



Walk 8: Thuxton to Dereham via Whinburgh - 7 miles, allow 3 hours



Before starting this walk, please read the general leaflet

This walk starts from Dereham Railway Station, catching a service on the **Mid-Norfolk Railway** to Thuxton. Note that the station car park is locked shortly after the last train of the day arrives in Dereham.

1 Leave the train at Thuxton. From the station, turn left and immediately left again on **Garvestone Footpath 6**, a track running parallel to the railway. Continue along the track, and just beyond the bungalow turn left then right, keeping the meadow on your left. Cross a plank bridge and stile, then continue ahead to cross slightly to the right to go over a stile to the right of the gate. Keep ahead and go over a third stile on the right. Cross the farm drive to the left and go through the gap to the right of the farm gate, then down the drive to the road. Go left down the road and over the ford (if the stream is in flood, use the narrow path to the right to cross by the bridge). In about 75 yards, go down the narrow path (**Garvestone Footpath 14**) on the right and turn right at its end. (If this path is flooded, continue along the road for 100 yards then turn sharp right on to a track which reaches the other end of the path.) Cross the bridged ford and bear left on the track for 75 yards.

2 Turn left on **Garvestone Footpath 9**, which runs along the left side of the field. Cross the railway line with care **!** and continue ahead into the tree lined green lane, soon with a small stream alongside. (*The stream, and the two fords previously crossed, are all part of the infant River Yare.*) Where the path emerges from the trees, follow the field boundary to reach the B1135. Turn right along the road, crossing when safe. As the road swings right, continue ahead up a track (**Garvestone Restricted Byway 17**), and cross the next road to join **Garvestone Footpath 10**. Continue along the track, crossing another track and going through the gap in the hedge. Follow the path, which shortly turns into **Whinburgh Footpath 7**, along the field edge, with the hedge first on your left, then on your right. Go round three sides of the barn to join and turn left on a track. Follow this for about ½ mile.



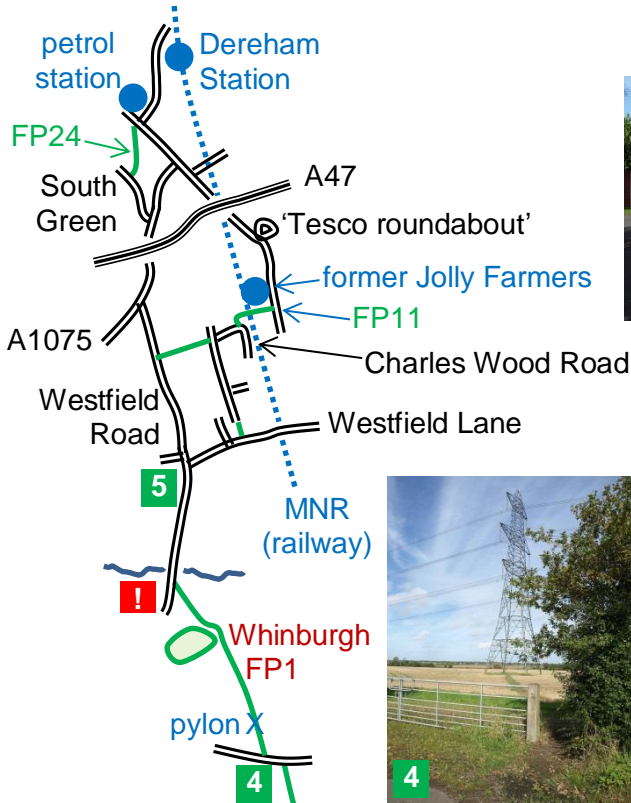
3 When you reach the plantation on your right, turn left and follow the field edge (**Whinburgh FP6**) until it passes through a rambler gate and joins a track. Turn left and follow the track, staying to the right of the farm buildings. Continue for ½ mile until it reaches Whinburgh Road. Turn left along the road and as the bend ends, turn right down a short steep slope on to **Whinburgh Footpath 3**. Follow this path until it reaches a crossing track: this is Field Lane, **Unclassified Road 35025**. Turn left and follow the track to the road.



4 Turn left, then shortly right by the side of a gate, and follow **Whinburgh Footpath 1** under the pylon and diagonally across the field: aim for the right hand end of the line of trees, where a track ahead becomes visible. Go along the track to join Dereham Road. Turn right and walk up the road, crossing the River Tud and entering Dereham. **!** Take care of traffic using this narrow road.



5 At the road junction, there is a choice. **Option 1** The more direct (but less interesting) route continues ahead down Westfield Road to join the A1075 near a zebra crossing: cross here and continue to go under the A47 bridge and turn left along South Green. Immediately before the houses on the right, turn right into Safari Way (**Footpath 24**). At the top, cross the road and, keeping the petrol station on your left, follow Station Road back to Dereham Railway Station. **Option 2** Turn right along Westfield Lane and then, just after Bridge Gardens, left by a pedestrian entrance into Rash's Green Industrial Estate. Go down the road, and take the second road on the right - Charles Wood Road, also the course of **Footpath 11**. At the end of the road, the Footpath goes left to cross the railway line and reach Yaxham Road next to what used to be the **Jolly Farmers** pub. Turn left and go past The Greenstone and McDonald's. Cross the railway for the last time and continue to the second set of traffic lights. Cross to the Railway Tavern, turning left to reach the mini roundabout. Turn right up Station Road and back to Dereham Railway Station.



KEY	
direction points	1
road	==
path or track	—
care needed	!
trees	○

UR35025

Whinburgh FP3

Whinburgh FP6

Whinburgh FP7

Garvestone FP9

Garvestone FP10

Garvestone RB17

Garvestone FP14

Garvestone FP6

Thuxton Station

