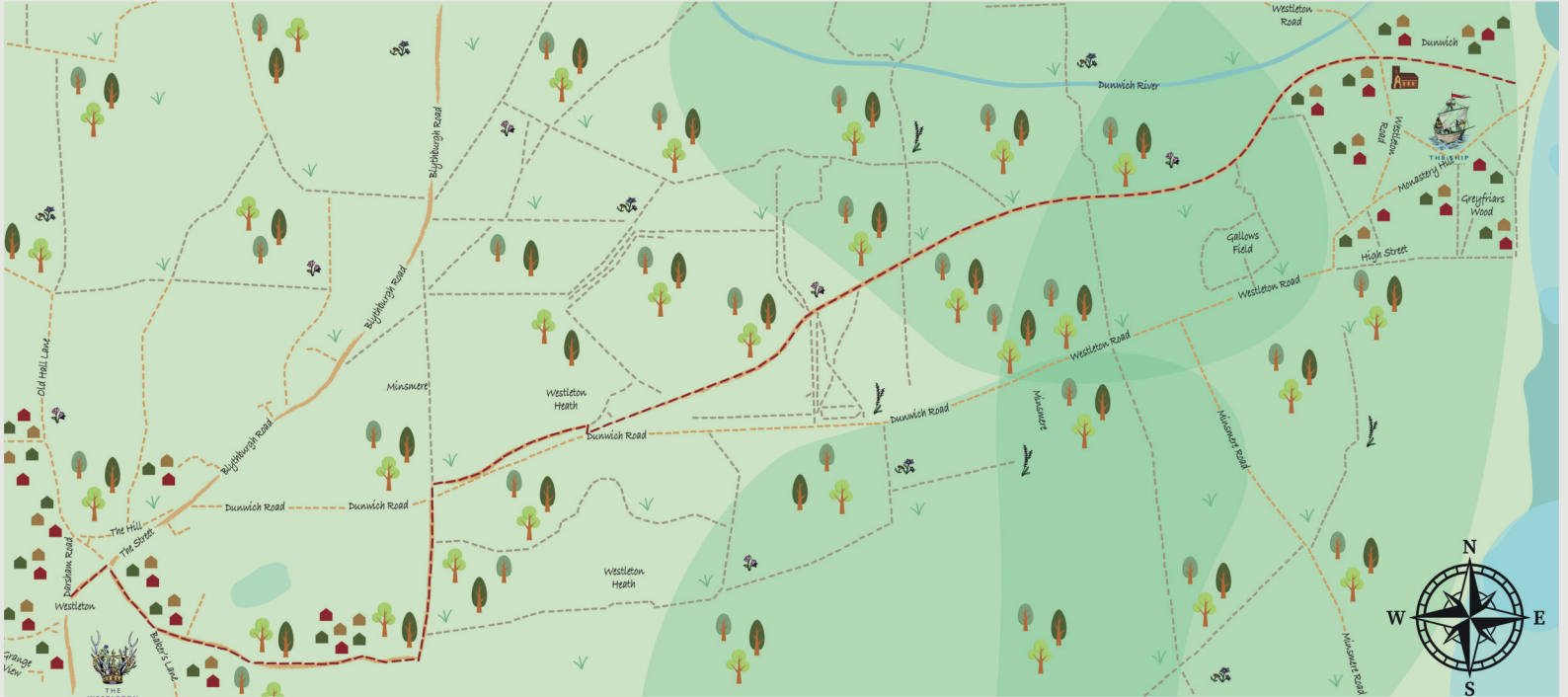


Westleton to Dunwich

The Westleton Wander



Westleton to Dunwich 3 miles | 4.8 km | 1 hour

Leaving the Westleton front door, head east along the road until you reach a junction on your right. Turn onto Bakers Lane, passing the colourful houses as you make your way towards the edge of the village.

Continue along the lane until you pass the side of a pink house on your right. A little further ahead, you'll find a public footpath sign on your left. Follow the footpath east and head onto the heathland.

Continue along the right-hand path as it forks. In the far corner, join a gravel, tree-lined path running between two arable fields.

At the end of the path, exit onto the road and head north towards Dunwich Road. Cross Dunwich Road and join the grassy track directly opposite.

A few steps ahead, take the narrow track heading east through the heath. This allows you to avoid the road while continuing alongside it.

When the path reaches a gravel car park/lay-by, follow the footpath east towards the coastline, passing Westleton Heath Nature Reserve.

Continue along the footpath through woodland, fields and farmland until you reach Westleton Road and St James' Church in Dunwich.

Exit the footpath onto the road and head to the left of the church, joining St James Street. Continue past red-brick cottages and the village museum before you reach The Ship at the end, on your right.

Around & About

Points of interest along the route



WESTLETON

Westleton is a traditional Suffolk village with roots stretching back more than 1,000 years, recorded as Westledestuna in the Domesday Book of 1086. The village once stood on an important medieval route to the thriving port of Dunwich and grew as a rural farming community surrounded by heathland. At its heart is St Peter's Church, largely rebuilt around 1340, alongside the village green and historic buildings that give Westleton much of its character today.



WESTLETON HEATH

Westleton Heath National Nature Reserve is one of the best remaining examples of Suffolk's historic Sandlings heathland. Its sandy paths wind through open heath, heather and woodland, creating an important habitat for wildlife including nightjars, woodlarks, Dartford warblers and stonechats. In late summer, the heath comes alive with purple heather, while its quiet trails make it a lovely spot to explore on foot.



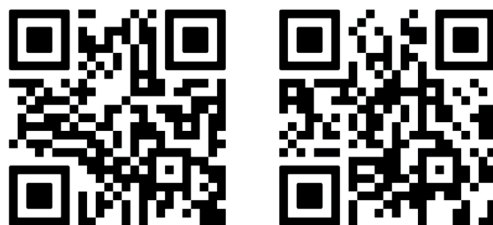
DUNWICH

Once a thriving port and the capital of East Anglia, today Dunwich is a sleepy coastal village with a few houses, a church, museum and our pub. During the 16th Century, Dunwich was destroyed by a series of storms and floods that swept most of the town into the sea. It is worth visiting the museum to discover more of the local history, from smugglers and shipping routes to a pivotal role in the D-Day landings.

Supporting Dunwich Heath

Following the Dunwich Heath wildfire, you can support the recovery of this special part of the Suffolk coast by donating directly to the National Trust's Dunwich Heath Appeal or the RSPB's Minsmere Wildfire Appeal.

Scan the QR codes to find out more about each appeal and how your donation will help support the recovery of the landscape and its wildlife.



<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/support-us/appeals/dunwich-heath>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/donate/minsmere>

Discover more:
www.chestnutgroup.co.uk