



14 NORFOLK WEETING

▶ Distance: 8 miles/13km ▶ Time: 4 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



Ruined Weeting Castle.

PHOTO: PHOEBE TAPLIN



CHOSEN BY... PHOEBE TAPLIN

The area around Weeting is one of the oldest inhabited areas of Norfolk and an atmospheric amble through Thetford Forest brings you to Grimes Graves, an area rich in Neolithic flint mines. The route back encounters classic Brecks landscapes with sandy tracks, pine trees and wide, open fields.

1 Start

Begin with a visit to the moated ruins of Weeting Castle (free and open in daylight hours). Return to lane and turn R past round-towered church. Follow arrows L around farm and then head R between pig

field and farmyard. Turn L on track near barns, R past brick house called The Kennels and continue towards trees.

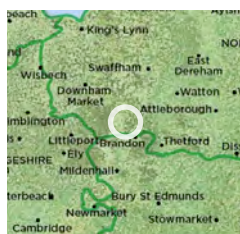
2 1 mile/1.6km

Turn R at junction, following arrow for Weeting Circular walk. At next junction, turn L and keep L again on main track, leaving circular walk (which you will rejoin later). Keep straight for a mile on long sandy track towards and straight through forest ahead. Turn R along broad grassy verge beside A1065 for about 250m.

3 2¼ miles/3.6km

Turn L at sign for West Tofts and turn immediately R into woods on unmarked path.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Weeting Castle/small parking area nearby, grid ref TL776891, postcode IP27 0QZ

Is it for me? Flat, level forest tracks and field paths

Stiles 2

PLANNING

Nearest town Brandon

Refreshments The Saxon pub is left up main road from bowls club, which also serves drinks when open (07740 265312)

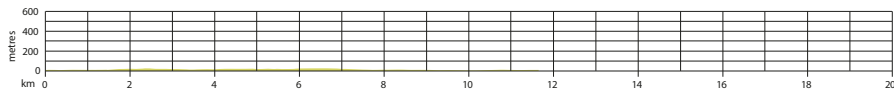
Public toilets No public toilets, but some at Grimes Graves

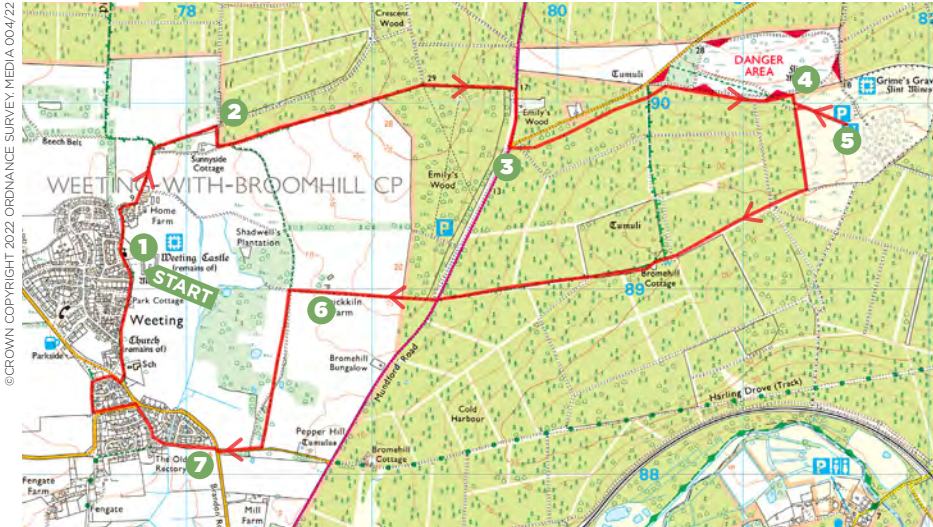
Public transport Bus 40 from Brandon station to King's Lynn stops nr start (coachservicesltd.com)

Maps OS Explorer 229; Landranger 144

Soon turn sharp L to pick up path through trees running parallel with straight minor road on L. When path is joined →

GRADIENT PROFILE



▶ OS Explorer map 229 ▶ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

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by another track joining sharp R, fork L on fainter path and stay parallel with road. When another forest track crosses, turn L and immediately R to keep straight in previous direction with fence soon on L and view of Neolithic mounds beyond. Keep straight on path by fence for ¼ mile and follow it R to stile.

4 3½ miles/5.6km Turn L over stile and straight on path over field to visit Grimes Graves, an area of Neolithic flint mines belonging to English Heritage with picnic tables and a small shop. For a fee, you can actually descend into one of the mines. (Book ahead and check website before you set off if you want to be sure of visiting).

5 4 miles/6.5km Return across field to stile, cross it and turn L beside fence. Keep on to end of grassy track near corner of fence and then turn R along broad forest ride. Keep straight on stony track for 1¼ miles. Cross main road and continue straight along sandy track beyond, through trees and along avenue.

6 6 miles/9.7km Near Brickkiln Farm, keep straight on (faint) path over field. On far side, turn L on sandy track past clumps of trees. Go through kissing gate and turn R along edge of road. At junction, cross over into Peppers Close.

7 7½ miles/12km Keep straight into Rectory

Lane and follow road as it curves R. Turn L at junction near bus stop onto Hockwood Road. When road curves L, turn R into Park View and keep straight past Jubilee Close along track ahead. Turn R before bowls club past row of white thatched cottages. Cross over and fork L past green area called Parrott's Piece. Keep R along edge of village on All Saints. Keep going on unsurfaced track to return to Weeting Castle. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED
□ □ □ □ □TIME TAKEN
□ □ □ □ □YOUR RATING
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