Street.
- ▶ Turn left to return to the Village Hall.
- ▶ \* longer option (adds 4 km - 2.5 miles to the walk)
- ▶ At this junction, if you wish to extend your walk - and see the sea - cross the road and follow the long straight Donna Nook Road ahead. Towards the end and to the right you will see the old Coast Guard Houses and the lookout.
- ▶ Follow the road as it bends left, and at the next junction turn right to reach Stonebridge car park and access to the beach and Donna Nook National Nature Reserve. **Caution:** Live Firing - you must observe the Range Danger Boards and Red Flags at all times. It stretches from Grainthorpe Haven in the North to Saltfleet in the South.
- ▶ To return to North Somercotes leave the car park and follow the road straight ahead (Marsh Lane) to the junction of this road with Bank End and Cemetery Road.
- ▶ Turn left and continue along the road as it bends to the right along Churchill Road to a T-junction with Keeling Street.
- ▶ Turn left to return to the Village Hall

To the right there is still some evidence of the old wartime camp. The land that you pass on the right hand side is the 500 acres and stretches to the sea bank. It is one quarter of a parcel of land which was drained on the instructions of King Charles I. In 1632 he granted Endymion Porter - one of his Grooms of the Bedchamber - 2000 acres of mature salt-marsh to reclaim. This was soon achieved and by way of compensation to the communities of both North and South Somercotes Porter agreed to the construction of the Forty Foot way to the sea at Stonebridge, now known as Marsh Lane, and further allotted the 500 acres to the commoners.