PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ROUTE OVERVIEW 15.9 miles (25.6km)

Options to divide this stage are limited. At around 5.5 miles (8.8km) in on today's 15.9 mile stage, Litcham is nowhere near half way, but it does have an inn and a grocery, so is a good place to stock up. Tittleshall is at the half-way point, but has no facilities. See below for taxis covering the route.

From Castle Acre the route follows the Nar Valley Way on a level path close to the river, before a short gentle climb up a lane to East Lexham, reached in **3.7 miles**. Quiet roads take you on to Litcham, in **1.9 miles**, the most substantial village on the stage. It is **2.9 miles** more on level lanes to Tittleshall, the half-way point.

Whissonsett is a further **2.4 miles**, mainly on footpaths, and it is **2.5 miles** more to Colkirk, once again on quiet lanes. Fakenham is reached in another **2.5 miles**.

Public transport options

Again, you are deep in the countryside here. Other than the infrequent No 32 community **bus** between Castle Acre and Litcham, the only viable transport option on this stage is a **taxi**. Among operators are ***Tiny's Taxis*** (☎ 01328-888888, 💻 www.tinys.org.uk) and ***Jak's Taxis*** (☎ 01328-887488, 💻 jaktaxis.co.uk), both based in Fakenham. See also pp29-31.

Where to eat or stay along the way

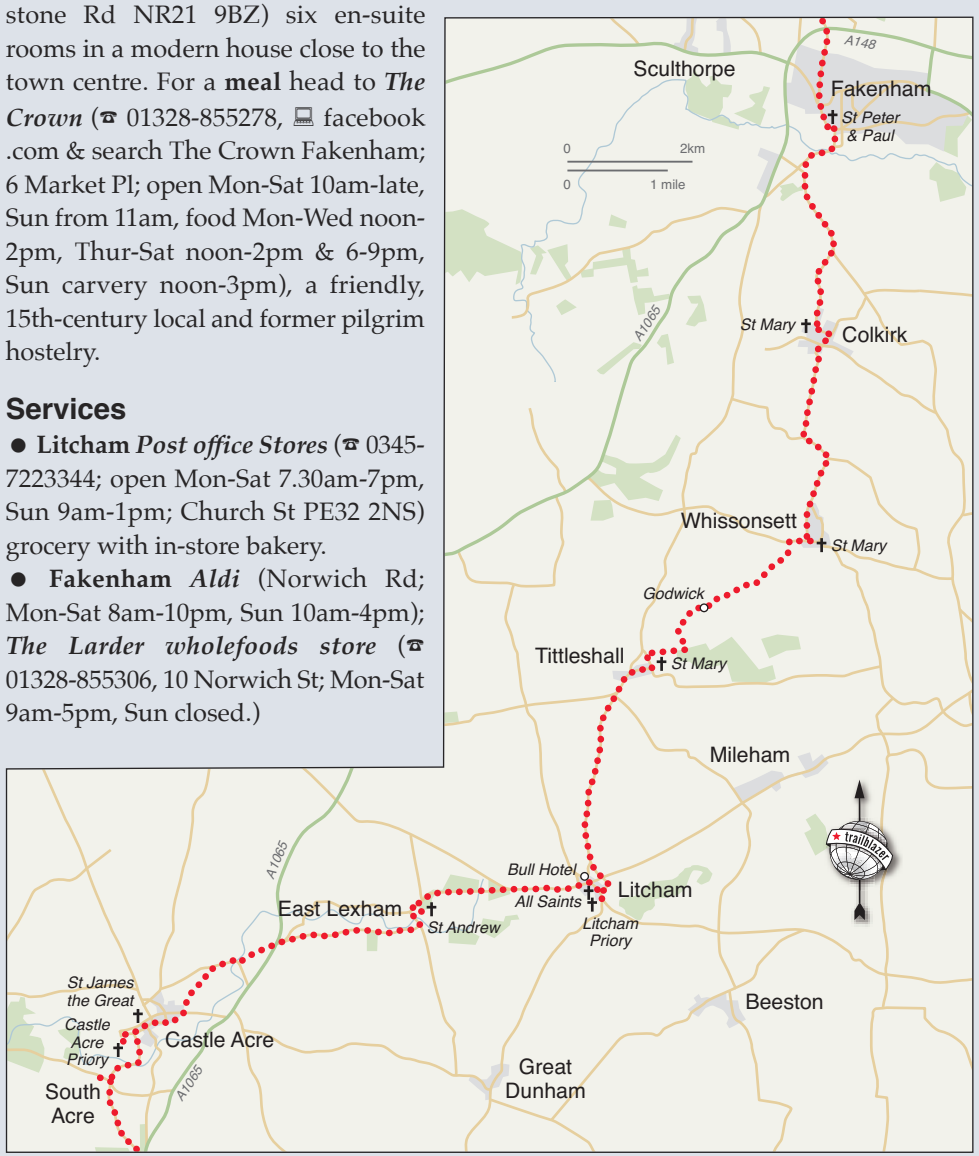
- **Castle Acre** (see Stage 11, p155)

- **Terrain** Following footpaths and quiet lanes over very flat country
- **Difficulty** Moderate
- **Cumulative distance from London** 171.6miles (276.4km)
- **Time** 5 hours 30 mins actual walking time
- **Total ascent** 218m/715ft
- **Maps** OS Explorer: *238 Dereham & Aylsham*, *251 Norfolk Coast Central*
- **GPX route file & directions*** 512.pdf, 512.gpx, 512.kml at 💻 https://trailblazer-guides.com/press * See pp27-8 for more information on downloads

- **Litcham** (after 5.5 miles, 8.8km) **Stay** and **eat** at ***Bull Inn*** (☎ 01328-701340; check with pub for current opening and food hours; 1 Church St), a village inn with rooms.
- **Godwick** (after 9.6 miles 15.4km) ***Godwick Hall*** (☎ 01328-701948, 💻 godwick hall.co.uk, Mill Lane; 2 nights minimum) is a possible **accommodation** point if you are prepared to splash out on one of its three swanky shepherds huts.
- **Fakenham Accommodation** options include ***Wensum Lodge Hotel*** (☎ 01328-862100, 💻 wensumlodge.co.uk; Bridge St; 17 en-suite rooms) by the river and part of a former mill dating from 1750; and ***Erika's B&B*** (☎ 01328 863058, 💻 erikas-bandb.co.uk; 3 Gladstone Rd NR21 9BZ) six en-suite rooms in a modern house close to the town centre. For a **meal** head to ***The Crown*** (☎ 01328-855278, 💻 facebook.com & search The Crown Fakenham; 6 Market Pl; open Mon-Sat 10am-late, Sun from 11am, food Mon-Wed noon-2pm, Thur-Sat noon-2pm & 6-9pm, Sun carvery noon-3pm), a friendly, 15th-century local and former pilgrim hostelry.

Services

- **Litcham** ***Post office Stores*** (☎ 0345-7223344; open Mon-Sat 7.30am-7pm, Sun 9am-1pm; Church St PE32 2NS) grocery with in-store bakery.
- **Fakenham** ***Aldi*** (Norwich Rd; Mon-Sat 8am-10pm, Sun 10am-4pm); ***The Larder wholefoods store*** (☎ 01328-855306, 10 Norwich St; Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun closed.)



		Stage 12: Castle Acre to Fakenham
		2025 revise
Distance from start	**Distance from last direction**	**Direction**
0km	0km	This stage of the walk begins at Castle Acre Priory. From the priory walk north, and turn right onto lane through Castle Acre village.
360yds/330m	360yds/330m	Arrive at St James the Great. To continue, turn right out of the churchyard and walk along High St through the village to Pye's Ln.
620yds/570m	260m/240m	Where High St swings left, continue straight on along Pye's Ln.
880yds/800m	610yyds/560m	Just past the ruined castle, where Pye's Ln turns sharp left, continue straight on to take a footpath.
.7mile/1.1km	330yds/300m	Where the path reaches a lane, cross over and continue straight ahead along a narrow lane that reduces to a track as it approaches Broadmeadow Common.
.9miles/1.4km	330yds/300m	Where the track bears left, just before Broadmeadow Common, take the footpath that bears right off the track.
1mile/1.6km	550yds/500m	Ford the stream and continue straight on until you reach a lane.
1.2miles/2km	440yds/400m	When the path reaches a lane, a little before Newton Mill, bear right onto it, passing Newton Mill.
1.5miles/2.5km	550yds/500m	Just past Newton Mill, take the track that leaves the lane on your left, continue to the A1065.
1.9miles/3.1km	660yds/600m	Cross the A1065 and continue down the lane on the other side until you reach a T-juncion.
3.4miles/5.5km	1.5miles/2.4km	At a T junction of lanes on the outskirts of East Lexham, turn left and follow Lexham Rd until you reach another T-junction.
3.5miles/5.7km	220yds/200m	At the T-junction of lanes, turn right.
3.6miles/5.8km	110yds/100m	Turn right onto a farm track to reach St Andrew's, East Lexham's round tower church.
3.7miles/5.9km	110yds/100m	Arrive at St Andrew's East Lexham. To continue, retrace your steps to the lane, turn right and follow it to the B1145.

4.8miles/7.7km	1.1miles/1.8km	Where the lane reaches the B1145, Lexham Rd, bear right onto it, and cross over. After a row of houses, a footpath takes you behind the hedge to follow the field margin to the outskirts of the village of Litcham.
5.5miles/8.8km	.7mile/1.1km	Bear right off the B1145 onto a lane into Litcham.
5.6miles/9km	220yds/200m	Bear right into Church St for the centre of the village. The Bull Inn is on your left, the village store just after it on your right.
5.6miles/9.1km	110yds/100m	Arrive at All Saints. To continue, turn left out of All Saints and walk down Church St, looking out for Priory Farm on your right, just before the river.
5.8miles/9.3km	220yds/200m	Arrive at Priory Farm, which was Litcham Priory. To continue, retrace your steps up Church St, and continue up it until you reach the junction with the B1145
6miles/9.6km	330yds/300m	Cross the B1145 and continue straight on into Tittleshall Rd, bearing left almost immediately into Butt Ln. Continue along Butt Ln, which merges into Pound Ln, until it reaches Wellingham Rd, at a Y junction.
6.3miles/10.1km	550yds/500m	Take the right-hand branch of the Y, Wellingham Rd (a finger post points to Wellingham), and continue, past the first Wellingham Plantation (a belt of woodland to your right), looking out for a finger-post footpath sign on your right. (There is a second Wellingham Plantation just beyond the footpath.)
7.6miles/12.2km	1.3miles/2km	At the finger-post turn right onto a footpath, with a high hedge to your right and a livestock fence to your left. Continue until the footpath reaches a farm track.
7.7miles/12.4km	220yds/200m	Continue straight on along the farm track until you reach the junction with Litcham Rd.
8.2miles/13.2km	880yds/800m	Turn left into Litcham Rd and continue until you reach a staggered junction.
8.5miles/13.6km	440yds/400m	At the staggered junction, with Mileham Rd joining from the right and Heath Ln slightly later from the left, keep straight on towards Tittleshall, on what is now Fakenham Rd.
8.7miles/14km	440yds/400m	Where Wellingham Rd joins from the left, and Fakeham Rd goes straight on, bear slight right on High St to continue into Tittleshall.
8.9miles/14.3km	330yds/300m	Where High St meets Church Rd at a T-junction, turn left. St Mary's Tittleshall church on your right.
9miles/14.5km	220yds/200m	Arrive at St Mary's, Tittleshall.

		To continue, turn right out of St Mary's, and walk until you reach a road junction on the outskirts of Tittleshall, where Church Ln joins Fakenham Rd.
9.1miles/14.6km	110yds/100m	At the road junction, turn right onto a footpath. There is a finger post pointing the way. Although the Ordnance Survey shows a right of way running diagonally left across this field. This path is not always evident on the ground. There is also a sign saying that there is a permissive footpath along the field margin. If you follow the right-hand field margin, turn left at the foot of the field until, in the next corner, you see a stile to your right. The diagonal path joins the route here.
9.5miles/15.3km	770yds/700m	Go over the stile, and then follow the right-hand margin of next field until you reach a footbridge over a stream with a stile at the far end of the bridge. You will emerge into a field, on which stand the remains of the abandoned medieval village of Godwick.
9.7miles/15.6km	330yds/300m	Walk diagonally left to pass Godwick's ruined church tower and reach a stile that leads out of the village site.
9.9miles/15.9km	330yds/300m	Leave the village site, and follow the faint path through a succession of fields.
10.9miles/17.5km	660yds/600m	Where the footpath meets a farm track on the outskirts of Whissonsett, turn left onto it, looking out for a footpath on your right shortly afterwards, running diagonally across the field to your right. Take the footpath, which takes you to Mill Ln
11.miles/17.7km	220yds/200m	Turn right onto Mill Ln, and continue until you reach a T-junction where London St joins on your left
11.1miles/17.9km	220yds/200m	Turn left into London St, looking out for a black metal kissing gate at the entrance to a footpath on your left. Take the footpath, to reach St Mary's church.
11.3miles/18.2km	330yds/300m	Arrive at St Mary's. To continue, retrace your steps along the footpath and turn right into London St.
11.6miles/18.7km	550yds/500m	Where New Rd joins from the right, bear left to follow the lane you are on, which is now named Colkirk Rd. Continue until a T-junction, where Oxwick Rd runs right to left.
12.1miles/19.5km	880yds/800m	Turn left into Oxwick Rd. This becomes Whissonsett Rd.
12.5miles/20.1km	660yds/600m	Where Whissonsett Rd bears right at the T-junction of lanes before Manor Farm, bear right to remain on it towards the village of Colkirk.

13.4miles/21.6km	.9miles/1.5km	In the staggered T-junction in Colkirk, turn right onto School Rd and then immediately left onto Crown Rd to continue into the village, looking out for Church Rd on your left.
13.5miles/21.7km	110yds/100m	Turn left into Church Rd, continuing until you pass to the left of a small village green and see St Mary's church ahead on your right.
13.7miles/22km	330yds/300m	Arrive at St Mary's, Colkirk. To continue, turn left out of the church and immediately left again, into Market Hill. Follow Market Hill until you reach a farm track on your left, just before Colkirk Hall.
14.2miles/22.8km	880yds/800m	Turn left onto the farm track and follow it until you reach a road.
15miles/24.1km	.8miles/1.3km	Turn right into the road and continue until you reach the junction with the A1065.
15.2miles/24.5km	440yds/400m	Turn right on the pavement alongside the A1065 and continue until you reach Hempton Green Rd.
15.3miles/24.6km	110yds/100m	Turn right onto Hempton Green Rd, and continue until you reach the junction with the B1146.
15.7miles/25.3km	770yds/700m	Go straight on across the B1146, after which Hempton Green Rd becomes Dereham Rd. Continue along Dereham Rd into Fakenham, the road become Bridge St and reaching a roundabout.
16.1miles/25.9km	660yds/600m	At the roundabout, take the first exit, remaining on Bridge St and continue to a T-junction, where Bridge St meets Market Pl
16.3miles/26.2km	330yds/300m	Turn left into Market Pl. Look out for the church of St Peter and St Paul, the tower of which appears over the rooftops to your right. it is reached via a passageway between shops.
16.4miles/22.4km	220yds/200m	Arrive at the church of St Peter and St Paul, where this stage ends.