

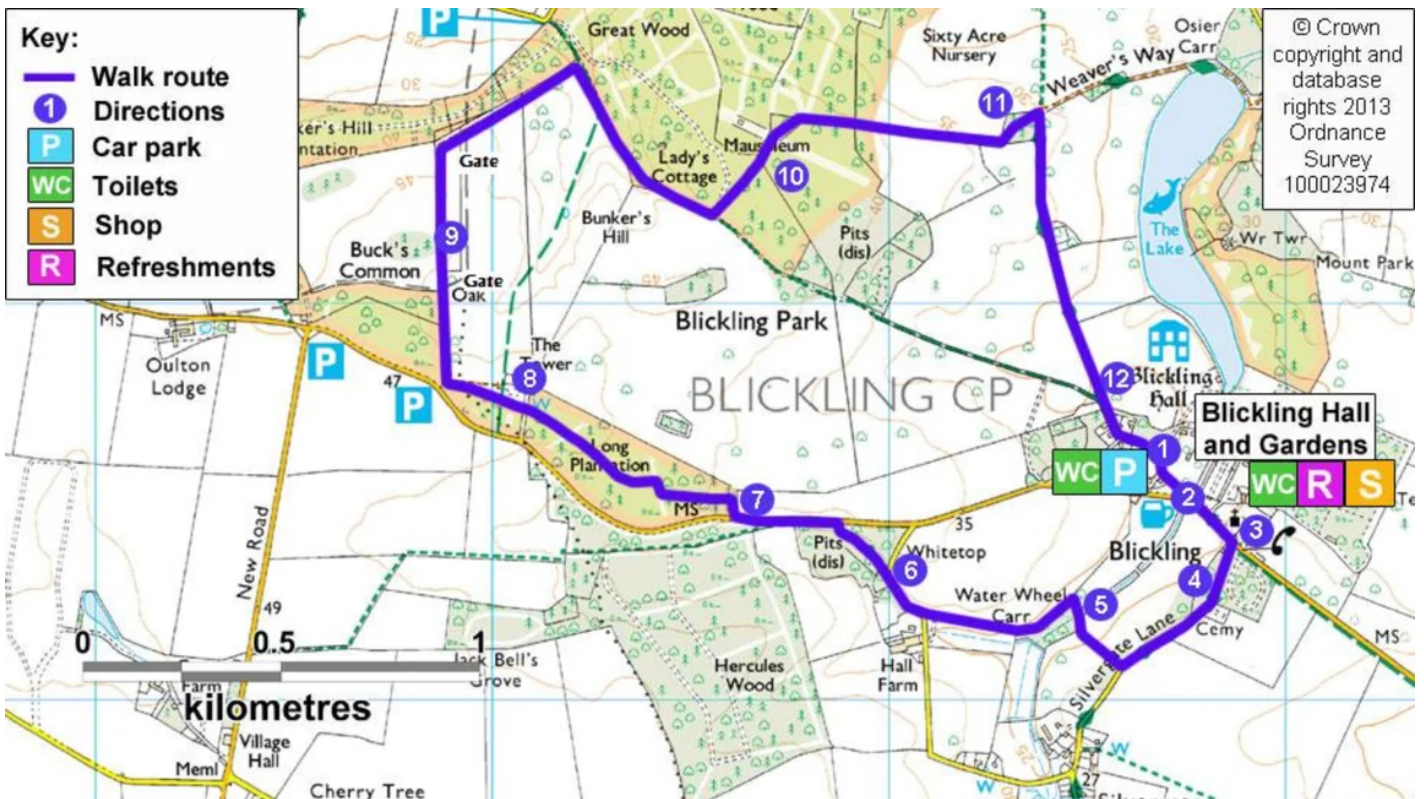
NORFOLK

Blickling Estate walk

Enjoy a great walk around most of the Blickling Estate's parkland. Visit points of local historical interest including Long Plantation, Great Wood, the Tower, Brickyard and Mausoleum.

Great for families

This walk is ideal for adventurer families, but unfortunately it's not suitable for pushchairs.



Information

Address: Blickling main car park, Blickling Estate, Aylsham, Norwich, Norfolk NR11 6NF. Grid ref: TG178286

OS map: Landranger 133, Explorer 252

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Mostly waymarked with grass paths, seats, tree roots, gates and stiles. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs under close control are welcome in the parkland, farmyard, muddy boots café and front drive. Please keep dogs on leads around livestock and remove your dog's waste.

Full trail: Miles: 4.5 (km: 7.2)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 2 hours

Terrain

Mostly waymarked – blue arrows on white-topped posts (not between points 11 and 12). Grass paths, seats, tree roots, gates, stiles. May be muddy in wet weather. Suitable footwear recommended.

Total steps: 12

Start point: Blickling main car park, grid ref: TG178286

1. From Blickling main car park, facing the visitor centre, go round the left-hand side of the building and follow the path down to the lane.
2. Cross the lane and turn right past the Buckinghamshire Arms, then turn left and walk past the front of the main house driveway.
3. Now continuing on, visit the Church of St Andrew ahead.
4. Cross the road (with care) and follow the minor road opposite (signposted Weaver's Way), towards Silvergate. At the end of the fence, after 100yd (91m) or so, you can enter the wood on the right hand side and have a look at the 18th-century ice house. Returning to the road, turn right until reaching a way marker with an orange arrow (with stile) on the right hand side.
5. Cross the stile and walk through the small woodland where there is a second stile to be crossed. Continue across the meadow (Pond Meadow), where there is yet another stile to be navigated. The brick building in front of you once housed a pump which fed water to the house during the Second World War. Cross the 'Carr' (just past the pump house), and turn left into the field.
6. Follow the path along the field margin until you exit onto the lane, opposite Hall Farm. Turn right along the lane for 110yd (100m) or so and look for a way-marker on the left. Turn left up the track, go past a cottage and, just before reaching the main road, turn left and follow the path that runs alongside the road and Hercules Wood.
7. At the end of this path, turn right and cross the busy road with care. Head towards the kissing gate ahead. Just before reaching the gate, turn left into Long Plantation and

follow the path, which can be muddy.

8. After a short walk you will arrive at the Tower (on your right).
9. After leaving the Tower, continue along the waymarked path until almost reaching the road. Ignoring the path directly ahead, turn sharp right and continue along the edge of Buck's Common woodland until reaching a gate at its end. Go through the gate and continue across Hyde Park (note that cattle freely graze this area) until reaching another section of woodland in the distance and another gate. Go through the gate and immediately turn right. The path now continues downhill alongside Bunker's Hill Plantation towards Great Wood.
10. When reaching the bottom of the hill, turn right and follow the edge of Great Wood uphill until reaching the second seat on the left. Now turn left and follow the path until reaching an open area with the Mausoleum to your left.
11. After visiting the Mausoleum head back along the edge of the woodland and take the 2nd path on the left. Follow the path, bearing right further on, and head towards, then follow, the edge of the arable field in front of you. Take in the extensive views down to the River Bure and beyond, until you reach a small area of woodland known as the Beeches.
12. After entering the woodland, turn immediately right. Leaving the Beeches behind you, head downhill, watching out for grazing animals until you reach the park gates at the bottom. Exit through the small gate and after 27yd (25m) turn left. The entrance to the main car park will be on your right, marking the end of your walk. The visitor centre and toilets are here and the café, restaurant and shops beckon, not forgetting Blickling Hall itself.

End point: Blickling main car park, grid reference: TG178286
