

# Horsham St Faith to Aylsham 20 mile cycle tour

OFF THE  
BEATEN  
TRACK

In 1939-40 an RAF base was built at Horsham St. Faith. It became home to the Liberator aeroplanes of the 458th Bomber Group of the 2nd Air Division of the USAAF. The site now forms part of Norwich Airport.

Charles II is said to have often visited the **Black Swan Public House** and the **Prince of Wales'** feathers can be seen on the south west wall as a reminder of its royal past.

**Mill Farm** has a former corn mill that is visible through the gates. The now derelict tared five-storey mill was built about 1880 for local farmer and dyer Joshua Harper and was one of the last to be built in Norfolk.

The **17th Century Heggatt Hall**, set in beautiful parkland, amongst the trees. This was the home of the Warde family and there is an over mantel in the house that bears the arms of George Warde of Brooke,

1663.

**Mill Pond** of the old Horstead flour mill on the River Bure. The mill burned down in 1963 and has been left as a ruin although the 18th Century thatched Mill House barn can still be seen on the left just past the ruin.

Legend has it that once a year the ghost of Sir Thomas Boleyn passes over the bridge at Coltishall carrying the head of **Queen Anne Boleyn**, the doomed wife of King Henry VIII, who was born at **Blickling**.

The **Old School House** was built by the parish around 1720 to educate 10 poor children. Next to this is the site where in 1810 Roman urns and the foundations of a Roman settlement were found. The **Coltishall Parish Church of St John** the Baptist has a 15th Century tower but was largely rebuilt in 1865. The church is open all day for visitors.

Elizabethan **Little Hautbois Hall** dated 1555 by William Baspole which, in 1694 was converted into a trust for the poor of Peter Parmentergate in Norwich. Today it forms part of a local farm. Further on are beautiful views over the rich grazing marshes of the **Bure Valley** and **Buxton Mill**.

**Buxton Parish Church of St Andrew**. The church dates from the 14th Century but was restored in 1881. It has good monuments, the remains of a 16th Century screen with



Church of St John

original colour and is open all day for visitors.

**Aylsham's church of St Michael** is believed to have been built by John of Gaunt when he was Lord of the Manor. There is a splendid 15th century font and the pulpit dates from 1637.



Hautbois Hall

## Useful telephone numbers

**Aylsham Tourist Information Centre**  
01263 733903

Easter – 30 September open daily  
10am-4.30pm.

October – Easter 10am-2pm (closed  
Wednesday & Saturday).

**Broadland District Council**  
01603 431133

**Local Police** (non-emergency number)  
0845 456 4567

## Useful websites

[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)

[www.ctc.org.uk](http://www.ctc.org.uk)

[www.nationalcyclingstrategy.org.uk](http://www.nationalcyclingstrategy.org.uk)

[www.rospace.co.uk](http://www.rospace.co.uk)

[www.heron.nhs.uk](http://www.heron.nhs.uk)



Black Swan Public House

# OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

## DIRECTIONS

From Norwich take the **A140 north** towards Cromer.

- 1 Turn right to Horsham St Faiths 1 ½ miles from Norwich Airport.
- 2 Passing through St Faiths turn right at the Black Swan Public House then take the first right into Waterloo Road. At the end of the road turn left into Spixworth road.
- 3 After 1 ¼ miles turn left at the T junction towards Frettenham.
- 4 After 1 mile turn right into Pound Hill then Mill Road.
- 5 On reaching Frettenham turn right after passing the windmill on the left into School Road, continuing through the village bearing left at the next junction into Hall Lane.
- 6 After ½ mile turn left into Stanninghall Road.
- 7 At the end of the road, cross straight over the B1150 signed to Heggatt Hall.
- 8 After ¼ mile, turn left into Heggatt Road signed for Horstead.
- 9 On reaching Horstead turn right onto the B1150, go straight over the mini roundabout and over the River Bure into Coltishall.
- 10 Over the bridge, turn into Church Street signed B1354 to Wroxham.
- 11 Continue through the village past the Kings Head Public House on the right and on the left past the lovely Hazel Wood House, dated 1766.
- 12 After passing Coltishall House on the left, turn left into Belough Green Lane.
- 13 After ¾ mile turn left and at the end of this road turn left again. Turn right when you reach a small triangular green into the picturesque hamlet of St James.
- 14 In St James, turn left just before the red brick cottage into 'The Hill'. Follow the road crossing over the Bure Valley Railway until you reach the B1150.

- 15 Turn left here back towards Coltishall.
- 16 Approximately 1500 yards past the Railway Tavern Public House on a left hand bend, turn sharp right into Hautbois Road.
- 17 Immediately after Great Hautbois parish church, turn right into Seven Acres Lane.
- 18 Turn left at the T junction. Passing a pond on the left at the next junction, turn right into Great Hautbois Road. Follow this road for ¾ mile.

- 19 Here the road bends sharply to the right over the railway bridge. Take the next left hand fork into Little Hautbois Road.
  - 20 At the end of this road turn left into 'The Street' signed for Buxton.
  - 21 After ½ mile you will reach Buxton Mill. A working mill was first recorded here in the Domesday book of 1085.
  - 22 After passing under the railway bridge, turn right at the junction into Aylsham Road. Follow the road through the village out into the countryside.
  - 23 At the staggered T junction, turn right towards Brampton (Not signed)
  - 24 After passing under the railway and over the river bridge, continue for ¾ mile before turning left at the cross roads.
  - 25 On entering the village of Burgh next Aylsham, turn right into Wood Lane at the village sign. Follow the road for 1 ½ miles and at the end, turn left through Tuttington Plantation to the main A140 road.
- Turn right signed Cromer, then first left signed Aylsham Industrial estate.



Coltishall



Horsham St Faiths

- 26 Follow the road for approximately 1 mile into Aylsham. Free parking is available. The A140 to Norwich is signed from the Market place.