

Gorleston quayside
and town walk

Start point	Brush Quay, Quay Road, Gorleston
	Grid reference TG530039
Parking	Quay Road car park
Distance	2.2 miles
Details	Moderate gradient, 100% firm surface

Walk instructions

Start by walking along Brush Quay as far as possible on the South Pier for a good view of the River Yare meeting the sea. Then turn round and walk back along Brush Quay keeping the river on your right. Continue alongside the river; there are several sets of steps over flood defence walls.

Pass Great Yarmouth and Gorleston RNLI Lifeboat Station and the old Gorleston Volunteer Lifeboat House. Go up the steps to walk along the short section of historic waterfront, pausing to read the information panel for the timber 'dolphins'. The remains of these wooden piers, which provided access to the deeper water of the main channel in the River Yare, are visible at low tide.

Continue along West Quay and Hewett's Wharf. There is another information panel on a raised viewing platform shortly before the Great Yarmouth Port Authority Pilots building.

Leave the quayside by turning left at Pilots building to walk up the narrow road (Ice House Hill, not signposted); there is a sign for The Short Blue public house near the bottom of this road.

Cross the road at the top of the hill into Priory Gardens almost opposite and walk through the gardens. Leave the gardens through the gate at the end and turn left to walk towards St Andrew's Church. Pass the church on your left and cross Church Lane.

To enter Middleton Gardens, keep right along Middleton Road for a short distance, the entrance is on the left. Turn right and walk through the park, leaving via the steps on left just before the end.

Cross the road into Clarke's Road opposite and follow this to the end.

Turn left at the T-junction, cross almost immediately and take the first right turn into Sussex Road. Follow this as it bears right and continue round to the end.

Turn right at the T-junction onto Pier Plain. On reaching the junction on the corner, cross the road and take the right fork into Cliff Hill – a one way street signposted 'cliffs'.

Stay on Cliff Hill to the end. Some of the terraced cottages have gardens across the road and there are great glimpses of the river meeting the sea. Continue ahead at the junction and follow the road, passing Cliff Hotel on your left.

Shortly after the hotel, go down the steps (or adjacent slope) on the corner to the promenade below. Turn left at the bottom and return to Brush Quay along the sea front.



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This walk explores the quayside with good views from the Cliff Hill of the river meeting the sea.

- Gorleston is much older than Great Yarmouth with evidence of people living on this higher level overlooking the sea long before the Yarmouth sandbank emerged from the sea.
- Until 1347 the River Yare joined the sea further south between Corton and Lowestoft. Over the centuries there were 6 unsuccessful attempts to clear the silt across the entrance to the harbour and each time a new harbour (or haven) was cut north of the previous silted up entrance. The name of Brush Quay reflects the 7th successful attempt completed in 1567 by the Dutchman Johas Johnson, who used brushwood under the quay to prevent sand building up at the mouth of the river. The slight rise in the ground between Brush Quay and Pier Gardens marks the point where the river was turned.

Key

Walk 7 ●●●●●●●●

Detour ●●●●●●●●

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



0 1/4mile 1/2km

- A ferry used to cross the river from Gorleston towards Nelson's Monument; the landing stage is still there close to the Ferry Boat Inn, a little further along the quay from Hewett's Wharf. For more information, visit the local virtual museum website at www.gorleston-heritage.co.uk.



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