



# In Search of the River



**4.5 miles**

## Walk Information

**Start point:** St. Nicholas Church, Lynn Road, Gayton, Norfolk, PE32 1PF

**Grid ref.:** TF 730193

**Map:** Ordnance Survey – Explorer 250

**Walking time:** 2 hours

## Walk Summary

Flowing through the heart of the **Gaywood Valley Living Landscape** is a beautiful chalk river, one of only around 200 found in the world. This walk takes you close to the river's source where the stream is crystal clear. Take the opportunity to stop and take in the river's tranquillity and beauty, you never know you may spot a kingfisher.

### Please note:

- Dogs are welcome on this walking route but should at all times be kept on a lead and under close control.
- At times this walk can be very muddy, especially along Elder Lane.
- Extreme care should be taken on the sections of the walk which involves walking along roads.



# Walk Notes

**1** With your back to the entrance of the church walk left along the pavement. Continue past Gayton Social Club on your right and the school on your left.

**Gayton** lies on the boundary of two very different geological deposits; **chalk** to the east and **gault clay** to the west. Running west to east through the parish is a deposit of **riverine gravels** and **loam**. Where the chalk meets the gault there are a number of **springs**. These geological deposits are important because they seem to have influenced the location of settlement in the parish since the **Palaeolithic period**.

**2** Eventually on your right you will see Jubilee Hall Lane. Cross over the road and walk down this lane which turns into a footpath. When you reach a footpath T-junction bear left then right and continue along the field edge.

**3** When you reach the road cross over it and continue straight ahead on the footpath, following the field edge.

**4** The footpath leads you into woodland and over a bridge that crosses the Gaywood River, out onto arable land. Go forward, the footpath bears slightly left. Keep to the footpath as it winds between arable fields (eventually you will see a ditch to your right). As the path bears sharply left you will see a gap between the two ditches on your right, take this path and continue straight ahead with the hedgerow on your right.

The **Gaywood river** is one of only around 200 chalk rivers in the world. This 6.7mile river flows into the **River Ouse** at King's Lynn. At one point the river actually flows under the town.

**5** At the end of the hedgerow turn right onto a wide (sometimes muddy) track. Keep on this path as it eventually leads onto Elder Lane.

**6** When you reach the main road, turn right (this is a busy road so take extreme care at this point). As the road bears to the right continue straight down Broad Drive.

Look and listen out for **yellowhammers** and **skylarks** as you walk by the fields. You may also be lucky enough to spot a **brown hare**.

**7** When you reach Tithe Farm continue to follow the road as it bears sharply to the right.

**The Freebridge and Lynn Workhouse** was built in **1836** at a cost of £5,146 and housed 150 inmates.

**8** Eventually you will see a road on your right, take this.

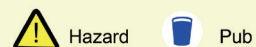
**9** When you reach the B1153 cross over and continue along Well Hall Lane.

**10** Just after the large house, as the road bears right, you will see a footpath on the left, take this path.

**11** Eventually the path leads you onto an unmade road, turn left then right onto Lime Kiln Road and back to the start point.



## Key



Public right of way (walk route)

Public road (walk route)

# Putting wildlife on the map

Help us protect the wildlife of the Gaywood Valley Living Landscape by telling us what you see whilst you are on this walk. Wildlife records are really important as they help us to build a picture of what is out there. We would love to know about the animals and plants you spot whilst you are on this walk.

## To submit your wildlife sightings for this walk:

**Email:** [wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk). Tell us what you saw, when you saw it and where you saw it.

**Phone Norfolk Wildlife Trust:** 01603 598333

**Submit your sightings online:** visit [www.wild-walks.org.uk](http://www.wild-walks.org.uk)

## Wildlife to look out for:



Yellowhammer

☐

Skylark

☐

Red admiral

☐

Brown hare

☐

Roe deer

☐

Grey partridge

☐

Common poppy

☐

Kingfisher

☐

## Wildwalks

### Take a Wildwalk today and help put Norfolk's wildlife on the map.

By visiting [www.wild-walks.org.uk](http://www.wild-walks.org.uk) you can map your favourite walk and tick off the plants and animals you see along the way, helping us build a picture of where wildlife is found and how nature changes.

This walk was produced by Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT). A great deal of care has gone into the production of this walk leaflet, but NWT cannot accept any responsibility for the misinterpretation of route descriptions nor for any accidents resulting from this walk.