Snettisham woodland walk

Enjoy a peaceful woodland walk with good views over the Wash

Getting started

Catch Stagecoach bus services 10 and 11 or Lynxbus 35 between King’s Lynn and Hunstanton. Timetable information can be found on the Traveline website or telephone 0871 200 22 33. Ask to get off the bus at the Snettisham Grapes bus stop on Lynn Road in Snettisham.

Unfamiliar with the area? You might find it helpful to take a map with you. The Ordnance Survey map covering Snettisham in the Explorer Series is Norfolk Coast West, number 250.

Refreshments

The Old Bank Coffee Shop on Lynn Road in Snettisham is close to the War Memorial start and finish point: ring 01485 544080 if you wish to check opening hours.

The Queen Victoria public house on Lynn Road is also close to the start point (dogs welcome) and just around the corner on Old Church Road is the Rose and Crown public house. Alternatively, treat yourself to fish and chips at the Snettisham Fish Bar on Alma Road.

What to expect

Allow approximately 1.5 hours for this 2.6 mile woodland walk through Lodge Hill Plantation. The path through the woods leads over a hill and some parts of this woodland walk may become muddy.

This woodland walk is away from the hustle and bustle of the seaside towns and you can experience a little peace and quiet in the wood as well as enjoy some great views over the Wash from the edge of the wood.
Along the way . . .

As you walk around the edge of Lodge Hill Plantation on the old sunken track, you will be walking beside a steep hill. On the top of this hill are the remains of a medieval tower, thought to have been either a watch tower or a warrener’s lodge. The area was formerly a piece of common land and a rabbit warren.

When gazing out to sea, you can make out the linear banks which form part of the system of sea defences. Whilst the bank closest to the sea is modern, the inland bank which winds along the coast from Snettisham to Heacham is much older. This winding bank is included on an old map, Faden’s 1797 map of Norfolk.

The landscape

Lodge Hill and neighbouring Ken Hill rise sharply from the surrounding flat marshes. The gently undulating wooded slopes are drained by creeks meandering westwards towards the Wash.

When you walk through the wood you will be walking along natural stepped contours around the hill. The hills are topped with carstone, an orange-brown ferruginous sandstone. Throughout the area, many buildings are constructed of this local stone along with flint, creating a distinctive and unified character to the villages.

Explore more . . .

Allow time to visit Snettisham Common, shown in yellow on the map. The common is one of around 1,300 County Wildlife Sites in Norfolk which support a wide range of biodiversity including many priority habitats and species identified by the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Together with Sites of Special Scientific Interest, they are important areas for wildlife in the county.

The majority of County Wildlife Sites are privately owned, so make the most of your visit to Snettisham Common. There is always something to see on this tree-covered common no matter what time of year you visit.
Walk instructions

1. Start with your back to the War Memorial on Lynn Road and walk towards the Queen Victoria Public House. Turn left onto Alma Road.

Pass the Post Office and Fish and Chip Shop and continue towards the main road. Almost at the end of the road, bear left to walk up to an island safe crossing point on the A149.

2. Cross the A149 at this crossing point and then walk a few metres along Common Road, opposite. As the road bears left, take the public footpath on the right and follow the direction of the finger post, ignoring the right hand path also at this point.

Stay on this public footpath to the end ignoring all side tracks into the woods.

3. At the end of the wood, turn right onto another public footpath and go through the gate beside the old concrete footpath sign (see Explore More tip below to explore Snettisham Common).

Follow the path as it skirts around the edge of Lodge Hill Plantation under a line of beech trees: you can glimpse the great expanse of the Wash in the distance on the left, particularly as the ground rises a little way along this pleasant woodland edge path.

4. Turn right at the gate and follow the public footpath up the hill into the wood. A series of green footpath waymarks indicate the way along the public footpath as it winds up and over the hill in Lodge Hill Plantation and down to the road.

5. Cross the road and go through the gate opposite onto another public footpath (there is another island safe crossing point just to the right).

Climb the low stile into a field and continue in the same direction across the field to the corner. Leave the field via another stile.

Turn left on Alma Road, then right at the end onto Lynn Road and return to the War Memorial.

Explore More tip . . . explore the wooded Snettisham Common just to the left of Lodge Hill Plantation and shown in yellow on the map. After walking through the wooded common, continue the walk from instruction point 3.
Distance 2.6 miles  Time 1.5 hours
Start point Snettisham War Memorial, Lynn Road. Grid ref OS map 250 TF685342
Public transport Snettisham Grapes bus stop, Lynn Road
Service Stagecoach 10. Coasthopper or Lynxbus 35 King's Lynn — Hunstanton
Refreshments The Old Bank coffee shop, Queen Victoria.