The Waveney district in north-east Suffolk is bounded, north by the River Waveney, west by the Saints, south by the river Blyth and east by the North Sea. The Waveney Way is an anti-clockwise circular walk, roughly following these boundaries. The distance is 74 miles over varied landscapes with pastures, heathland, the odd ploughed field, marshland, river, stream, coastal walking, some woodland and broads. There is much of historical interest with fascinating towns and villages. There are castles, in varying states of decay, a ruined priory and minster, round and square-towered flint churches. There’s bird and animal life, not to mention the flora with bulbs, bluebells and orchids in spring and headgerow fruits in season.

The first and second editions were written as a series of short linear walks, needing public transport or teamwork with more than one vehicle. The third edition has been rewritten as 170 miles of circular walks which cover the entire way. Carry a compass because many of the directions include a bearing. The boardwalk at Potter's Bridge has become unsafe and the route has been diverted although the maps show the original. We hope this will be repaired. Gull Lane, Shipmeadow, is frequently choked with nettles, brambles and fallen branches. Near the north end it's very slippery with wet clay over smooth concrete. The route has been diverted to avoid this but the maps include the original so the intrepid or foolhardy can attempt it. Pubs, tea rooms, parking places and bus/railway stops have been included on the maps. Downloadable KML and GPX files are included for SatNav owners.

1   Ness Point and Oulton Broad - 10 Miles
2   Gunton, Corton and Blundeston - 10 Miles
3   Somerleyton - 9.5 Miles
4   Carlton Marshes - 5.4 Miles
5   Oulton Broad to Beccles (train walk) - 10 Miles or two legs of 9.2 miles (Walk 5.1) and 10.2 miles (Walk 5.2).
6   Waveney River - 8 Miles
7   Shipmeadow and Mettingham - 8.3 Miles
8   Bungay South - 6.25 Miles
9   Flixton - 10 Miles
10  Saints Margaret and James - 8.6 Miles
11  Saint James and Wissett - 8.8 Miles
12  Wissett and Halesworth - 8.2 Miles
13  Halesworth to Wenhaston - 8.6 Miles
14  Wenhaston East - 10.5 Miles
15  Walberswick - 6 Miles - The bridge over the Blythe is closed for repairs.
16  Southwold and Reydon - 6 Miles - The bridge over the Blythe is closed for repairs.
17  Reydon and Wrentham - 8.8 Miles
18  Covehithe and Benacre - 7.5 Miles
19  Kessingland and Pakefield - 9.4 Miles
20  Lowestoft and Ness Point - 8.8 Miles

DISCLAIMER: Waveney Ramblers tries to stay on rights of way and keep safe. These maps are a “best effort” to document our routes but there may be errors, especially if paths have not been reinstated or signposted. Local conditions change from day to day and with the weather and seasons. Paths get diverted or closed. A safe walk today could become unsafe tomorrow. So please rely on your own common sense. Use these guides as a starting point and not as Biblical authority. As always the main danger is road traffic. Railway crossings are safe by comparison.

The Waveney Way
produced by the
Waveney Ramblers

[Map of the Waveney Way with route numbers and markers]