INTRODUCTION

This walk links the villages of Fulletby, Tetford and Belchford and the hamlet of Salmonby. It is a walk with great variety - woods, fields, lakes and fine views.

The route takes in a section of the Viking Way long distance footpath and, for a while, follows the course of a Roman Road.

The walk is mainly on paths and tracks (although some sections can be muddy).

There are a number of stiles and gates as well as a few slopes.

Allow 4 hours walking at a leisurely pace. Stout shoes or boots are recommended.

For times of buses to Fulletby, phone Traveline 0871 200 22 33 www.traveline.info

This walk is on Ordnance Survey Explorer map 273.

Don't forget to follow the Countryside Code wherever you go - respect, protect, enjoy.

The Lincolnshire Wolds

The Lincolnshire Wolds is a nationally important and cherished landscape. Most of it was designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in 1973. Covering an area of 558 square kilometres or 216 square miles, the AONB contains the highest ground in eastern England between Yorkshire and Kent, rising to over 130m along its western edge. Rolling chalk hills and areas of sandstone and clay underlie this attractive landscape.

The Lincolnshire Wolds has been inhabited since prehistoric times and the appearance of the countryside today has been greatly influenced by past and present agricultural practices.

A Countryside Service helps to protect and enhance the landscape through partnership projects with local landowners, farmers, parish councils, businesses and residents of the Wolds.

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If you would like this leaflet in an alternative format please contact us.
The route is waymarked with a daisy leaf. 

Start the walk on the edge of Fulldyke, at the "T" junction of the High Street and Belchford Road. Take the footpath in the corner of the field going downhill. 

Cross the field to Salmonby Corr. 'Carr' is an old Norse word derived from 'gjar' - a marsh. Alders flourish in such boggy locations where few other trees will grow. 

After Salmonby Corr, the path eventually cuts through the hedge and kissing gate towards Salmonby Lake. A variety of water birds can be seen throughout the year here, including mute swans, Canada geese, moorhens, coots and ducks. 

Follow the path towards the lake and cross the stream. Go to the left of the wood, and cross the field, with the wood on your right. Leave this field in the right-hand corner and follow another, before turning left down a driveway. 

Turn left at the road, and turn left again at the next junction. Take the first footpath on the right, keeping the hedge on your right. 

Turn right at the road then left along the footpath. Walk along the edge of the field to the lake. Follow the path between the lake, bearing left before turning right over a bridge. You may just be lucky enough to see the brilliant flash of black and white kingfisher. 

Continue into Stefford, turning right at the road. If you need refreshments Stefford has an inn, The White Hart. The Dyneke family are connected with the village and church. They have been the hereditary "Champions of England" from the time of Richard II and carry the Standard of England at coronations. 

Follow the road left and continue to the outskirts of the village. Where the road turns sharp right, go straight ahead on the bridleway. The bridleway, Platts Lane, is part of a Roman 'salk road' - one of a number linking the east coastal salt producing area with Lincoln. Salt was of major importance to the Romans for preserving meat, fish and beans. 

Continue to follow the signposted bridleway to Occombe Road. When you meet Occombe Road, turn left and continue to Belchford. 

South of Occombe Road is a classic "English" hedgerow. The hawthorns have been laid, and there are mature ash and sycamore trees every 15 metres. The glaucophane in the Syltby sandstone has weathered the church of St. Peter and St. Paul to the typical green colour - hence the local name of "greenstone". 

In Belchford, opposite the Blue Bell Inn, turn left into Dam Lane. Turn left down the footpath, following the Viking Way, to cross the stream. The Viking Way is a 147 mile long distance footpath running from the Nether to Oakham in Rutland. 

Follow the waymarked path. At a track, turn right then left uphill bearing left off the track to the field edge. Bear along the edge of the next field near the telegraph pole, turn right along the field boundary. Descend the next small field to cross the stream at the bottom. Go straight across the next two fields heading for the corner of the second, near the concrete. 

At the end turn left. Leave the Viking Way and continue straight up the hill to High Street, turn left and return to the start.