

Introduction



The area around Shotesham in Norfolk is very fortunate to have a large number of footpaths from the famous Boudicca Way that runs from Diss to Norwich, to Public Footpaths, Parish Walks and a Bridleway that provide a wonderful amenity for walkers. Whether you are a serious rambler, or dog walker or like an occasional stroll, a glance at the Ordnance Survey map for this area will reveal a high density of footpaths, possibly more than anywhere else in Norfolk.

In order to get the most out of them, it helps to know roughly where they go and how to get back to where you started. The purpose of this booklet is to assist you with just that. This is not an exhaustive description of the route of every footpath in Shotesham, all 22 of them plus a bridleway, but to give you choice from a number of circular walks, trying to keep road walking to a minimum, not always completely successfully and pointing out what you may expect to see on the way. The footpath numbering is from Norfolk County Council's parish footpath maps.

The countryside around Shotesham is generally flat with a little undulation from the glacial valley, making for easy walking. The scenery comprises fields and woods, streams, ponds and meadows. Typical crops are cereals, hay, beet, maize, oil seed rape and broad beans. There are a few cattle and sheep from time to time. This is shooting country and in many places birds are being reared, so dogs should be kept under close control near to pheasant rearing areas.

Local farmers also value the network of footpaths, many of which are cross-field paths and do a great deal to keep them in good condition.

In this booklet Explorer UK Grid References are used to indicate the start of each walk. Approximate distance and durations for an average walker are also given. Web references have been used for points of interest such as churches and are listed at the end of each section. All the walks can be varied to make them longer or in some cases shorter, according to taste. A narrative of what you might expect to see on the way accompanies each walk. For a more detailed heritage history of Shotesham, follow the link.ⁱ

ⁱ [http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/record-details?TNF1597-Shotesham-\(Parish-Summary\)](http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/record-details?TNF1597-Shotesham-(Parish-Summary))