

Barnham Broom and Runhall

Walk 2

Distance - 10½km (6½ miles) Ascent - 65m (213ft) Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 237, Norwich etc 1:25,000.

Runhall and Coston are basically agricultural hamlets, off the beaten track. Both have parish churches, that at Runhall having a fine example of the East Anglian round tower.

By walking out and back along the roadside between HPB and Barnham Broom village, this route provides an opportunity to start and finish at HPB. Alternatively, by finding a roadside parking place in the village, it can be walked as a (shorter) circuit.

With the exception of the rough footpath from Fen Farm onwards, all tracks are good and the roads used are quiet. There are no steep gradients and very few stiles.

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!*

Start/car parking - HPB (or find parking place as close to the crossroads in Barnham Broom as possible - the best space, for one vehicle only, is close to the entrance of the sewage works, [grid reference 077075](#)).

Refreshments - Bell Inn, Barnham Broom

WALK

From HPB turn left to walk beside the public road to Barnham Broom village, passing the site of the long-derelict old church, behind a hedge on the left, and the entrance to the present church. You can avoid the fast-moving traffic by using the path on the left hand side of the road after the river.

1. At the crossroads by the village shop go straight ahead, passing the Bell Inn. There is a new housing estate being built, totally visible by the road, on the right hand side leaving the village between The Bell Inn and the right hand turn towards Fen Farm. Pass a road junction. In a short distance further turn right along the access road for Fen Farm. In 100m turn left at a gate, to continue to the corner of the field. Follow a narrow path straight ahead, through rough land. Keep straight on across the middle of the field using the reserved strip, distinctly rough underfoot, rising gently. Pass a little pond, surrounded by trees, on the right. Go over a stile at the corner of a hedge, continuing with the hedge on the left, heading for a farm. Go left at a gap in the hedge, even if roped off, to join a farm track, soon bearing right to pass farm buildings.

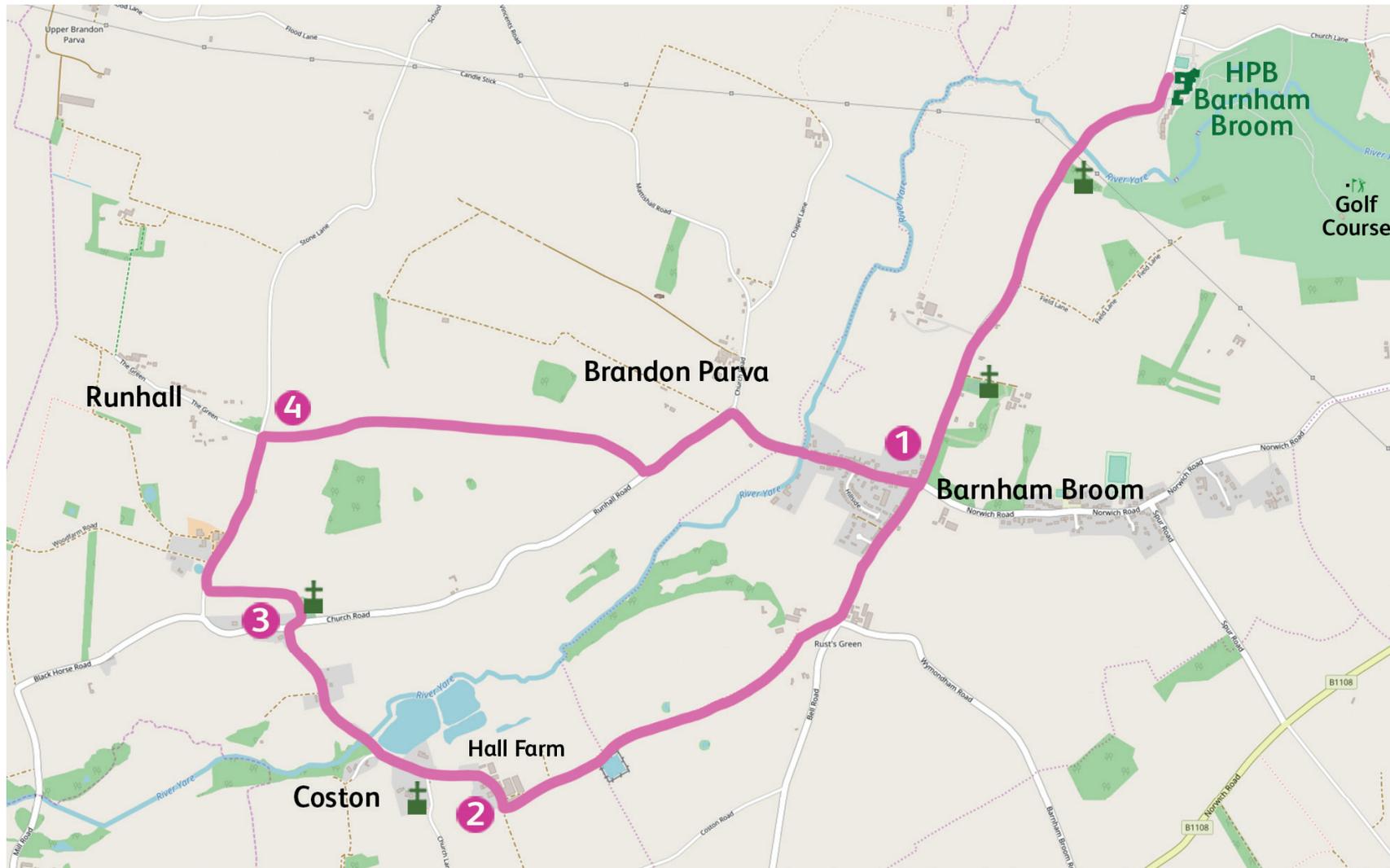
2. Reach a firm access road. Turn right to walk along the roadway between the buildings of Hall Farm, soon reaching a road junction. (Coston Church can be visited by a short diversion to the left). Otherwise, bear right along the side of a pleasant surfaced lane, Coston and a trout farm are to the right. Pass a junction with Herring Lane, cross the River Yare and pass the Runhall boundary sign, rising gently past scattered properties.

3. At a T junction by an old thatched barn at Church Farm, Runhall, turn right, towards Barnham Broom. Turn left in 60m to take a signposted path directly to Runhall church, which is beautifully proportioned and has a fine example of the East Anglian round tower. Leave the churchyard by a path in the back left corner, following the strip reserved across a field. Reach a public road, going to the right along the roadside embankment before joining the road by the entrance to Wood Farm. Keep right to walk by the roadside for less than half a mile. There are a few dwellings, a children's play area and the entrance to Runhall Fruit Farm on the left.

4. Turn right, opposite the road to the fruit farm, onto a good track and take this straight down the hill, across the ditch and up the rise. Join a minor road, turn left, pass the entrance to Monck's Hall, and reach a road junction. Turn right, signposted to 'Barnham Broom'. This is Mill Road, pass the Barnham Broom boundary sign and cross the river, the former mill site being visible to the right. Rise gently through a residential area to rejoin the outward route at the cross roads, **point 1**. Turn left to return to HPB.

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