



giving  
nature  
a home

**Accessibility Guide for Surlingham Church Marsh**

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<https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/surlingham-church-marsh/>



## Welcome

This small nature reserve is a great place for marshland bird watching on a circular walk around reedbeds, fens and pools. In spring and summer, marsh harriers, kingfishers and warblers can be seen, while wildflowers provide a riot of colour. The site floods regularly in winter, attracting a variety of waterbirds.

Read more at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/surlingham-chur...>

## At a Glance

### Level Access

- The hide entrance has level access.

### Access with steps

- There are steps from the trail to:
  - Non RSPB boardwalk used to complete the circuit

## Getting here

Surlingham Church Marsh

Church Lane

Surlingham

NR14 7DF

### *Travel by public transport*

- You can get to Surlingham Church Marsh by bus.

- The nearest bus stop is Surlingham Pond. The bus stop is 0.6 miles / 1.0 km from Surlingham Church Marsh.
- Konectbus Service 85 leaves from Norwich Bus Station several times a day Monday to Saturday - [www.konectbus.co.uk/Timetables and Services](http://www.konectbus.co.uk/Timetables%20and%20Services). The stop is listed as 'Surlingham Pond'.

Arriving from Norwich, continue in the same direction on School Lane. There is pavement for the first 40m of the route which uses country lanes. The lane initially slopes gently downhill and is cambered in parts. After 460m (at the bottom of the hill) turn left on Bramerton Road uphill for 335m and take the turning for Church Lane on the right, signposted 'Surlingham Church'. The church gate is 100m ahead, there is seating in the church porch. The path to the reserve trail starts 60m past the church.

#### *Travel by taxi*

- You can get a taxi with A2B by calling 01603 552324. The taxi company has a wheelchair accessible vehicle.
- You can get a taxi with Courtesy Taxis by calling 01603 446644. The taxi company has a wheelchair accessible vehicle.

#### *Parking*

- There is a drop-off point at the main entrance. The drop-off point has a dropped kerb.
- There is no official rspb car park for this reserve, but parking may be found nearby in the layby opposite the

church, before accessing the start of the trails. However, the surface is bare earth and potholed and uneven in places.



Layby surface

## Arrival

### *Path to main entrance*

- From the street to the main entrance, there is level access.
- The path is 500mm wide, or more.
- The path is sloped.

### *Main entrance*

- The main entrance has level access.
- There is a narrow sloping path to the start of the rspb managed part of the trail. The path is 130m long and uneven with a layer of leaf litter and twigs on the surface in winter. The path is marked by a green 'No Cycling' sign on a post where the main track bears right in front of a cottage.



path at entrance to the reserve



Non- rspb path showing slope and trail surface



Sign at start of path



## Getting around outside

### *Designated Walking Trail*

#### *Surlingham Church Marsh*

- The trail is 2125metres long. There is a stile and footbridge at the Surlingham Ferry end of the circuit. There are also some non RSPB boardwalks which are currently in a hazardous condition. The trail is sloped. The trail has seats. There is a bird hide along the trail.
- The rspb trail is accessed via the narrow path described above and forms a loop, returning to the parking area. The return section is not RSPB managed. The trail is subject to regular flooding due to its low lying position and can be very muddy, . The trail is uneven and has a stile and footbridge at one end. There are 2 seating oppportunities, a bench at 540m and the Surlingham Shelter at 1020m. This is an open fronted viewing shelter, with no doors or windows. It provides a sheltered place to enjoy the broad and reedbed. The last section of the loop is on a rutted farm road for approx. 800m.



Surlingham Shelter, showing open fronted viewing facility



general path conditions during summer



Raised hard path 630mm wide, situated at lowest point of the trails prone to flooding



Non-rspb stile





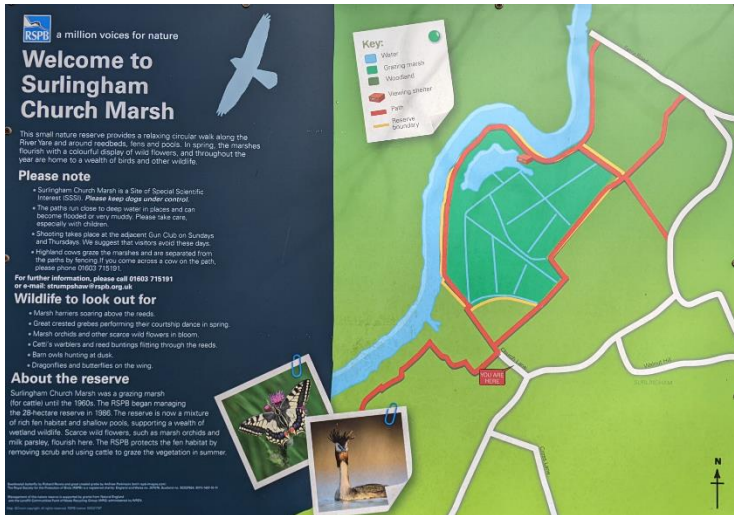
Non-rspb bridge 620mm wide currently



Path from road to riverbank path showing slope



road slope towards start of trail



## Reserve trail map



## Farm track on return loop

### *Surlingham Shelter*

- At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1200.00mm wide.

### *Non RSPB boardwalk used to complete the circuit*

- From the RSPB trail to the area, there are 2 steps.
- The non-RSPB boardwalk is accessed via the stile, pictured above. The boardwalk is currently flood-damaged and in hazardous condition. Some supports have detached from

the boardwalk, leaving it extremely uneven. The boardwalk is due to be replaced and this guide will be updated when the work is completed.



Non RSPB Boardwalk



Non RSPB Boardwalk

## **Customer care support**

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Guide last updated: 26 February 2024