

WALKING IN THE FYLDE

ROUTE 2 - FRECKLETON TO LYTHAM

Distance: 10km, 6m

Time: 2.5 - 3 hours

Summary: Follows Lancashire Coastal Way, may be muddy in wet weather.

Map: OS Explorer 286 Blackpool & Preston

Starting in Freckleton village centre, follow Preston Old Road past the Coach & Horses and round to the junction with Lower Lane. Turn right into Marsh Gates and then join a path on the right just before the farm entrance.

The footpath leads behind the houses and at the road junction dog-leg to pass the Ship Inn on Bunker Street. Keep ahead along Bunker Street until you join a hedge lined footpath. To the left you pass Freckleton Dock. On the right there is an industrial estate. The scene soon opens out.

15 minutes from the Ship Inn the path turns right and then left around two properties before entering a large field. In the far left corner stands a trig point. The way drops down an embankment and turns right.

Here the scene changes completely with wide views across the Ribble to its confluence with the River Douglas. Ahead, acting as a guide, is a large hanger, part of Warton Aerodrome. Indeed if you are not already aware of low flying aircraft, you soon will be.

This part of the coastal path is designated as a National Nature Reserve for birdlife. You soon reach the perimeter fence of the aerodrome and this acts as a guide as the path winds through the hawthorn.

When the mesh fence turns away distinctly to the right, keep ahead across a meadow following the frequent way mark signs. The path leads to a lane below Warton Bank and a caravan park.



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The lane leads out onto an embankment which bears round to the right to reach the A584. On reaching the road turn left.

Cross the bridge and turn immediately left onto a footpath that leads once more onto an embankment. With farmland on your right and marshland on your left keep on the embankment until it brings you once more to the A584 and the very edge of Lytham itself.

The Coastal way turns left through Lytham Dock and its large boat repair yard. This was the site of a once busy and prosperous port until the construction of Preston Dock diverted trade further up the River Ribble. Once past the the boatyard follow a creek that once more brings you out to the A584.

Turn left and in ten minutes reach the Green with its most notable landmark - the handsome windmill.

