

Blickling to Calthorpe, circular walk

Walk 15

Distance - 7.5 miles (12km) **Time:** 2 hours 45 mins - 3 hours 15 mins **Map** Landranger 133: Explorer 25

A 7.5 mile walk visiting villages around the Blickling Estate seeing various points of interest on the way including the Mausoleum, Blickling Great Wood, the Holiday Cottage known as the Tower and Blickling Mill.

Start/car parking - Blickling main car park **TG176285** (there is a parking fee)

Refreshments - The main car park Muddy Boots café, The Stables Restaurant adjoining Blickling Hall, the farmyard café or the Buckinghamshire Arms – check websites for opening times.

Note: It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made. Thank you for your help. *Happy walking!*

WALK

- 1** From the main Blickling car park, take the gravelled path passing the shop, toilets and Visitor Centre on your right. Pass through the wooden rails and turn left on to the drive marked “Park and lake”.
- 2** Turn right at the “tree seat” following Weavers’ Way and pass through the gates to the park. Take the gravelled track straight ahead of you and as this rises, you will have views over the lake to your right.
- 3** Pass through a set of gates and follow the Weavers Way to the right, which soon passes around the end of the lake. Just before some gates, turn left and follow a path through woodland to a car park and exit onto a lane.

4 Turn right and after 225 metres pass through a kissing gate on the left to follow Weavers’ Way across a meadow. Cross a wooden foot bridge and then the “Chinese” bridge and turn right to follow the River Bure to another kissing gate.

5 From here the path follows a low causeway, crossing a wooden foot bridge and exits the meadow via a kissing gate. Follow the hedged track and pass houses on either side. On reaching the lane turn left.

6 After 215 metres turn right onto a track (known as Beech Lane) still following Weavers’ Way. Presently Weavers’ Way leaves the track on the left hand side via a public footpath which runs beside a fenced field.

7 At the end of the path turn right onto a lane and then immediately left and follow the lane to Erpingham village. Before reaching the Village you will pass the site of an old mill. Erpingham was one of the very few places in Norfolk to have both a watermill and a windmill on the same site.

8 At the T-junction in the village turn left, leave Weavers’ Way and follow The Street to Calthorpe. As the road bears right continue straight on (signed to Wolterton). Pass the church (Our Lady and St Margaret) on the left and just after, at the crossroads, turn left.

9 Follow the lane, going down the hill (the lane drops well below the level of the surrounding fields) and take the lane on the right. Follow this lane as it zig-zags between arable fields.

10 Continue following the lane, passing a restricted byway on the right. After a while the lane ends at a track and a farm drive signed as a public footpath. Take the track straight ahead, crossing the footbridge over the River Bure and when you meet the road turn right.

11 Pass Blickling Mill on your right and 100 metres later turn left into Blickling Great Wood, cross a stile and follow the path through the woods. Bluebells are plentiful in Spring.

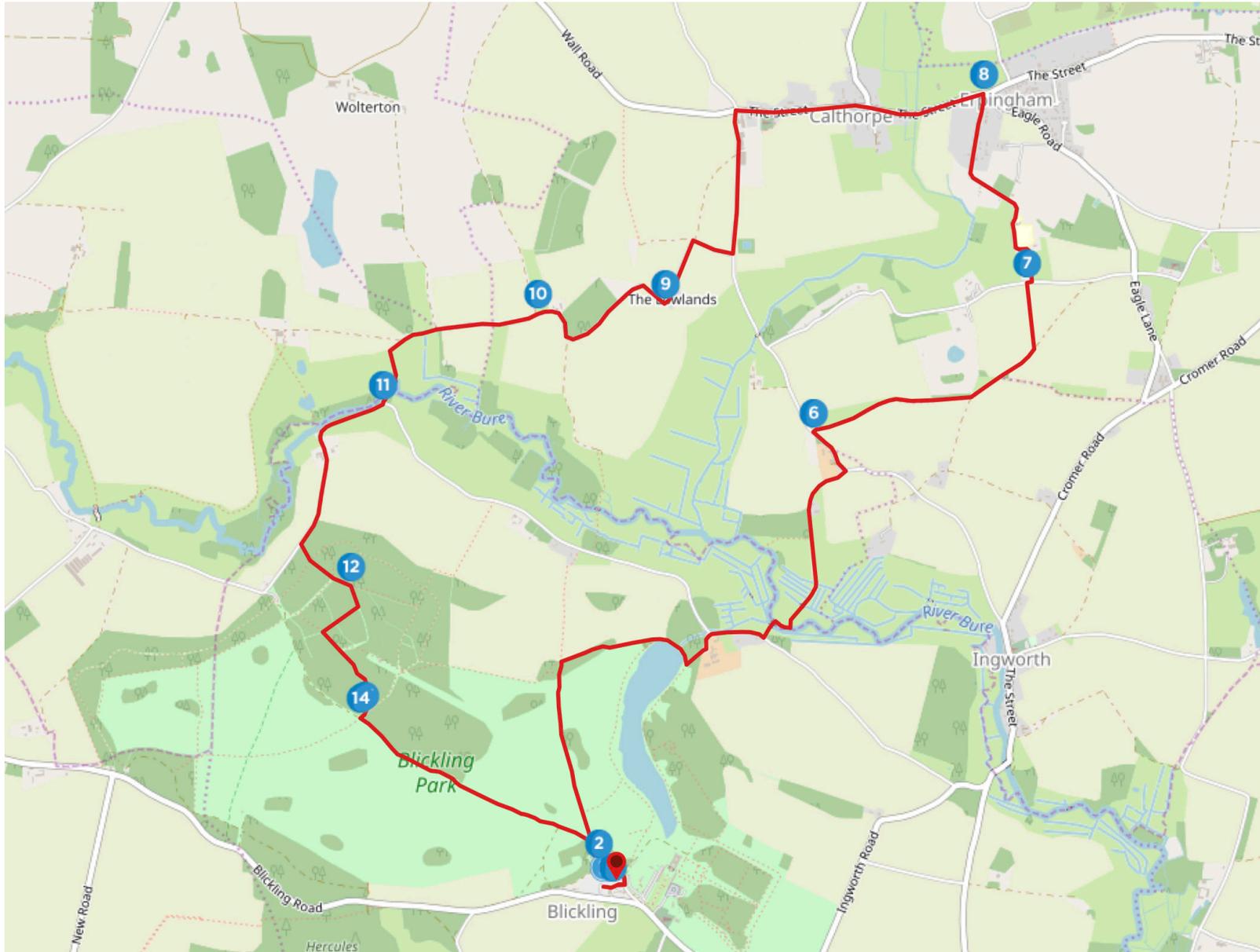
12 After 100 metres go straight on over the cross-tracks along a woodland ride. Pass a bench on your left and just ahead the ride forks – take the right hand fork. Follow the ride, ignoring side paths, until you reach a clearing with the mausoleum on your left.

13 When you have finished at the Mausoleum pass by and turn right onto a path. The path will meet a track at which point you can see The Tower in the distance in front of you.

14 Turn left onto the track; follow it through a gate and back through the parkland to the entrance. From here you can retrace your steps to the car park and the end of your walk. Depending on the time of the year, and time of your walk, what better time to visit the hall and/or one of the catering outlets.

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