

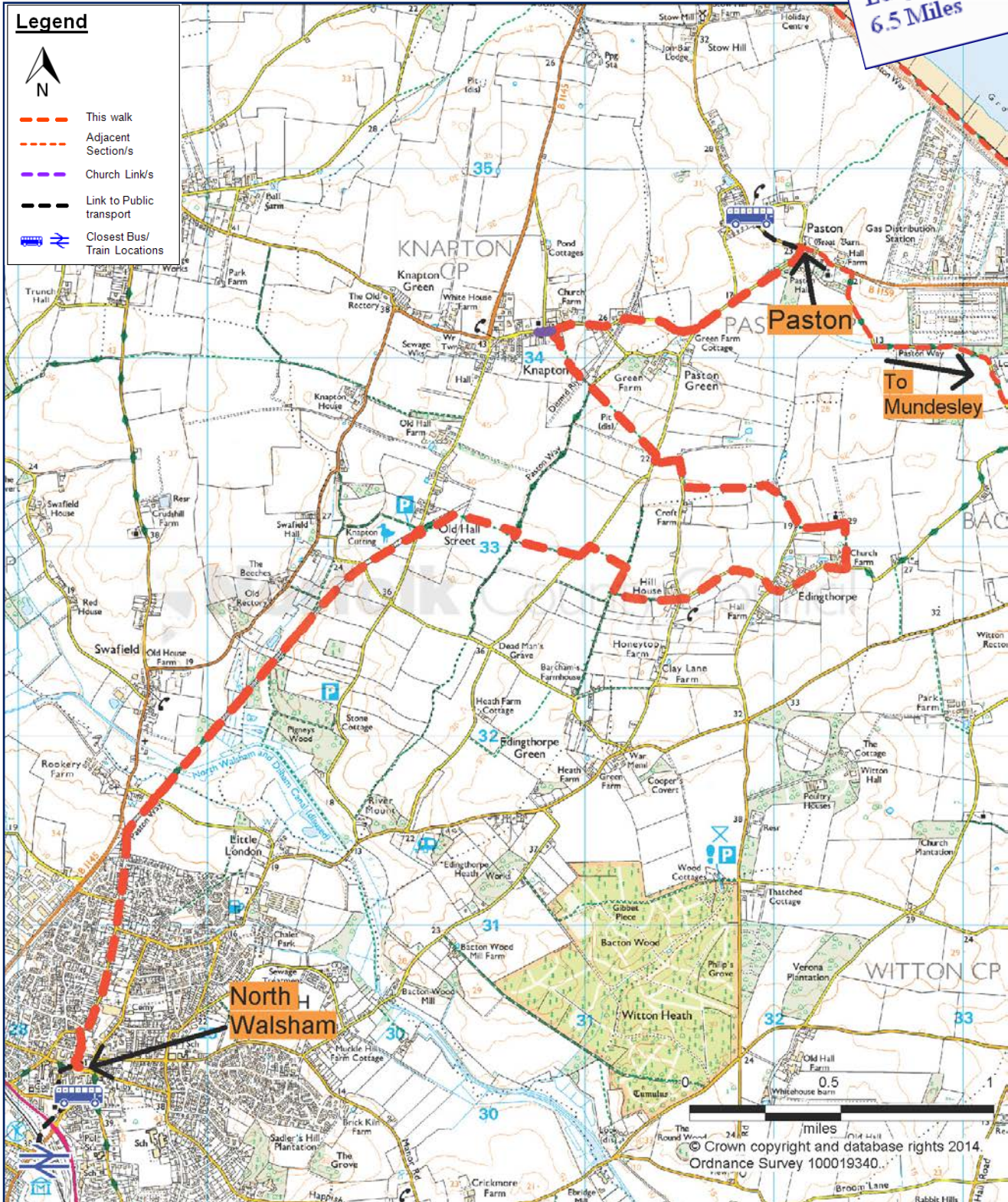
S4

Paston Way Short Walk 4 (of 4) Paston to North Walsham

Length:
6.5 Miles

Legend

- This walk
- Adjacent Section/s
- Church Link/s
- Link to Public transport
- Closest Bus/ Train Locations



Along the way

Leaving Paston, the route follows a country lane south west to cross the route of a disused railway line before reaching the village of Knapton. The Church of St Peter and St Paul in the village dates from the 15th century and has a very impressive double hammerbeam roof decorated with a large number of medieval wooden angels.

In Edingthorpe, the next village, All Saints' Church has a round tower with an octagonal top, the bottom part of which probably dates back to Saxon times. The war poet Siegfried Sassoon used to spend childhood holidays at the Old Rectory in the village and he wrote about the timelessness of the church in his autobiography.

Leaving Edingthorpe, the Paston Way leads west past Hill House before once more reaching the route of the old railway line, which it joins to head southwest into North Walsham. Knapton Cutting at the beginning of this section is designated a Local Nature Reserve as it provides ideal habitat for 19 different species of butterfly. A little further along the disused line is Pigney's Wood local nature reserve. This area of mixed woodland and wet meadows (owned and managed by North Norfolk Community Woodland Trust) has been planted with over 40 species of trees over the past 20 years and serves as a haven for a variety of wild flowers, butterflies and birds.

After crossing the course of the North Walsham and Dilham Canal, the Paston Way leaves the route of the railway line to follow Mundesley Road into North Walsham town centre where it ends at St Nicholas Church next to the Market Place. The Market Place's wooden Market Cross with its distinctive three-tiered dome was erected in 1602 to replace an earlier structure destroyed by fire in 1600. The church, which dates from the 14th century, is distinguished by its partially ruined tower, the result of two collapses, one in 1724 and the other in 1836. Although the Paston Way ends here, the Weavers' Way can be followed in either direction from this point – either west to Aylsham or east to Stalham.

Walk summary

Starting at Paston, this walk zigzags through gently rolling farmland to take in the villages of Knapton and Edingthorpe before following the route of a disused railway line for the final stretch that leads into North Walsham.

Getting started

This walk starts near the Paston Great Barn (TG321345) and ends at St. Nicholas' Church, North Walsham, meeting the Weavers' Way (TG283302).

Getting there

Train

North Walsham Rail station
National Rail enquiries: 08457 484950.
www.nationalrail.co.uk

Bus service

Paston – Sanders 34 and 35B.
North Walsham – Aldborough Community Bus 3 and 6, Sanders Coaches (various),
Bus stops Chapel Road Bus Shelter (Paston) and Market Place (North Walsham) **Traveline enquiries:** 0871 200 22 33
www.travelineeastanglia.co.uk

Maps and guides

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 252, Norfolk Coast East, available from Ordnance Survey shop www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/

What to expect

Country lanes, crossfield paths, disused railway. Eight sets of stairs on the disused railway.

Facilities

Accommodation in Paston.
Pubs, cafés, tea rooms, shops, museums and accommodation in North Walsham