

## How well do you know your local landscape?

You have some amazing, very varied and often very beautiful countryside to explore in the Bure and Ant valleys: if you live or work here it is literally on your doorstep. Here the Bure River runs through some of the most diverse wildlife habitats in Norfolk, from wild, windy open grazing marshes to sheltered and secluded wet woodland; from historic drainage mill to farmland and rural villages; from reed-fringed broads to ancient ruins. The wildlife is stunning too: elusive bitterns that boom at sunset, globally endangered species found in the heart of the broads, swallowtails dancing over reedbeds and ghost-like barn owls drifting on silent wings over grazing marshes.

Many of the most interesting parts of the valley are freely open for you to explore and enjoy: take a stroll along one of the many public footpaths in the Bure and Ant valleys, take a horse ride or cycle along a bridleway, the Bure Valley is yours to explore. You can help protect your local environment by walking, cycling or taking the bus wherever possible. Up to date information on local public transport options can be found at [www.travelineeastanglia.co.uk](http://www.travelineeastanglia.co.uk) and a wide range of cycle routes can be found at [www.norfolkbroads.com/explore/cycling](http://www.norfolkbroads.com/explore/cycling). Equally, don't forget the network of broads waiting to be explored by boat.

Norfolk is widely recognised as one of the best counties for wildlife in England. But how often do you get outside and explore your local landscape? Despite being surrounded by a landscape of fascinating history, varied habitats and rich and diverse wildlife, the amount of time most of us spend in the outdoors is decreasing.

It's no surprise therefore that many of us, and most of our children, can no longer recognise even very common wildflowers and trees, have never heard a skylark sing, and have never caught the scent of honeysuckle on an evening walk through a tangled wood. We seem to be losing touch with nature. The aim of the **EXPLORE** section is to introduce you to just a few of the natural gems of the Bure and Ant valleys. Most are free to explore but enjoying nature and wild places does come with a health warning: getting to know and love your local landscape can be seriously addictive and may do long term good to your health and wellbeing. You have been warned! Now come with us and explore.

*In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.*

**John Muir**



### Developing your relationship with the natural world

This is about looking and listening and knowing: the knowing of being able to put names to the bird songs you hear in your garden and the wildflowers you walk past on your way to the local shop. It's not that the names matter; it's about those wild living beings becoming part of your world, part of your consciousness, part of your life. Once you know the call of a woodpecker, or the song of a skylark, suddenly woodpeckers and skylarks become, if not everyday highlights, at least more frequent ones. Once you know the song of the chiffchaff you will know the sound and one of the meanings of spring. Bird song, butterflies, wildflowers will suddenly colour your life and add meaning to your landscapes. It's not knowing the names: it's opening a door to making them part of your life, and a very joyful part too. As you look, listen and gain the knowledge first to notice then recognise the other species around you, life becomes richer and more meaningful. You become more connected, more part of nature, more aware of the changing seasons and the lives of wild creatures. And the landscape, whether rural or urban, becomes a Living Landscape.



### Using maps to explore the Bure Valley Living Landscape

You can buy Ordnance Survey maps for all parts of Norfolk. These come in two different scales. The Explorer maps provide the most detail, with a scale of 4cm to the kilometre or 2.5 inches to the mile.

There is also a Landranger series, with a scale of 2cm to the kilometre or 1.25 inches to the mile.

You can look at Ordnance Survey maps online at: [www.shop.ordnancesurveyleisure.co.uk](http://www.shop.ordnancesurveyleisure.co.uk)

Google Maps provides basic maps at: [www.google.co.uk/maps](http://www.google.co.uk/maps)

Google Earth can also be very useful as it allows you to get an aerial view of the land. You can download it from:

[www.google.com/earth](http://www.google.com/earth)

There is an excellent interactive map of public footpaths on Norfolk County Council's Countryside Access website:

[www.countrysideaccess.norfolk.gov.uk/interactive-map](http://www.countrysideaccess.norfolk.gov.uk/interactive-map)

Pay a visit to Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Heart of the Living Landscape website, where you can download walking routes within the Bure Valley Living Landscape: [www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)

## Staying safe and protecting the countryside

When going out in the countryside, it's very important to do so in a way which looks after your own safety, ensures the wellbeing of the wildlife and livestock around you, and respects the integrity of the landscape.

We suggest following the Countryside Code, the full text of which can be found on Natural England's website. The responsibilities of members of the public visiting the countryside are:

### 1. Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs

- Refer to up-to-date maps or guide books.
- Be prepared for changes in weather and other events.
- Check weather conditions before you leave, and don't be afraid to turn back.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Get to know the signs and symbols used in the countryside.

### 2. Leave gates and property as you find them

- Leave gates as you find them or follow instructions on signs.
- In fields where crops are growing, follow paths where possible.
- Use gates, stiles or gaps in field boundaries where provided.
- Be careful not to disturb historic sites.
- Leave machinery and livestock alone. Alert the farmer if you see an animal in distress but don't interfere.

### 3. Protect plants and animals and take your litter home

- Dropping litter is a criminal offence.
- Do not remove rocks or plants.
- Give wild animals and farm animals plenty of space.
- Be careful not to drop smouldering cigarettes or matches.

### 4. Keep dogs under close control

- Keep your dog on a lead where the law requires it, and always keep your dog under control.
- Take special care not to allow your dog to disturb wildlife or livestock.
- Clear up after your dog and make sure your dog is wormed regularly.

### 5. Consider other people

- Where possible, cycle, share lifts or use public transport.
- Don't block gateways with your vehicle.
- Be respectful of horses, walkers and livestock whether you're driving a car or riding a bicycle.
- Support the rural economy – for example by buying from local shops.





# NWT Ranworth Broad

## Find it

**Postcode:** NR13 6HY (car park)

**Grid Reference:** TG 360146  
(OS Landranger 134)

## Highlights and features

The floating Broads Wildlife Centre is reached by a boardwalk and has a panoramic vista across the water. From here, good numbers of wildfowl – wigeon, gadwall, teal, shoveler and pochard – can be watched in the winter. Great crested grebes are present all year, though much more elegant in their summer plumage, and kingfishers occasionally zip across the water. Hundreds of cormorants roost in skeletal, dead trees, with marsh harriers passing overhead. Common terns nest on specially provided rafts in front of the Centre.

The boardwalk passes through excellent wet woodland and reedbed habitats; a number of interesting plants are present, as well as common woodland birds. The explosive song of the Cetti's warbler can often be heard, though these brown skulkers are much harder to see. Swallowtail butterflies are present, as well as Norfolk hawkers and other dragonflies.

## Notes for walkers

- Close to Ranworth village, signposted from the B1140 at South Walsham. There is a signed NWT car park.
- The Trust operates an information centre during the summer close to the car park (next to the shop at Malthouse Staithe). From here a boat (small charge) can be taken to the floating Broads Wildlife Centre, which is open from April to October.
- Alternatively, there is a path joining the boardwalk which leads to the Centre on foot.
- Limited closer disabled parking is available.
- Facilities: pub, shop, cafés can be found in Ranworth Village.
- Public toilets can be found by the staithe.

## What to look for

- **Common tern:** enjoy the noisy antics of the common terns which nest on specially built platforms in front of the Wildlife Centre. These graceful summer visitors are slimmer and smaller than gulls, acrobatically plunging into the water to catch small fish.
- **Swallowtail:** NWT Ranworth Broad can be a good place to see Britain's most spectacular butterfly flitting around the reedbeds near the Broads Wildlife Centre between late May and July.
- **Otter:** sleek and magnificent, the otter is one of the UK's most special mammals. Unfortunately, due to its largely nocturnal, secretive nature they are also very hard to catch up with. NWT Ranworth Broad offers a chance, as otters are regularly seen at the site.

## Did you know?

In recent years NWT Ranworth Broad has been lucky enough to have been visited by ospreys – many of them long-staying – on a number of occasions. Consequently, the Trust has erected a nesting platform in the hope that a pair of these summer migrants can be encouraged to remain at the reserve, rather than just using it as a handy stop-off site.

## Find out more

To learn more about NWT Ranworth Broad visit [www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/ranworth](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/ranworth)



common tern



# NWT Barton Broad

## Find it

**Postcode:** NR12 8XP

**Grid Reference:** TG 350 207  
(OS Landranger 134)

## Highlights and features

NWT Barton Broad is made up of 164 ha of open water, alder carr and fen. It is the second largest of the Norfolk Broads.

## Notes for walkers

- NWT Barton Broad is best accessed off the A1151, 2km (1.25 miles) north of Hoveton. There is a signed car park between the villages of Neatishead and Irstead, next to the Old Rectory. From here it is an easy 1km (0.6 mile) stroll to the start of the Broads Authorities' boardwalk trail (suitable for wheelchairs).
- Limited disabled parking is available at the start of the boardwalk.
- The northern part of the broad can be accessed from Barton Turf staithe by boat only (NR12 8AZ, grid ref TG 357225).
- Facilities: toilet in main car park, pub, shop and restaurant in Neatishead village (the Street, NR12 8AD).

## What to look for

- **Kingfishers, herons and otters:** thanks to the removal of 160 Olympic swimming pools' worth of silt from the broad, there is now a thriving food web with plenty of fish for these animals to eat.
- **Desmoulin's whorl snail:** this is another nationally rare species. It can be found in a range of wetland habitats but at NWT Barton Broad generally prefers rotationally cut areas of sedge. This tiny snail is rather plain, with a brown shell that grows to around 3mm in length.
- **Summer wildlife:** common tern, great crested grebe, grey heron, Cetti's warbler, black-tailed skimmer and swallowtail butterfly.
- **Winter wildlife:** redpoll, great crested grebe, grey heron, pochard, tufted duck, mallard and teal.



Cetti's warbler



swallowtail

## Did you know?

Barton Broad was acquired by Norfolk Naturalists' Trust in 1946 immediately after the Second World War. With Ranworth and Cockshoot Broads donated to NWT by the Cator family the following year, this was a hugely important time for conservation in what was to become the Bure Valley Living Landscape.

## Find out more

To learn more about NWT Barton Broad visit [www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/barton](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/barton)



# NWT Cockshoot Broad

## Find it

**Postcode:** NR13 6HN

**Grid Reference:** TG 343 164  
(OS Landranger 134)

## Highlights and features

Tucked away behind the larger NWT Ranworth Broad, NWT Cockshoot Broad is a peaceful Broadland oasis full of butterflies, dragonflies, water lilies and birds.

## Notes for walkers

- From Woodbastwick village head towards Ranworth. As the minor road bends sharply right go straight ahead along Ferry Road and follow this until you reach the small car park on the south bank of the River Bure, opposite Horning's Ferry Inn.
- Head east from the car park onto a signed Broads Authority boardwalk, which leads to the broad and a Norfolk Wildlife Trust bird hide. Please note this is a permissive footpath.
- Please note that Ferry Road is liable to winter flooding.
- Facilities: none on site, pub (and brewery) in Woodbastwick village (Salhouse Road NR13 6SW); pub, shop and public toilets in Ranworth village (The Hill, NR13 6AB).

## What to look for

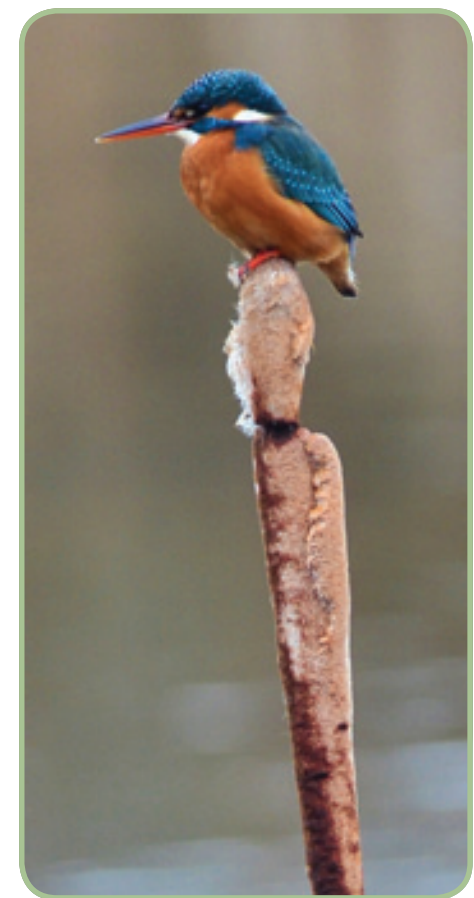
- **Kingfisher:** a piercing call followed by an all-too-brief flash of disappearing azure is often all that is seen of Britain's most gaudily coloured resident bird. If you're lucky, however, you may just get to watch one perched in trees from NWT Cockshoot's hide.
- **Summer wildlife:** marsh pea, marsh valerian, yellow monkey flower, white water lily, swallowtail butterfly, variable damselfly, red-eyed damselfly, Norfolk hawk, migrant hawk and hairy dragonfly.

## Did you know?

In the 1980s experimental dredging of silt was trialled at NWT Cockshoot Broad, with the aim of removing the burden of nutrients which feed algal blooms, which in turn shade out important communities of water-plants. The experiment was very successful and, since Cockshoot Cut is dammed where it meets the Bure, nutrient-laden river water is unable to flow back into the broad and NWT Cockshoot remains crystal clear and rich in wetland wildlife.

## Find out more

To learn more about NWT Cockshoot Broad visit [www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/cockshoot](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/cockshoot)



kingfisher



# NWT Upton Broad and Marshes

## Find it

**Postcode:** NR13 6EQ

**Grid Reference:** TG 380 137 (OS Landranger 134)

## Highlights and features

Upstream of Acle on the floodplain of the River Bure, NWT Upton Broad and Marshes is one of NWT's best-kept secrets. The reserve is a tranquil haven in the heart of the Broads, home to some of Norfolk's rarest wildlife: from iconic swallowtail butterflies and Norfolk hawker dragonflies, to otters and water voles, and a staggering array of wetland plants.



Norfolk hawker

The site's impressive mix of habitat – alder carr woodland, fen, reedbed, and grazing marsh – supports ten nationally scarce or rare plant species including fen orchid, crested buckler-fern, marsh fern, marsh pea, cowbane and fen pondweed. A mixture of birdlife is found on the reserve from woodland species in the alder carr, to waders such as lapwing and redshank on the grazing marshes. The majestic marsh harrier is a common sight as it drifts across the reedbeds in summer, and barn owls can regularly be seen hunting. However, Upton's dragonflies are perhaps its most impressive attraction, with 20 species occurring. Its specialities include the Norfolk hawker, four-spotted chaser, hairy dragonfly, variable damselfly and red-eyed damselfly. 22 species of butterfly have also been recorded.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust has been working hard to protect this unique site, with a number of recent land acquisitions which have increased the area managed for wildlife. Large areas of arable land (which were drained for farming in the 1970s) have already been restored to marshland. NWT Upton Broad and Marshes now sits proudly at the heart of NWT's Bure Valley Living Landscape.



hemp-agrimony



purple loosestrife

## Notes for walkers

- NWT Upton Broad and Marshes is 3.5km (2.2 miles) northwest of Acle. The reserve car park is located between the villages of Upton and South Walsham, off Low Road, where permissive footpaths lead you through the fen.
- An alternative car park is located at Upton Staithe where access is via a public footpath alongside the river, enabling views of the grazing marshes. This links with the NWT permissive footpath to create a circular walk and provides access to the fen.
- Please note that fen paths are often muddy year-round, with no access to the edge of the Broads themselves.
- Facilities: none on site, community pub in Upton village (Chapel Road, NR13 6BT); shops and toilets in Acle (NR13 3QJ).



marsh harrier, female

## What to look for

- **Norfolk hawker:** formerly occurring across East Anglia, the species had declined alarmingly by the 1970s. Since then, however, conservation efforts have seen this large dragonfly start to fan out and expand its range from the few Broadland sites to which it was restricted. One of only two brown-coloured species of hawker found in the UK, the best way to tell it from the similar brown hawker is by its bright green eyes and clear wings. Flies from late May to mid-July.
- **Holly-leaved naiad:** the open water of Upton Great Broad is much less species-rich than the fen areas, but does nevertheless contain some nationally scarce plant species including the holly-leaved naiad, which in the UK is found only in the Broads.

## Did you know?

The marsh harrier was widespread in the UK prior to the eighteenth century, but extensive wetland drainage, egg-collecting and persecution meant that its numbers fell dramatically; by the end of the nineteenth century, the species no longer bred. Hopes were raised in the 1920s as the Broads were recolonised, but despite spreading for a brief time the species declined again during the 1960s as a result of pesticide poisoning. In 1971 only one pair remained in the whole of the UK. However, by 2010 the harrier had made a remarkable comeback with 450 nests across the country, 75 of which were in Norfolk. These magnificent raptors can often be seen at NWT Upton Broad and Marshes during the summer.

## Find out more

To learn more about NWT Upton Broad and Marshes visit

[www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/upton](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/upton)





# NWT Alderfen Broad

## Find it

**Postcode:** NR12 8BP

**Grid Reference:** TG 353 197  
(OS Landranger 134)

## Highlights and features

Tucked away in the heart of the Broads, NWT Alderfen contains some of the area's finest remaining tussock fen and carr woodland. It also supports a number of scarce plants and good numbers of invertebrates including butterflies and dragonflies. The explosive song of the Cetti's warbler can be heard throughout the year, with reed and sedge warblers common in the summer alongside occasional grasshopper warblers.

## Notes for walkers

- A circular footpath (which can often be muddy) leads around part of the site, with a viewing area over the water.
- Vehicular access is along a rough track (4WD recommended) from Threehammer Common, 2.5km (1.5 miles) northeast of Horning.
- Facilities: None on site, pub, shops, public toilets and restaurant in Horning village (Lower Street, NR12 8AA).

## What to look for

- **Grasshopper warbler:** this scarce summer visitor can be incredibly frustrating to see despite its continuous high-pitched song, which sounds like someone winding in a fishing reel.
- **Greater tussock sedge:** one of the UK's largest sedges, its impressive bushy tussocks can reach over a metre in height.
- **Summer wildlife:** swallowtail, white admiral butterfly, hairy dragonfly and red-eyed damselfly.

## Did you know?

Alderfen was purchased by Norfolk Wildlife Trust (then Norfolk Naturalists' Trust) in 1930 at a cost of just £2,200 for 70 acres. It became NWT's third nature reserve after Cley Marshes and Starch Grass, Martham. We now manage over 50 reserves and other protected sites across the county!

## Find out more

To learn more about NWT Alderfen Broad visit [www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/alderfen](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/alderfen)



grasshopper warbler



swallowtail feeding on ragged robin



# St Benet's Abbey

## Find it

**Postcode:** NR12 8NJ (this is the nearest postcode to the site)

**Grid Reference:** TG 380 158  
(OS Landranger 134)

## Highlights and features

There has been a Benedictine monastery at St Benet's since at least the reign of King Cnut AD 1016-1035. By 1086 when the Domesday Book was prepared the abbey was Norfolk's pre-eminent monastery. When Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries in the 1530s, a bizarre series of political machinations by the king led to St Benet's staying open for another decade: England's last monastery. To this day the Bishop of Norwich remains abbot of St Benet's and holds a service in the ruins once a year.

Today St Benet's is owned and managed by the Norfolk Archaeological Trust. In place of the plainsong of monks visitors to this forgotten loop of the Bure hear the songs of skylarks, sedge warblers and reed buntings. In winter the wild grassland covering most of the ruins is visited by lapwing, ruff and snipe, and barn owls hunt the tussocky fields.

## Notes for walkers

- You can easily reach St Benet's by boat. There is a public mooring on the Bure and a footpath that leads you to the site.
- Vehicular access is along a farm track from Hall Road/Hall Common Road in Ludham which extends across the marshes to a small car park. Whilst driving along this route please be aware of cattle: livestock have right of way at all times.
- Facilities: None on site, pub, café and shops in Ludham Village (High Street, NR29 5QQ).

## What to look for

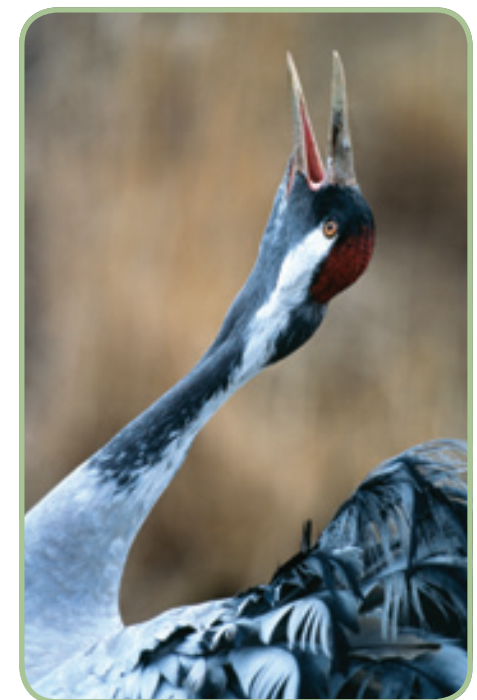
- **River wildlife:** bordering the River Bure, St Benet's Abbey is the perfect place to sit back and spot wildlife. Look out for great crested grebes, coots, grey heron, tufted ducks and the flash of blue from a passing kingfisher.
- **Summer wildlife:** the hedgerow that borders St Benet's Abbey is a hotspot for butterflies and dragonflies as they bask in the sun. Keep your eyes peeled for small tortoiseshells, swallowtails and azure damselflies.
- **Winter wildlife:** scan the surrounding grazing marshes for overwintering ducks and geese, such as pink-footed geese and wigeon. You may even see common cranes fly over, along with barn owls and marsh harriers.

## Did you know?

Moles are playing an important role at St Benet's Abbey by helping volunteers to unearth archaeological finds. The mole hills on the site are regularly surveyed by trained volunteers for artefacts such as pottery.

## Find out more

To learn more about St Benet's Abbey visit  
[www.stbenetsabbey.org](http://www.stbenetsabbey.org)  
[www.norfarchtrust.org.uk/stbenets](http://www.norfarchtrust.org.uk/stbenets)



common crane



# Trinity Broads

## Find it

### Filby Bridge car park

**Postcode:** NR29 3HH

**Grid Reference:** TG 461 135  
(OS Landranger 134)

### Ormesby St Michael car park and toilets

**Postcode:** NR29 3LT

**Grid Reference:** TG 464 153  
(OS Landranger 134)



goldeneye

## Highlights and features

The Trinity Broads are the last major bodies of water which feed into the Bure, by now joined by the Ant and the Thurne, before it joins Breydon Water. The five broads making up the Trinity Broads are rich in wildlife having some of the best water quality in the Broads. They form their own discrete catchment acting as a drinking water supply, and feed into the Bure through a watercourse known as Muck Fleet. The Trinity Broads support an excellent range of Broadland habitats including open water, carr woods, reedbeds and highly important fens.

## Notes for walkers

- There is free parking at Ormesby St Michael, on the A149 east of Rollesby Bridge. Free parking may also be found west of Filby Bridge on the A1064.
- Several local businesses offer opportunities to visit the broads by boat.
- Facilities: there are public toilets in the village of Ormesby St Michael and pubs and restaurants in the villages of Ormesby, Filby and Rollesby.
- To view Filby Broad visit the Filby Bridge viewing platform, which is a short walk from Filby Bridge car park.

## What to look for

- **True bulrushes:** traditionally used for making baskets and mats, large beds of bulrushes have now disappeared from most of Broadland. They may still be seen on the fringes of the Trinity Broads.
- **Summer wildlife:** in summer sedge and reed warblers chunter from the extensive reedbeds along the shores of the broads and common terns shriek overhead. This is also the time for watching hobbies chasing swallows, martins and dragonflies in spectacular stoops over the water.
- **Winter wildlife:** waterfowl, such as wigeon, tufted duck, pochard and goldeneye, gather here in winter, beside great crested grebes in black-and-white non-breeding plumage. Now is also a good time to look for bitterns fishing from stands of reed on the shore.

## Did you know?

The Trinity Broads are managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust but are largely owned by Essex & Suffolk Water. They make up 14% of the open water in Broadland and provide drinking water for the people of Great Yarmouth and surrounding towns. It is in everyone's interest that the water in these broads should be clean and clear. Happily, clear water for drinking is also great habitat for Broadland's fragile communities of rare plants and invertebrates.

## Find out more

To learn more about Trinity Broads visit [www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/trinity](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/trinity)



bittern



# Additional green gems of the Bure Valley Living Landscape

## How Hill National Nature Reserve

At twelve metres above sea level How Hill, in the Ant valley near Ludham, is one of the highest points in Broadland. It is surrounded by extensive and internationally important fen and reedbeds, which are managed traditionally for reed and sedge and for conservation. Marsh harriers and bearded tits breed and surrounding fields and grazing marshes are among the best places in Broadland for wintering Bewick's and whooper swans. An information centre on traditional life in the area may be visited at Toad Hole Cottage and interactive interpretation is available for smart phones. How Hill is reached along How Hill Road, west of Ludham. Free car parking and toilets are available.

For more information visit  
[www.enjoythebroads.com](http://www.enjoythebroads.com)



## Salhouse Broad

Salhouse Broad is a privately owned wetland in the Bure valley. In addition to its rich mix of habitats, including open water, reedbed, carr and oak woodland, Salhouse Broad offers visitors the opportunity to explore Broadland's secret corners by hire canoe and bike and by motorised boat safari. The Salhouse Ferry, which operates in summer, is the only way to reach the nature trail at Natural England's Hoveton Great Broad. The Salhouse Broad car park is in the village of Salhouse along Lower Street. The broad is a ten-minute walk, through interesting habitats, from the car park.

For more information visit  
[www.salhousebroad.org.uk](http://www.salhousebroad.org.uk)



## Just a click away

For more information on green spaces, nature reserves, heritage sites and conservation churchyards to explore in the Bure Valley Living Landscape area visit  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)

## Fairhaven Woodland and Water Garden

Fairhaven is a privately-owned woodland and water garden covering 131 acres in the Bure valley. For the cost of entry, visitors may wander through beautiful gardens, watch birds by a tranquil private broad, and explore ancient woodland with oaks dating back more than 900 years. In spring and summer boat trips are available on the broad and surrounding areas of the Bure. Fairhaven is found on School Road, just east of the village of South Walsham, postcode NR13 6DZ.

For more information visit  
[www.fairhavengarden.co.uk](http://www.fairhavengarden.co.uk)



small tortoiseshell

## Churchyards

All over Norfolk, churchyards offer important pockets of habitat to wildlife. Many have been grassland for centuries and many have not been treated with fertiliser or other chemicals and are therefore home to a wonderful variety of plants. They are also an oasis for birds and invertebrates and represent a crucial green space for people in the built environment. In the Bure Valley Living Landscape a number of churchyards are under the Norfolk Wildlife Trust Churchyard Conservation Scheme, including churches in Ranworth and Ludham.

For more information visit  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)



four-spotted chaser

## Catfield Fen

Catfield Fen is part of the larger Ant Broads and Marshes National Nature Reserve. The reserve is a mix of carr woodland, open water, fen and reed and supports many rare plants and animals including swallowtails and the only known population in the UK of a wasp which parasitizes the swallowtail. Because of the wet nature of the terrain only small areas are open to the public. This includes a permissive footpath on the Rond (a raised bank around the boundary dyke enclosing the western and southern sides of the reserve). Along this track you can view land managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust on one side of the bank and on the other side, land managed by the RSPB on behalf of Butterfly Conservation. There is limited parking at the staithe TG 367 215 (OS Landranger 134), postcode NR29 5DD.

For more information visit  
[www.butterfly-conservation.org/2401-1898/catfield-fen-norfolk.html](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org/2401-1898/catfield-fen-norfolk.html)



swallowtail caterpillar



# Wild walks in the Bure Valley Living Landscape

There are countless corners of the Bure Valley Living Landscape to explore, each of which offers different habitats and a different range of wild creatures to see. To get you started on your journey through your local landscape, here are four easy walks through some of the real gems of the Bure and Ant Valleys. We hope you enjoy them. Remember: stay safe and keep your eyes peeled for local wildlife.

## UPTON

This walk takes you through beautiful and wild freshwater marshes, past alder carr, reedbeds and along the river Bure.

**Start point:** Upton Staithe car park located towards the end of Boat Dyke Road on the left-hand side.

**Nearest postcode:** NR13 6BL

**Grid reference:** TG 402127

(OS Explorer OL40)

**Approximate distance and walking time:**  
7.5km (4.5miles), allow 2½ hours

**Please note:**

- Dogs are welcome on this walking route but should at all times be kept on a lead and under close control
- At times this walk can be very muddy
- Cattle may be grazing on this walk
- For walking notes to accompany this route visit [www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)



**Wildlife to look out for?**

- Lapwing • Marsh harrier
- Common crane • Chinese water deer
- Brown hare • Norfolk hawk
- Mute swan • Water vole

**Key to map**

Pub Car park Bridges

Permissive path Public right of way

Numbers on map relate to walk notes  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)

## FLEGGBURGH

The Trinity Broads are an amazing mosaic of wetland habitats and this walk helps you explore some of these areas, leading you past Burgh Common, Fleggburgh Common and Filby Broad.

**Start point:** Fleggburgh Village Hall car park, Main Road, Fleggburgh, Norfolk. NR29 3AG

**Grid reference:** TG 446139 (OS Explorer OL40)

**Approximate distance and walking time:**  
3km (2miles), allow 1½ hours

**Please note:**

- Dogs are welcome on this walking route but should at all times be kept on a lead and under close control
- For walking notes to accompany this route visit [www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)



great spotted woodpecker  
Egyptian goose



**Key to map**

Pub Car park

Public right of way

Numbers on map relate to walk notes  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)

**Wildlife to look out for?**

- Egyptian geese • Grey heron
- Small tortoiseshell • Marsh harrier
- Great spotted woodpecker
- Red admiral • Stoat • Barn owl



# LUDHAM

This walk takes you through the Ant valley which forms part of the Bure Valley Living Landscape. Breath-taking views, mills, and a quaint village make this a very special walk.

**Start point:** Womack Staithe, Horsefen Road, Ludham

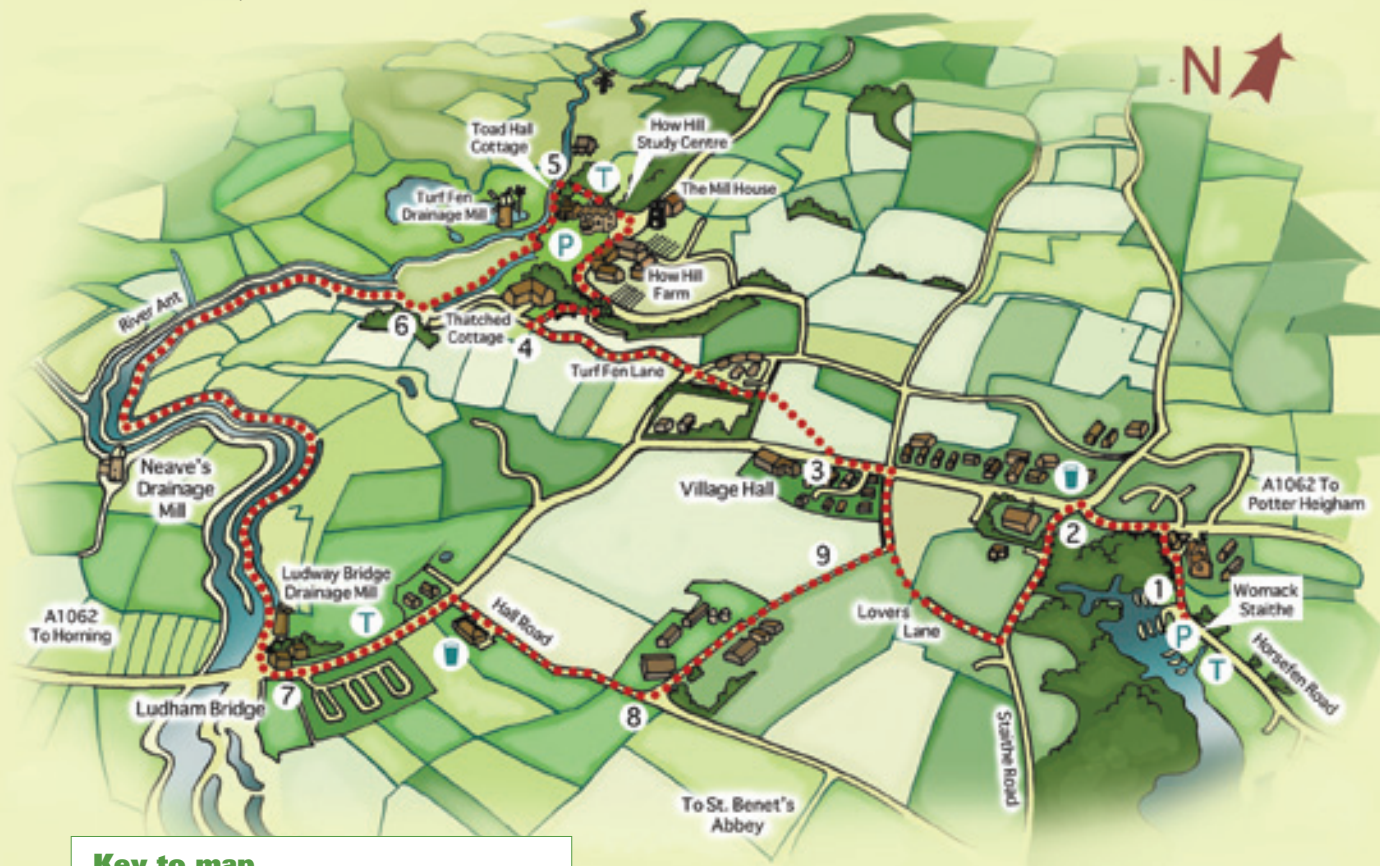
**Nearest postcode:** NR29 5QG

**Grid reference:** TG 392181 (OS Explorer OL40)

**Approximate distance and walking time:**  
10km (6miles), allow 3 hours

## Please note:

- Dogs are welcome on this walking route but should at all times be kept on a lead and under close control
- At times this walk can be very muddy
- Tea rooms can be found in Ludham, at How Hill and at Ludham Bridge.
- For walking notes to accompany this route visit [www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)



## Key to map

- Pub    Car park  
 Toilet    Route

Numbers on map relate to walk notes  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)

## Wildlife to look out for?

- House sparrows    • Tufted ducks
- Roe deer    • Yellowhammer
- Great crested grebes
- Brown hare    • Cormorant
- Swallowtail    • Otter



yellowhammer



house sparrow (male)

# BARTON BROAD

This walk winds through quiet roads within the Bure Valley Living Landscape. Along the route it takes in Herons' Carr boardwalk and an amazing view over NWT Barton Broad.

**Start point:** Barton Broad Boardwalk car park, Long Road, Barton Turf (head to Neatishead village and follow brown signs to boardwalk).

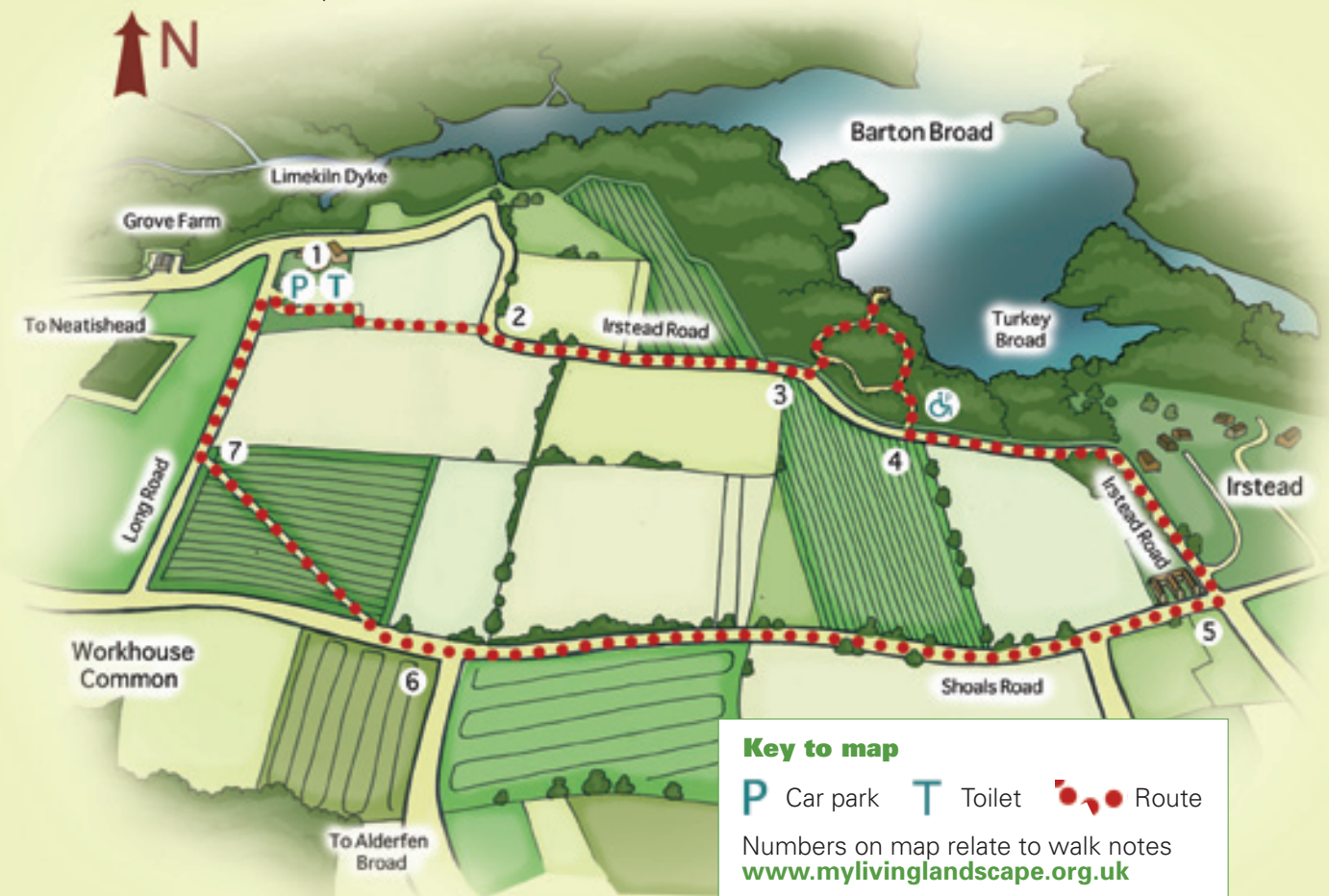
**Nearest postcode:** NR12 8XP

**Grid reference:** TG 350 208  
(OS Explorer OL40)

**Approximate distance and walking time:**  
4km (2.5miles), allow 1½ hours

## Please note:

- Dogs are not allowed on the boardwalk section of this walk
- A pub and community shop can be found in Neatishead village
- For walking notes to accompany this route visit [www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)



## Key to map

- Car park    Toilet    Route

Numbers on map relate to walk notes  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)

## Wildlife to look out for?

- Marsh tit    • Tufted duck    • Otter
- Alder    • Yellow flag iris    • Siskin
- Buzzard    • Cuckoo flower

## Take a walk on the wild side with WildWalks

If you love walking and enjoying watching wildlife why not have a go at a Wild Walk?  
For further information visit  
[www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk](http://www.mylivinglandscape.org.uk)



yellow flag iris