

# Costessey



**Distance: 5.5 miles**



This five and a half mile walk soaks in railway heritage from the very start. The site of the old Hellesdon Station is at the south eastern point of the route and is brimming with history, from prehistoric flint artifacts, to railway ironwork and World War 2 anti-tank defenses.

On the surface, all that survives of the old Hellesdon Station is the remaining section of the platform, shown in the picture to the right. However, explore slightly further into the undergrowth, and you will find cattle pens, ornate ironwork, a second platform and evidence of the original ticket building.

Marriott's Way follows the western bank and floodplain of the River Wensum for much of its southern end. This part of the River Wensum is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation and home to many interesting species, including otters, water voles, kingfishers and nightingales.

## Getting started

This walk starts at Gunton Lane, NR5 0DQ.

## Getting there

There are two car parks along Gunton Lane: one at Gunton Lane Recreation Ground, and one at the southern end of the road. The number 5 bus or the red line buses from Norwich will bring you to Costessey from Norwich.

## What to expect

Off road tracks and roadside footpaths with some gradient.

## Facilities

There are shops and newsagents near the route in Costessey, New Costessey and Hellesdon, as well as pubs directly on the route, and places of accommodation.

