

Walton-on-the-Naze

Distance: 2 and 5 miles

Time: 1 or 3 hours

A walk around the Naze with its adjacent nature reserve

Start at the car park in Mill Lane and on into High Street, then third left into North Street. Continue to the end of the road and over a paved area, bear left to join a footpath alongside the sea wall. Proceed along the footpath beyond the cottages, Walton Primary School and Bath House Meadow and skirt a caravan site. To the left is Sole Creek that leads to Walton Channel. The Marshes at this point are an important landfall for migratory birds. Climb over a stile and continue along the path near Foundry Dock. For those wishing to take the short walk, turn right along Foundry Lane and turn left after 100 yards onto an old pathway passing a wildfowler's pond. To the right, after 200 yards along a field edge, the path emerges onto Hall Lane. From there it is a short walk back to Mill Lane.

The longer walk continues past a jetty and from here you can see Naze Tower and Walton Marina. After rounding the headland, you can see Harwich and Felixstowe docks. The footpath now bears right around The Naze and after a mile, passes an enclosed nature reserve administered by the Essex Naturalist Trust. At the end of the headland, the path divides into several paths leading up to the Naze Tower. Here there is a café and toilets nearby. The walk continues beyond the car park and onto a private access road which then leads to Old Hall Lane with a footpath sign directing you left onto a path between high hedges leading to Hipkin's car park. At the end, you will find a shelter and play area with picnic tables and toilets. Cross the play area into East Terrace where it is now a short walk to Mill Lane.

