

Chedgrave Access Audit



An obstruction free accessible footpath in the heart of the Broads National Park. This walk can be altered and extended depending on your ability.

The walk runs from Chedgrave church down to the river Chet and then along the river. This is a great walk for bird watching and for boat watching as Loddon mooring is a busy spot.

A wonderful walk in a beautiful part of the world.

Free car parking available and local facilities are available locally support your visit in Chedgrave and Loddon.

Picnic benches and seating are available on the walk

Walk is linear but can be extended to make into a circular route. The circular route is **not** fully accessible. The attached map shows differences in accessibility of the route.

Car parking and access

Access to car park is off Hardley Road Car park for the start of the route

Off street parking on dedicated car park

Seating and church access directly from the car park

Post code NR14 6NF



Church walk

This is a 100 metre walk and is flat throughout

Footpath surface is gravel

Seating available within churchyard and adjacent to the car park and within the recreation area



Access via Hardley Road to Pitts Lane

Access from car park to Hardley Road - gravel surface. Slope is 1.18

Hardley Road has a pavement throughout

Pavement made up tarmac surface which is 1.2 metres in width.



Pitts Lane access

Pitts lane does not have a pavement so access is on road surface

Road surface made of tarmac. Solid and stable throughout

Cross fall on path is less than 3 percent. Care is advised on this section of path as it is shared with local residents for access to their homes and businesses.

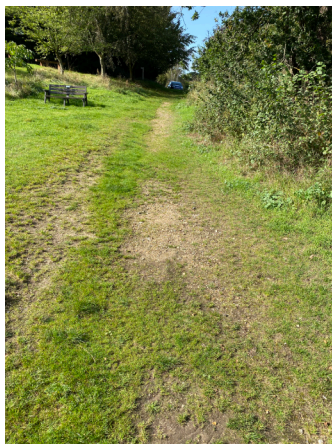
Route is over 2 metres wide throughout



Access via off road section through playground

Access is gained directly from car park. Surface is natural grass so accessibility will alter depending on the season. This can be avoided by following the Hardley Road section of the route

Once through the recreation ground follow Pitts Lane.



Chedgrave accessible footpath

Surface is flat, even and solid throughout. Width is 1.2m to 1m throughout. Minimal cross fall throughout

Surface is granite chip throughout

Cross fall less than 2% throughout



Resting points

Benches and seating at the start of the walk, in the recreation ground and at the church.

Bench on walk over looking the River Chet. 700 metres from start



Broads authority 24 hour mooring and Chedgrave common



The accessible section of the walk terminates at the Broads Authority 24 hour mooring.

From here there is a clear view of both the river Chet and the Chedgrave Common.

Woodpeckers can be heard in the surrounding woodlands

What can I expect on this walk?



Easy access to the accessible section of the route.

Free car parking at All Saints Church car park.

Seating and picnic benches available in the recreation area, the church and on the riverside walk. This route offers beautiful access to the countryside throughout the whole year.

What can I expect to see?

One of the few fully accessible routes in the Broads National Park. Herons, kingfishers, otters, boats, fishermen, willows, grazing cattle, barn owls, paddle boarders and canoeists are a common site.

Marsh harriers and barn owls can be seen and are local nesting birds to the area.

What can I hear?

Wind in the trees, bird song, cattle, crunch of your shoes on the surface, boats sailing locally. Often in the morning the sense of peace and tranquility.

What facilities are there?

Full range of local facilities can be accessed in Loddon and Chedgrave.

Extending the walk

The walk can be extended to create a circular route but this section is not fully accessible.

Additional information is provided within this booklet

With the additional section to make this a circular walk the total distance is 2.5km

How can I get there?

Bus route X2 / X22 / X21

Chedgrave is off the A146 and is roughly 30 minutes from Norwich

Map of the route

The green section is fully accessible and has been access tested with the access report within the document.

The red line has not been tested as this would not meet criteria but images have been attached to allow users to make their own choice. Please note conditions will change seasonally.

The purple line shows the road section of a circular route. Please note there is **no footpath on this section of the route**



Chedgrave sits within the Broads National Park and this walk takes in some of the most iconic landscapes within the protected landscape.

A unique opportunity to walk alongside a river and take in the sights and sounds of a busy river environment and local wildlife

Chedgrave common



The gates at Chedgrave common are accessible if on foot.

The route across the common at this point is mowed and has a mesh sub surface in place to support better access. The surface is a grass sward and is over 1 metre wide. This section of the route is less than 200 metres in length

The gates are opened by a latch system which requires lifting the latch to gain access.



Chedgrave common is a undulating mix of wet, marshy ground, situated on peat soils and regularly inundated with water either from the rivers or groundwater sources.

They are home to a wide range of wetland plants, many of which are rare, and many associated insects, birds and mammals such as the rare swallowtail butterfly, the marsh harrier and the water vole.

Grazing provides a method of maintaining the ecology of the common on a large scale through natural management techniques.

Extending the walk to make a circular route



This section of the route has got vehicular access to the cottages so there may be vehicles accessing this section of the route.

The path itself is over 2 metres wide throughout and although pot holed it does provide a flat level surface where there has been no vehicle damage to the path

The accessibility of this section of the route changes with the seasons.



This road section is over 2 metres wide throughout.

The surface is flat, level and solid and has a tarmac surface throughout. It has a cross fall of less than 3% so is accessible.

There are passing places for vehicles although there is no footpath in place along this section of the route

If using this section of the route please be mindful of local traffic

Local Folklore

The problem facing women in the 18th century was to find a husband so women would consult the Chedgrave Witch, a wise woman in Norfolk in the early 1800s

In order to gain a husband they needed to sell the witch a year of their life and solve the riddle or spell uttered by the witch.

Mother Chergrave of Loddon admitted she practiced magic and not only that, she made a living from doing so. She created charms for those that visited her to cure or procure, mend or break, she read palms and stars and created herbal remedies from hedgerow herbs.

This is her spell for finding a husband;

“To gain a husband, name known or unknown,

Make your choice on a graveyard stone.

Quarter-day’s night if there fare a moon,

Pass thro’ the church gate right alone;

Twist three crosses from graveyard bits,

Place them straight in your finger slits,

Over the grave hold a steady hand,

One is yourself and your husband one,

And the middle one need be named of none.

If they both on the middle cross have crossed,

His name you win, and a year you’ve lost

For he who lies in the namesake mould

His soul has sold – or he would have sold,

And you give a year which the dead may use,

Your last year of earth-life that you lose.”

