

Great Yarmouth
sports walk

Start point	St Nicholas' Church, Great Yarmouth Grid reference TG524080
Parking	Any town car park
Distance	3.9 miles
Details	Minor gradient, 90% firm surface    

Walk instructions

Walk around the back of the church and follow the main path through the cemetery. Turn right onto Kitchener Road and cross at the end onto Sandown Road opposite.

Turn right at the start of Wellesley Road to have a quick look in the recreation ground to see the Victorian grandstand – one of just two surviving wooden grandstands in England. Return to Sandown Road and cross into Beaconsfield Recreation Ground almost opposite.

At the end, turn right onto Beaconsfield Road.

Turn left the T-junction into North Drive. Cross the road to walk through the boating lake gardens adjacent to the road. Continue ahead at the end of the boating lake, keeping the sea on your right.

Turn left onto Jellicoe Road; walk on the right hand side for good views of the Great Yarmouth race course.

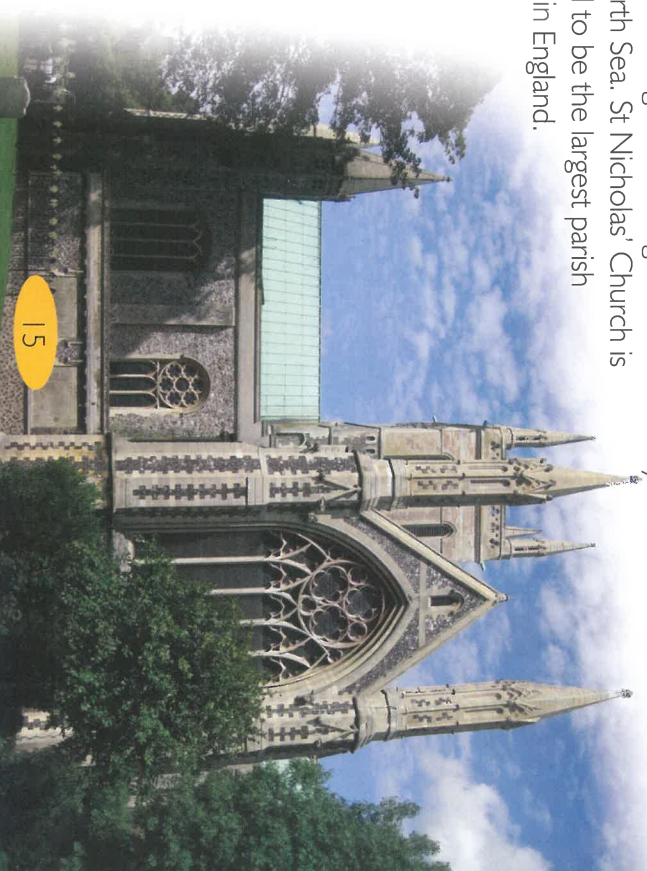
At the T-junction, cross Caister Road and enter Bure Park. Walk over the footbridge and turn right. Bear left after a short distance to walk across the park; pass the lake on your right and exit via the concrete steps (a little to the right of the lake). Turn left at the River Bure.



Follow the River Bure for 1.2 miles back to Great Yarmouth keeping the river on your right, passing the old yacht station. The riverside path eventually becomes Tar Works Road; follow this almost to the end, bearing right on the path beside Yarmouth Yacht Station which leads to North Quay.

Just before the bridge, turn left to walk through the North Quay underpass. Turn right at the end and follow the path towards the town centre, pass the car park and cross at the pedestrian lights to return to the church.

● The town cemetery is one of 1,300 County Wildlife Sites in Norfolk and is an oasis for wildlife in the town. It has areas of grassland that are remnants of sand dune communities with grass species unusual to churchyards such as field rush wood, red fescue and sand sedge along with the more colourful ox-eye daisy and bird's foot trefoil. The churchyard away from the main path provides a valuable relatively undisturbed habitat for many bird and butterfly species. Great Yarmouth cemetery is very popular with bird watchers, as it often attracts rare migrants looking for shelter as they reach land from the North Sea. St Nicholas' Church is claimed to be the largest parish church in England.



Great Yarmouth sports walk

This walk shows off past and present sport and recreation opportunities.

- The importance of outdoor recreation was recognised and sport and leisure sites were included as the town expanded; the splendid Victorian football stadium in Wellesley Road Recreation Ground (pictured right) was opened on 11th June 1892 and is thought to be the oldest surviving football stadium in the country. Great Yarmouth town football club (established 1897) continues to play here. The all weather athletics track was opened by Olympic sprinter John Regis in 1990.

- Racing has been a popular pastime in Great Yarmouth for a long time. Horses were raced from at least 1715 on the South Denes where the first permanent grandstand was built in 1849. The race course was moved to its present site off Jellicoe Road in 1920; two grandstands were moved to the new course and are still in use today.

- During the mid and late 19th century a series of railway lines were constructed within Great Yarmouth. The bridge you cross on Jellicoe Road (now filled in) was built over the Midland and Great Northern Joint Railway which linked Great Yarmouth and Sutton Bridge. The 'Muddle and Go Nowhere' as it was locally known, helped to develop the town into a venue for outings for large numbers of workers from factories in the Midlands. It was closed in 1959.



Key

Walk 3 ●●●●●●●●

Detour ●●●●●●●●

Parking **P** Church **+**

0 1/4 mile 1/2 km

W
S
E



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