

# Venta Icenorum

## Walk 6

**Distance** - 7km (4¼ miles) **Ascent** - 80m (236ft) **Map:** Ordnance Survey Explorer 237, Norwich etc., 1:25,000

Just a few miles south of Norwich, Venta Icenorum is the site of an extensive Roman town, surrounded by a great embankment. Information boards display the story of the town, which is fully open to the public with a waymarked circular walk of almost one mile around the periphery.

The circuit set out below starts and finishes at the car park which serves Venta Icenorum, part of the route being designated 'Boudica's Way'. This is a most attractive ramble through undulating countryside, including some woodland. There is only one (avoidable) stile and no steep gradients.

**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** - Free car park at the south-east corner of Venta Icenorum, [grid reference 232032](#). From HPB, reach A47 via Barford. Join A47, heading towards Gt. Yarmouth. Leave A47 at the junction with A140. Go underneath A47 and turn left at once along a minor road to Caistor St Edmund. Turn right in the village to reach the Roman town car park in approximately half a mile.

**Refreshments** - None en route. Inn at Stoke Holy Cross, one mile to the south.

## WALK

From the car park entrance cross the road to a gate 'High Ash Farm' turning right to walk over short grass on a broad track, parallel with the road. Pass a waymarked junction in 25m., then a fine row of poplar trees, to reach a junction with a minor road.

1. Turn left, uphill. Join a more important road, going ahead, now along another broad grass track parallel with the road. There are occasional waymarks on posts. After passing a substantial property, bear right to rejoin the road. Continue past Whiteford Hall Farm and other properties to reach a junction with Valley Farm Lane.
2. Turn left to walk along the surfaced lane, soon passing a pond on the left. Pass Valley Farm on the right, then Highfield Farm on the left. In a further 100m. fork right at a 'public footpath' sign to follow another broad grass track, with a hedge on the right. Cross a ditch on a waymarked bridge then rise to cross another plank bridge and reach a minor road. Turn left.
3. In almost 100m. turn right to leave the road, along a narrow path by the side of a bungalow, descending gently to a post with a 'Boudica's Way' waymark. Turn left to walk beside a ditch, cross a plank bridge and turn right to rise gently along another fine track, passing a well-placed seat.

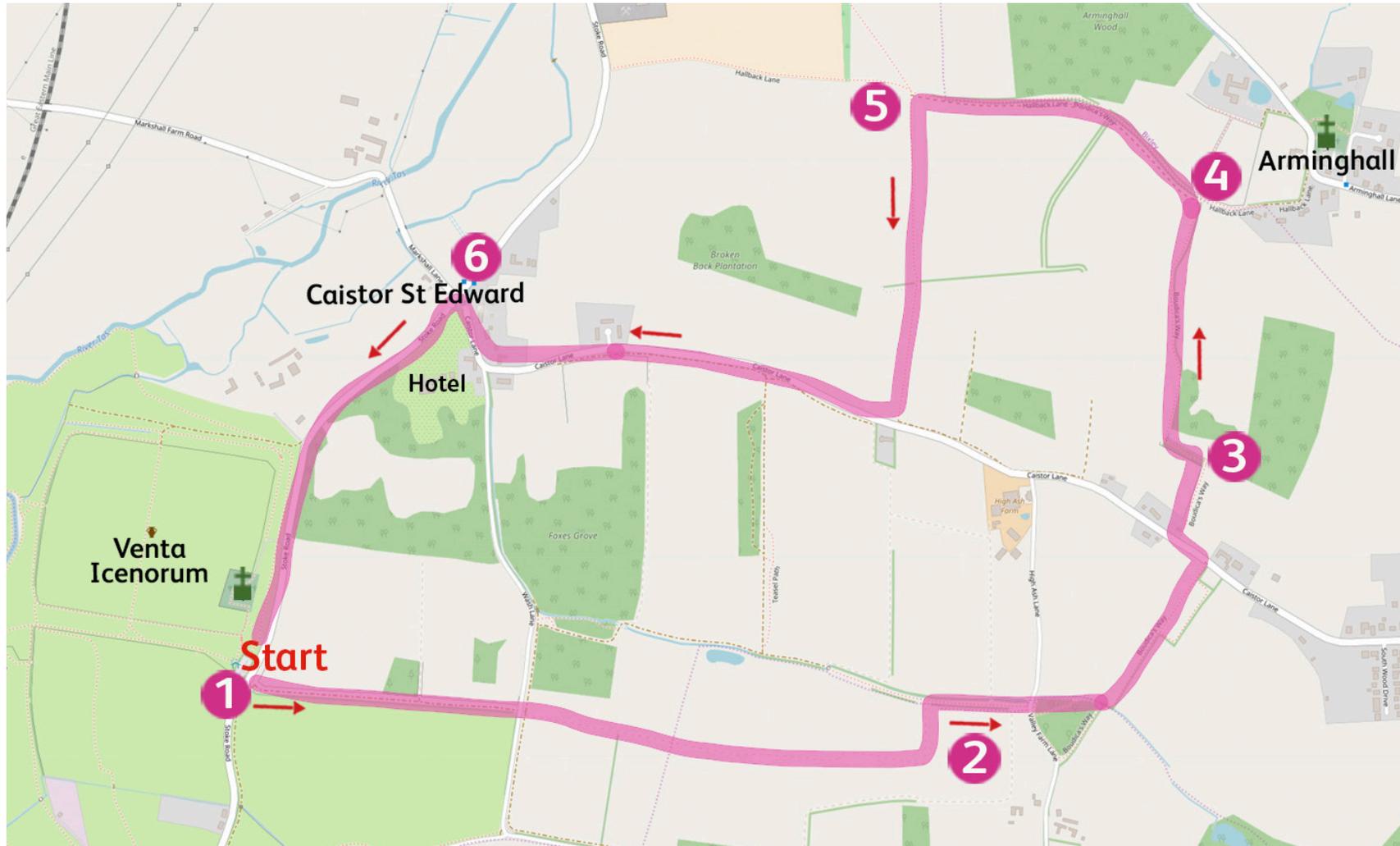
4. At a 'T' junction turn left, (a right turn here gives a short diversion into the village of Arminghall, with St. Mary's Church). A delightful path now runs between outgrown hedges, then the edge of woodland, with a good variety of trees, including at least one very old oak.

5. Reach a cross-paths, with signpost, turn left to follow a good track as far as the minor road encountered earlier. Turn right at the road to walk down to the cross roads by the hotel in Caistor St Edmund.

6. Turn left to walk by the roadside back to Venta Icenorum. As the great embankment is reached, it is possible to go through a gate on the right and walk over grass beside the embankment towards St Edmund's church, reached over a stile, (otherwise, walk a little further by the roadside before turning right to head for the church). Continue past the east end of the church to a little gate, then bear left to return directly to the car park.

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### Disclaimer:

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