The Lincolnshire Wolds

range of leaflets and information available at www.lincswolds.org.uk

On the map

Maps for the area are:
282 - Lincolnshire Wolds North
The Ordnance Survey (orange) Explorer
273 - Lincolnshire Wolds South
283 - Louth & Mablethorpe
274 - Skegness, Alford & Spilsby
284 - Grimsby & Cleethorpes

respect, protect, enjoy.

Don't forget to follow the Countryside Code wherever you go -

landscape with the different seasons.

wildlife. Enjoy the big skies, tranquillity and the changing colours of the

The Wolds is a living, working landscape with woodland, grassland and

valleys, gentle streams and nestling villages.

This is a wonderful area of countryside with some of the most beautiful,

unspoilt scenery in the East Midlands. There are rolling hills and hidden

areas in the East Midlands, the

Walking Festival in the spring.

Today the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB

is one of only two nationally protected

other being the Peak District National

Park.

What is an AONB?

AONBs were established to safeguard the countryside from development

The Lincolnshire Wolds AONB

in an alternative format, please

contact us.

For more information please contact:
Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service, Navigation Warehouse, Riverhead Road, Louth, Lincolnshire.
LN13 1EA
Tel: 01507 609740
aonb@lincswolds.org.uk
www.lincswolds.org.uk

If you would like this leaflet in an alternative format, please contact us.

Welcome

To The Lincolnshire Wolds

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Looking after the Wolds

The Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service works in partnership with its Joint Advisory Committee and other groups and individuals to:

• Protect and enhance the landscape and its distinctive features
• Encourage community interest and involvement
• Raise awareness of the Wolds
• Promote sustainable development and appropriate enjoyment

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Enjoying the Lincolnshire Wolds

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Stay local, eat local, buy local

Enjoy the big skies, tranquillity and the changing colours of the landscape with the different seasons.

Visit the Wolds

Visit the Wolds AONB, Louth

In January it’s an animal safari, in February it’s a nature

Photographs kindly supplied by

Northern Ireland.

woldswalkingfestival.co.uk

A great way to get to know the

an event, local show or take part in

For more information visit

www.landscapesforlife.org.uk

The Lincolnshire Wolds AONB

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or phone 01451 862007.

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Things to see & do

Take in the view

Being the highest land between Kent and Yorkshire in eastern England, there are plenty of places for fine views especially on a clear day. From the western escarp, look out for views of Lincoln, with its cathedral high on the skyline and see the cooling towers marching down the Trent Valley.

Out to the east watch ships heading north to the Humber. To the south you may see the cliffs of Hunstanton in Norfolk.

For fine views, go for a walk near Nettleton or Donington on Bain; or climb high along the eastern edge.

Building foundations

The local church and village could be a clue to what lies beneath the soil throughout the area – local stone or bricks were often used to build homes and churches. Splishy Sandstone has been used at Somersby Church; locally quarried ironstone was used in Wainby and at Calbyzey there is a mined chalk church. Local ironstone was mined for its ore and used at steelworks in Scunthorpe. For 40 years, up to 1968, the Nettleton area was a hive of industry. Today, all that is visible of the mining is the entrance to tunnels.

Living landscape

The characteristic Wolds landscape has been shaped by the activities of man for millennia. Neolithic farmers settled in the wooded Wolds around 4000BC. Their primitive tools enabled them and their descendants to clear the trees. By the time the Romans arrived the landscape was almost as open as today. See cultivation terraces at Kirmond le Mire; watch the colours and textures of today’s landscape change with farming activities and the seasons.

Beneath us all

Whilst enjoying views to the coast from the eastern edge of the Wolds, it is hard to imagine that this once was a sea cliffs. This area was once a tropical sea and then covered in ice. These changes all influence the Wolds we see today – the plateau tops have thin, chalkly soils, whilst in the south-west there are the heathy, seasonally waterlogged clay soils.

Family fun

A fun day out is guaranteed for everyone...

Cadwell Park is home to some great motor racing. Gunby Hall, near Candlesby – is a fine stately home and gardens open to the public. Lincolnshire Wolds Railway near Louth – take a journey back in time on a real steam train. Alford Windmill is a five-sailed windmill, still producing flour in the traditional way.

Inspirational Wolds

For centuries the landscape has enthralled writers and artists. Alfred, Lord Tennyson was born at Somersby and many of his poems were based on his experiences of the Wolds, including In Memoriam AHW and The Brook. More recently, AS Byatt's prize-winning novel, Possession, was set in the Wolds. Peter de Wint painted many views of the area in the early 19th century; today the landscape is still captured by artists.

Cultivated for creatures

Much of the Wolds is cultivated farmland and whilst many people feel this is not an obvious place for wildlife, look again. The Wolds have chalk streams with clear waters and a special range of wildlife from plants and insects to water voles and otters. Hedgerows are a distinctive feature of the area and are a great place for insects and birds. Farmland is important for rare arable flowers and ground nesting birds such as skylarks. To discover it for yourself, go for a quiet walk in the countryside. An excellent place to start is Snipe Dales Country Park, near Spilsby.

Vibrant villages

Attractive hamlets and villages are scattered throughout the area, adding to the charm of the landscape. Some villages organise events for everyone to enjoy. Have a look on the notice board to see what is going on. Many have a shop, tea room or pub - an ideal place to stop for refreshments, suggesting Danish influences.

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Hunt for history

People have been living and working here for thousands of years. It is our ancestors who have shaped the landscape we enjoy today. Look out for ‘lumps and bumps’ in fields – these may be evidence of a deserted medieval village or an old burial mound. There are also ancient trackways and roman roads which were often used as salt routes to the coast. Many more recent influences include military history – the mast at RAF Stenigot is now a protected structure.

Two wheels or four legs?

With quiet lanes and bridleways this is a fantastic riding area. There are plenty of circular routes of varying lengths for every ability. The National Cycle network route from Hull to Harwich passes through the AONB, whilst the 69 mile Lynde Trail is suitable for carriage drivers, horse riders, cyclists and walkers.

Tourist Information Centres

There are also a number of leaflets available for walks from 2 miles upwards. These are available from Tourist Information Centres.

Wells is a fantastic place to stretch your legs and have a look at both sides of history - the mast at RAF Stenigot is now a protected structure. There are also a number of leaflets available for walks from 2 miles upwards. These are available from Tourist Information Centres.

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