& HOTEL THORPENESS

Thorpeness Golf Club & Hotel
Thorpeness, Aldeburgh
Suffolk. IP16 4NH
01728 452176
info@thorpeness.co.uk

Walk B Around fen and heath

Short walk approximately 8 km through varied ecological environments and their associated wildlife and flowers. Binoculars would be a benefit

Can be muddy in places, not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs.

Route also available free on www.ViewRanger.com

- Turn left out of reception, pass the Tee to hole 3 then take the signed path immediately afterwards on the left. Take care of golfers teeing off. Follow this path between course and The Meare. Enjoy the beautiful tranquillity by the water under the canopy of the trees.
- 2. The path joins a larger track (dismantled railway line) just after a small bungalow and house. Turn left and follow the track, over a wooden balustrade bridge. Take the path signed Sandlings Walk on your right through a small fence. After a short distance in the woods take the left fork, ignoring the Sandlings Walk path. This brings you out onto open fen with glorious views for spotting wildlife.
- 3. At the small RSPB car park turn right, then ignore the gate leading into the main area of The North Warren, stay on the path between the two fences. You cross the Sandlings Walk at the bottom of a slope, (Dragonfly sculpture), then at the side of the reed beds, mainly on board walk.
- 4. On reaching houses and a farm, the path joins a farm track, turn left down the slope passing the farm buildings to the left, then up the obvious path on the other side. The path takes you into the beautifully kept church yard of St Andrew's, the parish church of nearby Aldringham. Go through the gate then along the road to the front of The Ogilvie Alms Houses.
- 5. Where the road turns right to Church Farm, take the path into the woods. After a few hundred metres take the

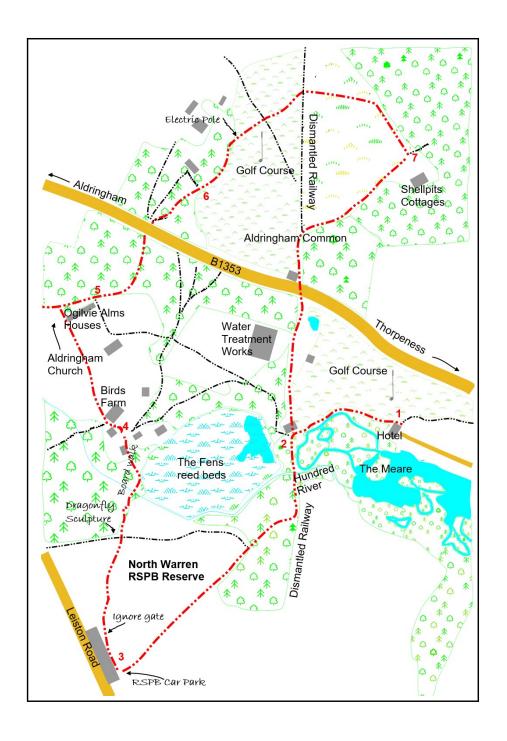
- obvious path to the left until reaching the road. Cross the road and take the smaller of the three paths, that goes at approximately 45° to the road. This meanders through heath land until joining a track.
- 6. Turn left along the track, pass the houses on the left and then take the pathway going under electric cables. This goes across the golf course so please take care. On reaching the old fence that was the boundary for the dismantled railway go left and then through the metal gate. The path goes straight across the heath, small and indistinct in places. On the far side of the heath you join a large sandy farm track at a metal gate with Shellpit Cottages visible on the opposite side.
- 7. Turn right along the track back to the road. Cross the road taking the left-hand track adjacent to the golf course. Stay on this track then path until reaching the bungalow and house you saw earlier. Turn left back towards the Hotel along The Meare and golf course. On arrival, back at the Hotel enjoy some well-deserved refreshments.

What you may see: -

Birds such: - geese and widgeon, teal, bittern, nightjar, nightingale, marsh harrier, warblers, linnets and many others
Mammals such as: - rabbits, deer, otter, vole.

Reptiles such as: - adder, lizard, frogs, toads, newts.

Insects such as: - Dragonflies, damselflies and butterflies.



Please follow the Countryside Code whilst on this walk, especially: -

- Take litter home with you
- Dogs to be kept on leads, horses are stabled adjacent to this walk, there are also working farms with livestock in the area
- Take dog excreta away to ensure others can enjoy the walk.
- Do not damage trees and other vegetation as these provide valuable habitat for the wild life.
- Care must be taken on the roads, they are relatively quiet but agricultural vehicles use them at all times of the day.



Created by <u>www.skyestrolls.co.uk</u>
Contact – <u>Paul@skyestrolls.co.uk</u>