

Stay a little longer in...

Wroxham



walking
cycling
canoeing
nature



visiteastofengland.com/wroxham

Welcome...

Welcome to the Broads and Wroxham

Look across the landscape and see the dark sails of a wherry glide by as if sailing through fields. It's a sight unique to the Broads, once very familiar in the days when wherries transported goods on the River Bure. When the arrival of the railways in 1844 made the wherries redundant, some skippers turned to taking passengers on the Broads instead.

Travel slowly through this peaceful land of open skies, open water and rare wildlife and you might be rewarded with a glimpse of an otter, water vole or kingfisher, or a marsh harrier flying overhead.

Wroxham is a hub of activity as it has been for centuries. Get a sense of history; take a closer look at the town's hump-backed bridge to see its original brickwork from 1619, then visit St Mary's Church to admire the magnificent Norman south doorway. Back in the present see pleasure boats on the broad, choose from places to eat and drink and find everything you could possibly need in Roys of Wroxham, the 'largest village store in the world'.



Discover

The Broads is part of the family of national parks and is of international importance. Stay a little longer and give yourself time to get to know Wroxham and the surrounding magical wetland landscape. Explore on foot or by bike, taste the local produce, and see for yourself what makes this place so special.

"People are often surprised by the size of the wherries, compared with the narrow waterways of the Broads, and even more surprised when we sail down what looks like a dead end and still manage to turn around. Sailing on a wherry is a link with history and a perfect way to get an armchair view of wildlife."

Peter Bower, Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust

6
Masses of candelabra primulas are a wonderful sight in spring at Fairhaven Gardens and in summer there are boat trips on the private broad. The lovely woodland and water gardens are managed for conservation and sustainability.

Bring your bike on the Bure Valley Railway and cycle the traffic-free Bure Valley Path.

Take a river trip with Broads Tours or hire a boat for a day.



Explore the Bure Valley

Pack a picnic and take a train ride on the narrow gauge **Bure Valley Railway**, then return on foot on the **Bure Valley Path**. Go to the end of the line at **Aylsham** and return through attractive villages and countryside or, if the full nine miles is too long, hop off at **Coltishall** for a shorter walk back.

4 The **Bure Valley Railway** is adjacent to the main Bittern Line station. Trains run daily from April to October and some weekends and Bank Holidays outside these times.

5 At one time **Coltishall** had a thriving boat and wherry building industry and you'll see many large houses built at this time of prosperity. This is the furthest point for boats as the River Bure narrows beyond the village and is no longer navigable. Take a look at the 13th century church with its unusual thatched roof. Cross the river to Horstead for delicious food from top quality local produce at the award-winning Recruiting Sergeant.

Hire a bike or bring your own on the train to enjoy the Broads from a different viewpoint ...

Here are suggestions for places you might see on a ten-mile bike ride. Places are numbered on the map below to help you create your tour. Please check ferry times at the tourist information centre and book your crossing in advance. Leave the bike and explore on foot to see even more.

1 Watch the boats on Wroxham Broad and maybe see the fine sight of a wherry in full sail. Head south on the B1140 then turn left on the road to Woodbastwick. Continue until you reach a car park for Salhouse Broad.

2 Leave bikes in the car park and walk to Salhouse Broad in its woodland setting. A grassy bank above the sandy beach is a great place to spot wildfowl and if you can't tell a widgeon from a warbler, information boards will help you work out what's what.

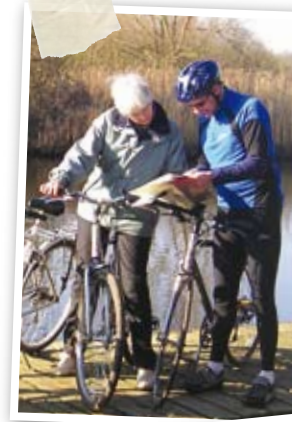
3 Stop at the pub for a pint of the local Woodfordes ale at Woodbastwick and explore this attractive village with its village green, thatched well house, cottages and pretty, thatched church then walk the trail to Woodbastwick Fen & Marshes.

4 In summer, water lilies are a beautiful sight on the clear, clean waters of Cockshoot Broad. Walk along the boarded walkway to the bird hide for a close look at the birds on the water.

5 Horning Ferry takes people and bikes across the river in summer, allowing you to cycle through this pretty village, cross the main road and return to Wroxham choosing a route along the quieter back roads and maybe making a detour to visit an attraction along the way.

6 Wroxham Barns is a great place to re-fuel with tea and delicious cake made with flour from a Norfolk mill, and you'll find a treasure trove of local crafts and produce too.

Key: ● cycling route ● points of interest ● points of interest located outside of the map



Places nearby

- 6 Fairhaven Garden at South Walsham is five miles south east of Wroxham, just off the map beyond Ranworth.
- 8 Norton's Farm Shop at Frettenham is four miles west of Wroxham off the B1354.

Britain's largest butterfly, the Swallowtail, lives only in the Broads.



Taste Uncle Stuart's beer brewed at Wroxham Barns

Places to visit along the way

Make a detour. These attractions are just a few minutes from the cycle route.

- 1 Get hands-on at the **Royal Air Force Air Defence Radar Museum** and find out the secrets of air defence from the 1930s to the present day.
- 2 At **BeWILDerwood**, discover a magical land with treehouses, zip wires and mysterious marsh walks.
- 3 Divert to **Hoveton Hall Gardens** and enjoy the colours and scents of this lovely place.

The Broads is a magical wetland of international importance and is a great habitat for birds and wildlife.

The **Norfolk Hawker** dragonfly is resident in the Broads but rarely seen elsewhere. Look for it in early summer.

The **marsh harrier** lives in the marshes and large reed beds of the Broads.

Frequently seen swimming on the water, the **great crested grebe** has an elaborate breeding display in spring.

The greenish-yellow **siskin** is a visitor in autumn and winter when it feeds on alders.

The **redpoll** is attracted to the large open waters of the Broads in autumn and winter.

Indulge

At Broad House Hotel expect the best of modern British cooking, with top quality seasonal produce from Norfolk food producers.



Afloat

The only way to reach the beautiful woodland nature trail at the edge of Hoveton Great Broad is by boat. Fortunately you can book a water taxi from Salhouse Broad. Alternatively, hire a canoe here and explore the waters of Salhouse Broad or paddle to Ranworth Broad and stay for lunch and a look around the floating Visitor Centre.



Hire a traditional wooden yacht from Hunters Yard. No engines or electricity - just oil lamps and superb sailing ability!



Green Boating

Once a year, Salhouse Broad becomes a showcase for boats of all shapes and sizes with one thing in common - all are designed to be environmentally friendly. Try out biofuel-powered, electric and sailing boats, at the Annual Broads Green Boat Show, as well as boats propelled by rowing, paddling and pedalling. Get there by electric water taxi from Wroxham.

Fascinating past, innovative future

There is a tremendous heritage of boat building in the Norfolk Broads. These waterways were the birthplace of hire boating in the late 19th century, and Broads boat designs and expertise were exported to many other countries opening their waterways to recreational boating.

Now in the 21st century, the Anglia Boatbuilders' Association is continuing this revolution in developing craft using sustainable

and environmentally friendly technology. Through the use of electric propulsion, novel materials and non-fossil fuels, their Eco-Boat will help keep the region at the forefront of innovation for a low-carbon world.

Peter Howe, Anglia Boatbuilders' Association

Salhouse church

Visit eccentric Salhouse church with its short, unfinished tower. Look for the unusual hourglass holder decorated with lily-shaped flowers and the carved head of the Green Man.



Past times

The unique Broads landscape was made by people in medieval times cutting peat for fuel. Rising sea levels flooded the peat diggings, creating freshwater lakes. Later, channels were dug to connect the lakes and the river. People have managed the land for centuries, draining marshes for farming, building flood defences and using reed and sedge from the fens and marshes for thatching.



Staying green

"Everything we do at the Moorhen B&B is based on the concept of being environmentally friendly. For example, we grow our own fruit and vegetables so that in summer the fruit salad on the breakfast table is all our own produce, even melons, grown in the greenhouse. It's not difficult! Breakfasts are locally sourced. Yesterday we served kidneys of lambs grazed on the marshes by the River Thurne."

We arrange 3 and 4 day canoe trips, starting people off at the head of the river where it's quiet and free from sailing boats and cruisers. It's canoeing for softies! We suggest the best places to eat and move the luggage so all our guests have to do is paddle. We can arrange a day's canoeing for people arriving at Wroxham station. They can pick up a map and canoe to Horning and either stay the night or we will take them back at the end of the day."

David Batley, The Moorhen B&B

Taste...
see... do...



2 BeWILDerwood
Horning Road, Hoveton
NR12 8JW
01603 783900
www.bewilderwood.co.uk
WILD family fun and adventure. Tree houses, zip wires, Crocklebogs and yummy food.

4 Bure Valley Railway
Wroxham Station
01263 733858
www.bvrr.co.uk

6 Fairhaven Garden
School Road, South Walsham NR13 6DZ
01603 270449
www.fairhavengarden.co.uk



7 Fineway Leisure
The Rhond, Hoveton,
Norwich, NR12 8UE
01603 782309
www.finewayleisure.co.uk
Hire an electric boat for an hour or a day. Also heated diesel boats are available all year.

3 Hoveton Hall Gardens
Near Wroxham,
Norwich, NR12 8RJ
01603 782558
www.hovetonhallgardens.co.uk
Woodland and formal gardens with rhododendrons and azaleas. The tea room serves food made from garden produce.



8 Norton's Farm Shop
Beck Farm, Off Pound Hill,
Frettenham, NR12 7NF
01603 891692
www.nortonsdairy.co.uk
Norfolk butter, milk, beef from our farm, local vegetables, bread, meat and more. Café and farm trail.

1 RAF Air Defence Radar Museum
RRH Neatishead,
Norwich, NR12 8YB
01692 631485
www.radarmuseum.co.uk
Find out about air defence and radar history from 1935 to 2004 in the original buildings.



Please check attraction opening times before you visit and remember some are closed in winter.

9 Norfolk Broads Direct

The Bridge, Wroxham,
NR12 8RX
01603 782207
www.broads.co.uk
We operate high quality hire cruisers and have invested in the development of the environmentally friendly low-wash hull. Waterside holiday homes available, also Broads Tours river trips and day boat hire.





6 Wroxham Barns
Tunstead Road, Hoveton,
NR12 8QU
01603 783762

www.wroxhambarns.co.uk
Open daily 10-5, local
craftsmen, apple shop,
brewery, LeGrice Roses,
ladies fashions, gifts for
all ages, fudge shop, food
store, Junior Farm, 18-hole
mini golf course, funfair,
restaurant, monthly
Farmers' Market.

Broadland Food Directory
Check out local growers,
producers, retailers and
places to eat and drink
committed to using fresh
local produce.
01263 733903 or
download a copy at
www.visitbroadland.co.uk

CANOEING
Banks Boats & Canoe Hire
01692 582457
Canoe, kayak and day boat
hire from Wayford Bridge.

Barnes Brinkcraft
01603 782625
Canoe hire and day boats.

The Canoe Man
01603 499177
Day hire, guided tours and
canoe trails.

Salhouse Broad
077951 45475
Canoes on Salhouse Broad
and beyond.



2 Broadland Cycle Hire
at BeWILDerwood,
NR12 8JW
07887 480 331
www.norfolkbroads
cycling.co.uk

FERRY
Horning Ferry
01603 756097
Foot ferry from
Woodbastwick to Horning,
carries cycles.

SAILING
Green Boat Show
www.broadsgreen
boatshow.co.uk

**Norfolk Broads Yachting
Company**
01692 631330
Hire a modern or historic
sailing yacht or a wherry.

Ludham Bridge Boatyard
01692 631011
Sailing boat hire.

Hunter's Yard
01692 678263
Traditional wooden sailing
yachts for a day or a short
break.

**Wherry Yacht Charter
Charitable Trust**
www.wherryyacht
charter.org
Charter a restored wherry
from 2011.

Go by bus

Buses run from Wroxham
to the attractions in this
guide. Please ask at the
tourist information centre
or at your accommodation
for bus times, or visit
traveline.org.uk

The bus service from
Wroxham to Fairhaven
Garden Trust is indirect and
is not recommended.



*Chef Chris Hyde from the
award-winning Wroxham Barns
restaurant explains: "Our menu
is always developing. Food must
be easy to prepare, tasty,
pleasing on the eye and
delivered to the table hot and
without delay. Using fresh
seasonal local ingredients is a
key part of the process."*



10 Broad House Hotel
★★★ Gold Award
The Avenue, Wroxham,
NR12 8TS
01603 783567
www.broadhousehotel.co.uk
Escape to this beautiful
16th century country house
set in secluded parkland
on the edge of Wroxham
Broad. Dine on fresh Norfolk
produce and seasonal fruit
and vegetables from the
garden.



**12 The Moorhen Bed
and Breakfast**
★★★ Silver Award
45 Lower Street,
Horning, NR12 8AA
01692 631444
www.themoorhen
horning.co.uk
Four lovely rooms in the
picturesque village of
Horning.



**11 Coach House
Bed and Breakfast**
★★★★ Silver Award
96 Norwich Road,
Wroxham, NR12 8RY
01603 784376
www.coachhouse
wroxham.co.uk
18th century converted
stables has three double
rooms and serves local
produce.



**13 The Vineries
Bed and Breakfast**
★★★★★
72 Stalham Road,
Hoveton, NR12 8DU
01603 782514
www.thevineries.com
Bedroom with ensuite and
own living room, perfect for
longer breaks. Breakfasts
made with local produce.

Barn Court, Rackheath
★★★★★
01603 782536



**Green Haven Lodge,
Rackheath**
★★★★★
01603 721418



**Old Rectory Hotel,
Crostwick**
★★★
01603 738513

**Wroxham Park Lodge,
Wroxham**
★★★★★
01603 782991

SELF CATERING

**Glebe Farm Cottages,
Frettenham**
★★★★★
01603 897641



Heron's Cottage, Irstead
★★★★★
01692 630944



**King Line Holiday
Cottages, Horning**
★★★★★ & ★★★★★ star
01692 630297

*Establishments in this guide
share the values of quality and
sustainability. All accommodation
is in the visitBritain or AA quality
assessment scheme with a 1-5 star
rating. The more stars, the higher
level of quality. Silver or gold
awards indicate exceptional quality.*

These establishments provide
services to support the local
area and wider environment.

These places provide facilities
for cyclists and walkers.

These attractions have been
assessed for quality.



All the other things that might help...



Win a hamper of local produce

Simply go to visiteastofengland.com/prize to receive other guides in this series and enter the prize draw at the same time. Two winners will be drawn every three months up to December 2012.

Recycle it!

If you have found this guide useful, please return it after use to the tourist information centre or other outlet or pass it on to a friend. Find this and other similar guides online at visiteastofengland.com and visitnorfolk.co.uk

Responsible tourism

This is one of a series of guides to rural areas in the East of England. It encourages visitors to be more responsible by suggesting things to do in the immediate area on foot or by bike and by promoting local produce and responsible tourism businesses.

Published by East of England Tourism © 2010.

visiteastofengland.com



The Tourist Information Centre at Station Road, Hoveton can help with all the details to make your visit a success. 01603 756097.

For more information about Wroxham and the Broads, visit enjoythebroads2010.com or broads-authority.gov.uk

Cycling

For more ideas for cycle routes in the area, download routes at thebroadsbybike.org.uk
For more cycling routes visit sustrans.org.uk

Walking & Cycling

Visit bitternline.com for ideas of walks and bike rides from stations along the Bittern Line. For a copy of Walking & Cycling in Broadland go to visitbroadland.co.uk

Train

Wroxham is six miles from Norwich, on the Bittern Line from Norwich to Cromer. All Bittern Line trains have special racks for at least four bikes. Bikes are carried free subject to space available. Telephone 0845 600 7245 or visit nationalexpress.com or bitternline.com

The Bure Valley Railway runs from Wroxham to Aylsham. Bikes are welcome for a small charge and subject to space. Telephone 01263 733858 or visit bvrw.co.uk.

Bus

For timetables contact Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or visit traveline.org.uk

There are six bus stops in Wroxham with good local links.



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.



This project is supported under the Rural Development Programme for England by EEDA, Defra and the EU.



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