Waveney Ramblers Waveney Way 18 Covehithe and Benacre

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 52101 81823 GPX for SatNav** 7.5 Miles Updated: 2018

HAZARD WARNING:

This walk involves a creek wade and the possibility of rising tides trapping the walker against cliffs.

At low tide in calm weather, the walk is fine. High tides and stormy weather could be very dangerous.

The highest tides completely inundate Benacre Broad and the entire beach could be under water!

At low tide, the creek is a running stream deep enough to overtop walking boots so expect to paddle.

Please keep away from the cliff edge or cliff bottom. A WW2 pill box might land on your head!

This section of coast is eroding rapidly and one good storm could completely invalidate this information.

TIDES: https://www.tidetimes.org.uk/lowestoft-tide-times

If there is any doubt about the tide or weather, omit the beach section and return to base overland.

From March 1st till August 31st, please keep to the surf line to avoid nesting birds higher up the strand.

Park near St Andrew's Church, Covehithe. Meet at the Y-junction near the church.

Set out on the left, SW, branch of the road, heading away from the sea.

After about 3/4 miles, at the house at a crossroads, turn right, north, along the gravel Green Lane.

At the north end of Green Lane, at tarmac, turn right, east, for 150 metres.

Turn left, roughly north, through a gate, along a grassy track, woodland left.

The track bends left and meets tarmac. Turn right, north.

At the farm entrance, the road bends right, NE, and continues in a meandering approximately NE direction.

At the end of the NE leg, turn right, SE, across open fields, along the patched tarmac and concrete.

Head all the way to the sea. The road climbs a little giving fine views.

With farm buildings, left, head east past the dragons' teeth, through the kissing gate and down to the beach.

Near the sea, turn left, north, towards the Hundred River pumping station.

Head north along the raised causeway with fine views both sides.

At the pumping station, cross the outfall to join this leg to Kessingland and Pakefield.

Now head south, back across the outfall and down to the beach at the first opportunity.

At low tide there is firm wet sand for easy walking, much easier than the soft sand and pebbles higher up.

Head south along the beach for 2.25 miles.

The giant golf ball of Sizewell power station can be seen in the distance.

The lighthouse at Southwold is visible too.

Pass the hazards including unstable cliffs, the creek wade, fallen dead trees and even higher unstable cliffs.

Covehithe Broad is still a fresh water lake, but probably not for long.

At the broad, turn right, north, and head back on the cliff top path, gradually heading inland.

There are fine views over the broad.

Follow the path left, NW, before farm buildings.

Now bear right, north, back to the tarmac lane to St Andrew's Church, Covehithe.

The church is well worth a visit.

Return to the Y-junction and the parking places.

