



Hunstanton to Heacham

Norfolk's west facing seaside resort with the famous red and white cliffs. This walk is along the concrete promenade looking out over the Wash estuary to Lincolnshire. Enjoy a constantly changing scene as the beach, rockpools and mudflats are exposed and covered. Watching waders and windsurfers, families having fun or the quiet tranquillity of the tides.

Hunstanton began as a purposely-built resort in 1846 and retains much Victorian charm and character. with a broad range of businesses as well as the typical seaside vendors and attractions.

The town has some distinctive carrstone buildings, lovely public open spaces from the green rising up from the beach to wide clifftop path that continues north to the Lighthouse. There is a information office in the town hall building at the top of the green and the nearby Princes Theatre hosts shows throughout the year.

There is a wide range of shops in the town centre area that compliment the numerous seaside businesses along the seafront. Hunstanton also offers a wide selection of accommodation from camping to hotels. The bus station is a short distance from the green and there are a number of car parks.

There is even a land train from the clifftop car park by the lighthouse into town although with a wide pavement alongside the grass path the clifftop path from the lighthouse into town is very wheelchair accessible.

Walks for all Hunstanton

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.

Suitability checklist

Distance: The promenade between Hunstanton and Heacham is about two and a quarter miles (3.6km)

Accessibility: Wheelchair, buggy friendly on surfaced path

Gates and barriers: none on this section

Facilities: Disabled toilets / baby changing facilities at both ends

Seats: Good selection along promenade and in throughout town

Planning your visit: Signed, Postcode (TIC on the Green) PE36 6BQ

Open: All year. Selection of public car parks at Hunstanton; one at Heacham North Beach open all year

Public transport: Regular bus services from King's Lynn; Coasthopper from Sheringham. Rail service to King's Lynn and Sheringham

By bike: On a Norfolk Coast Cycleway loop

Walking: Norfolk Coast Path starts/finishes on clifftop; joins Peddars Way at Holme beach

Dogs: Allowed on promenade; some areas of beach will have seasonal restrictions.

Site contact: Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk
www.west-norfolk.gov.uk. Information boards in car parks; Tourist Information Centre (TIC) www.hunstanton-info.com

Walk instructions

There are multiple options as to where you start or end a walk along the promenade which is suitable for everyone simply because it is a wide level surface and you can turn back whenever you wish. For ease this review commences from the northern end by the cliffs and south through to Heacham North beach.

On the cliff top path alongside the bowling green café and toilets you will find Reis Leming Way, a zig-zag sloped path that leads down to the north end of the promenade as well as providing excellent view of Hunstanton's renowned red and white cliffs.

Explore more . . . Take a walk round the Sensory Gardens which can be found on the opposite side of the road from the café

A little further south along the cliff top path there is also an access road down to the promenade with restricted user parking including disabled parking spaces. an approximately metre high

Down on the promenade there is stone wall about a metre high separating you and the beach below for the first 200m, so possibly restricted views of the beach and base of cliffs for wheel/push chair occupants. Unfortunately the access to beach and cliff base here is restrictive via steep steps.

For the remainder of the promenade through to Heacham you have unrestricted views across the Wash. Beach access is a mixture of steps and slopes and the concrete promenade is two or three metres wide and traffic free. At the Hunstanton end there attractions and typical seaside vendors alongside after which only views out to sea. Refreshments and facilities at Heacham are to be found down off the promenade via a sloped access.

Dogs are allowed on the prom but some beach restrictions apply, signs also restrict cycling. Bus service return to Hunstanton is from Heacham village about a mile from the beach. There is a unmade road running parallel to the promenade behind the holiday properties from Heacham to Hunstanton.

The Wash - a shallow bay, about 20kms wide and 30kms long opening into the North Sea is the largest estuary system in the United Kingdom

The route of the promenade will be obvious on the ground so below are: map of the Hunstanton end of promenade route (left) and Heacham north beach end (right) indicating toilets and parking nearby.



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 . . .



Start of the zig-zag slope down to the promenade at the Hunstanton cliffs



The access slope down from the promenade



View of Hunstanton cliffs from the promenade



Access down to the base of the cliffs is limited to steps only



Looking south towards Heacham from Hunstanton western promenade



Wide promenade with open views down to the beach below



One of the sloped access ramps to the beach



At some points the steps down allow access straight onto the beach



Great opportunity to watch the flocks of birds