

## Walk 11

# Weavers' Way Halvergate



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Distance	10 miles (16 kilometres)
Surface	70% unsurfaced, 30% surfaced - stiles, gates, steps, kissing gates
Toilets	No
Refreshment facilities	Red Lion Inn (not open weekday lunchtimes), Berney Arms Inn and Tea Rooms (open Easter to October)
Seating on route	Riverbank, Breydon Water, Berney Arms Inn and Mill

### Start point:

St Peter and St Paul's Church, The Street, Halvergate.  
OS Grid Reference TG 417 066.

**N.B.** The marsh section of this walk can be wet and muddy at any time of the year. Cattle and sheep may be present on the grazing marshes.

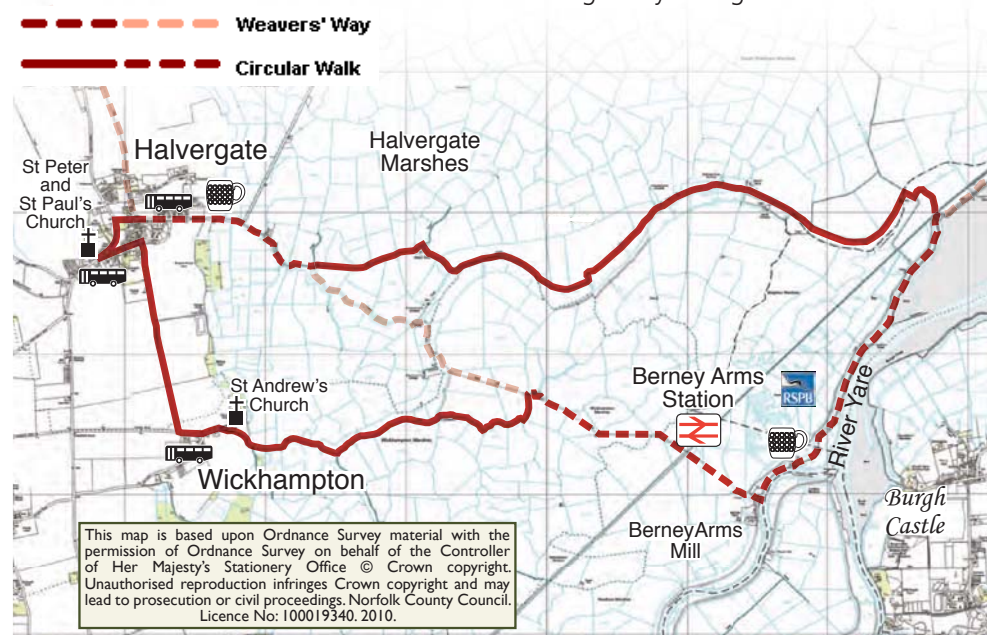
### Directions:

- 1 From Halvergate Church follow the street past the pond and continue along Sandhole Road passing the village sign and the war memorial on your right. Follow the road as it bends round to the right and becomes Marsh Road. Continue straight on down the road through the village passing the Red Lion Inn.



Marsh mallow

- 2 Leave the village and at the sharp left bend, take the lane straight ahead signed as Weavers' Way. Follow this meandering lane until you reach the wooden corrals – here Weavers' Way turns to the right but continue straight on along a track signed as a public bridleway.
- 3 Follow the track as it bends around Manor Farm House and enjoy the "big sky" views over Halvergate Marshes. You will shortly pass through a gate/stile and soon after pass straight on through a field gate. Just after a left and right bend, pass through a field gate/stile and continue straight ahead on a track running along the edge of the grazing marsh with a dyke on your left.
- 4 After a while the track will open out but continue straight on passing a couple of gates on your left. Pass through another field gate/stile and continue along the track passing two black mills to your left. Soon you will pass Marsh Farm on your left and another farmhouse with farm buildings on your right.



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- 5 Shortly after, pass through a gate/stile and cross a track to continue straight on along a grassy track. Presently you will meet a concrete road – turn right onto this and carefully cross the railway line by the sluice. Turn right passing behind the sluice buildings to rejoin Weavers' Way. Pass through the kissing gate and follow the riverbank path through the RSPB reserve with Breydon Water on your left.
- 6 After a while pass through another kissing gate and continue along the bank-top path (note the remains of Burgh Castle over to your left on the opposite side of the river). Pass Berney Arms Inn shortly followed by Berney Arms Mill.
- 7 Just after passing the mill follow Weavers' Way by turning right off the bank via some steps and passing through a gate. Continue to follow Weavers' Way across the grazing marsh passing through a kissing gate, a field gate and another kissing gate and with care, cross the railway line.
- 8 Turn right through a gate and over a plank crossing and turn left. Keeping the dyke on your left, cross another plank bridge and turn left crossing the dyke using the gated bridge. Turn right and continue through a gate this time keeping the dyke on your right. After 375 metres cross another plank bridge and turn right over the dyke via a gated culvert.
- 9 From here head out across the grazing marsh aiming just left of the black mill in the distance. Pass through a field gate and cross the gated bridge on the far side. Turn left onto a track and stay on the track as it bends to the left, as Weavers' Way leaves you on the right.
- 10 Follow the track for one mile until you meet a concrete road where you turn right towards Wickhampton. Pass Wickhampton Church and continue straight on as the track becomes a lane. Fork right at the junction past the telephone box and after



*Village sign*

175 metres turn right at the next junction.

- 11 As you follow this lane you will see Halvergate Church in the distance. If you wish you can take the permissive field-edge path that runs adjacent to the lane.
- 12 As you enter Halvergate you will pass playing fields and Halvergate Hall on your left. At the staggered junction turn left onto The Street and once again passing the village sign and war memorial, fork left to arrive back at the start point Halvergate Church.

### Points of interest:

- Broadland marsh wildlife – Cetti's warbler, reed and sedge warblers (summer), marsh harriers, barn owls, raptors, ducks and geese and wading birds such as snipe, lapwing and curlew;
- Panoramic views over Halvergate Marshes. A landmark in modern conservation, Halvergate Marshes were designated as the first Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA). The area now has many national and international conservation designations;
- In the Domesday survey of 1086, the village is called Halfriate. In 1182 it is referred to as Halvergata. Its meaning is uncertain: the first part of the name probably means "half", the second part possibly "gate", interpreted as meaning an island separating the river into two channels, though it has also been suggested that the whole name may mean "half a heriot" (a currency unit: i.e. a reference to the value of the land).

