



Sandringham Country Park

## Walks for all Sandringham

**Walks for all** are a selection of easy access walks that aim to provide the opportunity to experience the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for everyone including the less able, wheelchair users and families with buggies.

A wide variety of enjoyment and relaxation to be experienced in over 60 acres of free and accessible parkland throughout the year. Open all year round and suitable for everyone.

Depending on your ability and interests there is much to do and see and to make the most of your visit check out the information on the Sandringham website page [www.sandringhamestate.co.uk](http://www.sandringhamestate.co.uk) (includes a access statement) and from the information desk staff or information boards .

Designated as a Country Park in 1968 the area has been enlarged to its present size. There are two waymarked nature trails (**Blue 2 miles and Yellow 3 miles approximately**) and many other tree-lined paths, open grass and wide verges with plenty of places to picnic. The park is open every day with no entry or car parking charges even for the Scenic drive - a one-direction surfaced road through the woods to the rear of the visitor centre.

The play area has more than 30 pieces of equipment, including slides, swings, a rope bridge, a "wobble board" and climbing wall. More recently a sculpture trail has been added to the Arboretum, the sculptures, all made by chainsaw carvers from natural tree trunks.

The carrstone parish church of St Mary Magdalene, Sandringham, dates back in its present form to the 16th century and houses memorials to many members and relations of the Royal Family.

### Suitability checklist

**Distance:** Short easy route about quarter of a mile (430m) each way, circular loop about three quarters of a mile (1200m)

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair, buggy friendly with level surface paths to car park, visitor centre and easy access route. Many areas of woodland will also be suitable for buggies.

**Gates and barriers:** None for main area.

**Facilities:** Disabled toilets / baby changing facilities at visitor complex along with café and a variety of shops. Sandringham House & garden (entrance charge), Sandringham Church and Tractor rides around the park

**Seats:** Around visitor complex, by play area but few around parkland

**Planning your visit:** Signposted off A148 King's Lynn to Hillington and A149 King's Lynn to Dersingham. Map Ref: TF689288; Postcode PE35 6EH (for nearby Park House)

**Open:** Parkland all year. Free parking at car parks and informal parking throughout the park. Charge for House & Grounds entry.

**Public transport:** Bus Stagecoach in Norfolk and Lynx serve Sandringham from King's Lynn. **Rail:** King's Lynn station (6 miles)

**By bike:** Norfolk Coast Cycleway nearby

**Dogs:** Allowed in park

**Site contact:** Sandringham Estate 01485 545408

## Walk instructions

1. Commencing from main visitor complex area following the 'play area' direction sign, keep on the surfaced path heading towards the woods. This crosses a expanse of open parkland allowing children to amble, run and play safely.
2. At the play area continue along the well surfaced path through the wooded area. This exits onto the 'scenic drive' in about 200 metres.
3. Return by the same route unless you wish to venture off the easy access route along the Scenic Drive (care required - one-way vehicular traffic).

*Explore more . . .* The open glades and woodland make this site ideal for leisurely exploring with or without the site leaflet map that is available at the information desk or on-line.

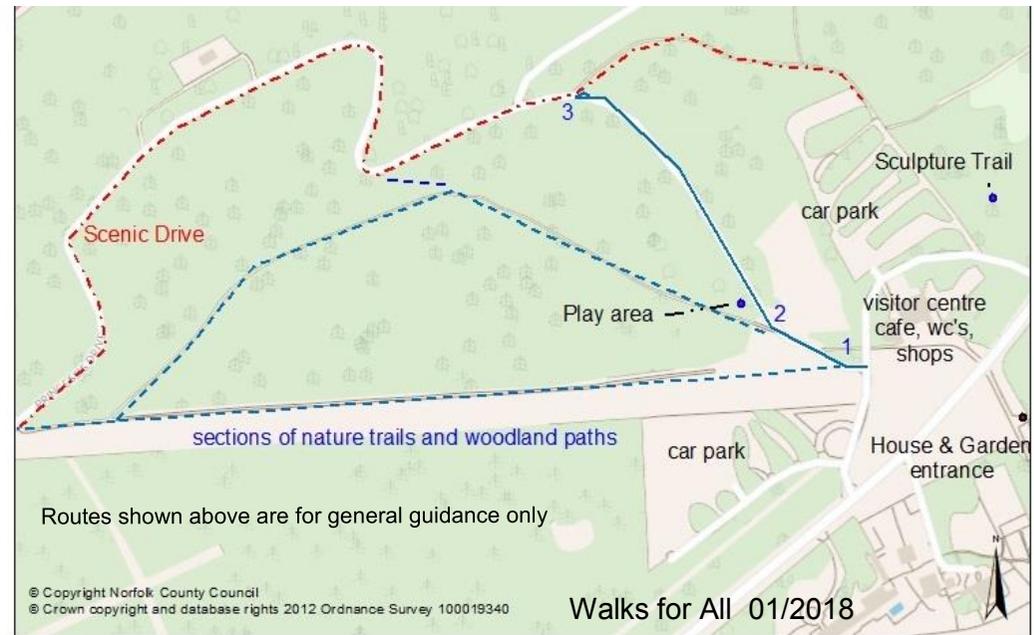
For example: From the play area leave the surfaced path onto the blue & yellow nature trail (shown as blue dashes on map here). This unmade path through a wooded area is wide enough to avoid any raised roots and rougher ground should not be a problem.

**Where the route divides:** take the blue trail (left) leading out onto a wide grassy glade with a well worn path to the woodland edge and turning follow the worn path to the main visitor area.

**Or** the yellow route which joins the Scenic Drive where and turning right to bring you to the easy access route previously described.

*Explore more . . .* with a guided tractor ride from the visitor centre, trailer has access ramp for wheelchairs and drivers provide a fascinating commentary as you tour the estate from your elevated position.

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*Sandringham House.* . . Across the main road from the visitor centre is Sandringham house, gardens (quoted as accessible) and Sandringham church. Road crossing point has excellent visibility, with signs and barriers to aid safety. The lych gate church entrance has some steps but a side gate and informal gravel path bypasses them. The elegant small church has a beautiful interior with particularly elaborate décor to the alter end (wheel/ pushchair access within is confined).

*Sculpture trail.* . . Situated adjacent to the disabled car park which although not promoted for accessibility has grass glades that apart from small or narrow wheeled chairs may be possible for a wide range of users. Wood sculptures offering a visual and sensory experience as was noted when young child in arms was observed enthralled while feeling them.

**The Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is one of 46 AONBs in the UK, which together with 15 National Parks comprise our finest landscapes, rich in wildlife and cultural heritage.**

*Along the way . . .*



Area around Sandringham visitor area



Easy access route as it meets the Scenic drive



Woodcarvings on sculpture trail



Start of walk towards play area



Path towards visitor area on extended walk



Section of Blue nature trail in woods



Easy access path



Scenic drive



Section of Blue nature trail