

Horsey seals and village

A coastal walk with stunning views and wildlife

11 miles (or 7.5 and
9 mile options)
5.5 hours

Start: Beach car park (charges apply)

Grid Ref: TG498197 Postcode: NR29 4AJ

Terrain: Sandy tracks, grassy flood banks, field-edge paths.

One stile. Access to beach requires climbing over flood barriers.



From the wooden boat sheds, follow the sandy track inland towards the church. After passing between a short row of houses, turn right, along a road and into the edge of the dune system.

Take the left hand sandy track and keep left all the way along the edge of the dune heath habitat to reach the World War II concrete blocks at Winterton Ness. The special habitat supports a wide variety of wildlife including stonechats, nightjars, short-eared owls and rare natterjack toads.

Walk between the blocks and turn right, continuing along the edge of the dune system, passing beach access points until you reach Crinkle Hill, where the main grey seal colony can usually be seen. Please stay a safe distance from the seals and keep to any roped off viewing areas, particularly at pupping time. Advice and information can be found at www.friendsofhorseyseals.co.uk.

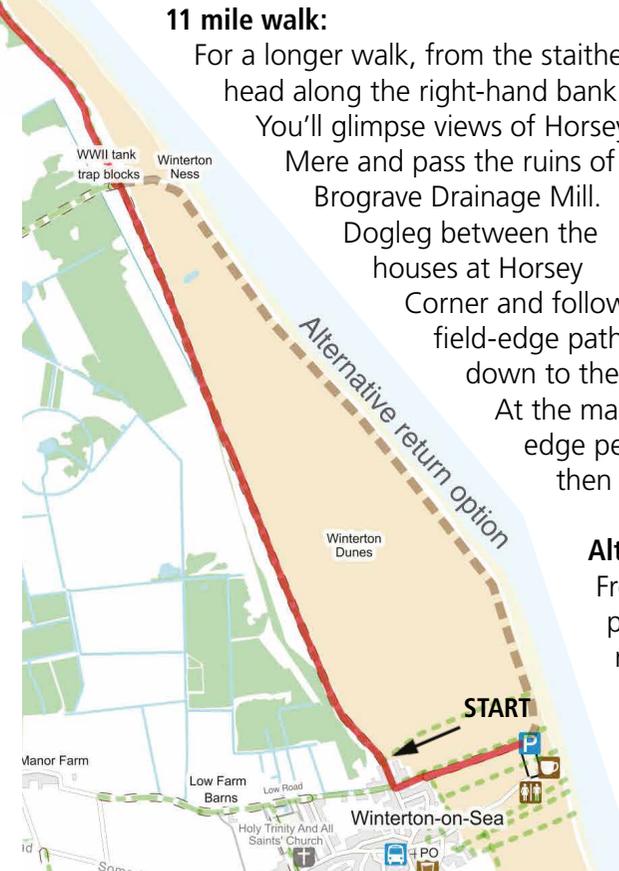


Next head inland, past the gate and along the track between grazing marshes. When you reach the road, turn right. **For a 7.5 mile walk** continue a short way on to the Nelson's Head pub, then retrace the route back to Winterton. **For a 9 mile walk** take the track just up on the left. After the stile, turn right to Horsey Windpump (National Trust) and staithe, with visitor facilities and a wildlife garden. Retrace the route back to Winterton.

11 mile walk:

For a longer walk, from the staithe head along the right-hand bank. You'll glimpse views of Horsey Mere and pass the ruins of Brograve Drainage Mill. Dogleg between the houses at Horsey Corner and follow field-edge paths

down to the stunning thatched All Saints church. At the main road, cross over to follow a field-edge permissive path back towards the pub, then retrace your route back to Winterton.



Alternative return option:

From Winterton Ness, take the sandy path up into the dunes directly to the right side of the beach access, for an elevated undulating walk with stunning views of both beach and countryside. (From October 2016 this forms part of the England Coast Path / Norfolk Coast Path).