

Useful information

Trail length

69 miles in total. 22 miles off road and 47 miles on road.

Trail surface

Surfaced and unsurfaced quiet lanes, public rights of way and Forestry Commission rides.

Waymarking

The route is waymarked with the trail logo, a purple carriage wheel.



Ordnance Survey maps

Explorer: 273 Lincolnshire Wolds South and 282 Lincolnshire Wolds North.
Landranger: 113 Grimsby, 121 Lincoln & Newark and 122 Skegness & Horncastle.

Horsebox parking

Willingham Woods, Market Rasen, LN8 3RQ. Grid ref: TF 137 884.

If you would like to request this leaflet in an alternative format or a different language please contact us.

Lincolnshire County Council Countryside Access Team

Tel: 01522 782070 Minicom: 01522 552055
countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk
lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside

Lindsey Trail partners:



Thanks also go to local landowners who have supported the Trail.

Published February 2012
Photo credits: LCC, LWCS, Richard Enderby, Nev Gurnhill

The Lindsey Trail

A 69 mile route through the Lincolnshire Wolds for carriage drivers, horse riders, cyclists and walkers



Enjoying the Lindsey Trail

To ensure everyone using the Lindsey Trail has a safe and enjoyable time please consider the following:

- Please be considerate to other trail users and be aware of their different needs. Be prepared to slow down or stop if necessary for other users.
- Even off road sections of the trail may be used by farm and maintenance vehicles.
- Take extra care on road sections and when crossing roads. Where busy roads are crossed warning signs for drivers have been installed.



- Follow the Highway Code.
- Follow the Countryside Code.
- Wear appropriate clothing for your activity and weather.
- Be seen, be safe! Wear high visibility clothing and use lights as necessary.
- Ensure carriages and bikes are roadworthy.



The Countryside Code

The countryside is a place where people live, work and relax, and where wildlife makes its home. To protect the Lincolnshire countryside for others please follow the Countryside Code:

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control and clear up after them.
- Consider other people.

Thank you



Welcome to the Lindsey Trail



 Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)  Lindsey Trail

The Lindsey Trail is a long distance circular multi-user route through the Lincolnshire Wolds. It extends from Market Rasen to Horncastle.

The route is suitable for carriage drivers, horse riders, cyclists and walkers.

The initial idea for the Trail came from local carriage drivers who have worked in partnership with the Mid-Lincs Local Access Forum and Lincolnshire County Council to develop it.

The Trail has been developed as part of the Lincolnshire Countryside Access & Rights of Way Improvement Plan and Lincolnshire Wolds AONB Management Plan.

More useful websites

For up to date information on local accommodation, facilities and places of interest contact the local Tourist Information Centre (TIC) or go to visitlincolnshire.com:

Horncastle TIC
Community Access Point
Wharf Road
Horncastle LN9 5HL
Tel: 01507 601111

Louth TIC
Community Access Point
Town Hall
Cannon Street
Louth LN11 9NW
Tel: 01507 601111

For Market Rasen information call West Lindsey District Council's Tourism Team on 01427 676666

Keep it local

By using local shops and services and choosing local produce you will be helping to sustain local facilities and businesses.

Why not sample some delicious Lincolnshire foods? There's poacher cheese, plum bread and the famous Lincolnshire sausages to name but a few.

Look out for the Tastes of Lincolnshire logo, a sign of locally produced and sourced food and drink.



For more information go to:
tastesoflincolnshire.com

Welcome to the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The Lincolnshire Wolds is a nationally important and cherished landscape. Most of it was designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in 1973. Covering an area of 558 square kilometres or 216 square miles, the AONB contains the highest ground in eastern England between Yorkshire and Kent, rising to over 150m along its western edge. Rolling chalk hills and areas of sandstone and clay underlie this attractive landscape.

The Lincolnshire Wolds have been inhabited since prehistoric times and the appearance of the countryside today has been greatly influenced by past and present agricultural practices.

A Countryside Service helps to protect and enhance the landscape through partnership projects with local landowners, farmers, parish councils, businesses and residents of the Wolds.



For more information contact:

Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service
Navigation Warehouse, Riverhead Road
Louth LN11 0DA
01507 609740
lincswolds.org.uk
aonb@lincswolds.org.uk

More useful websites



Lincolnshire countryside

For more information about the Lindsey Trail including maps and directions and information about the wider Lincolnshire countryside:
lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside

British Driving Society:
britishdrivingsociety.co.uk

British Cycling:
britishcycling.org.uk

British Horse Society:
bhs.org.uk

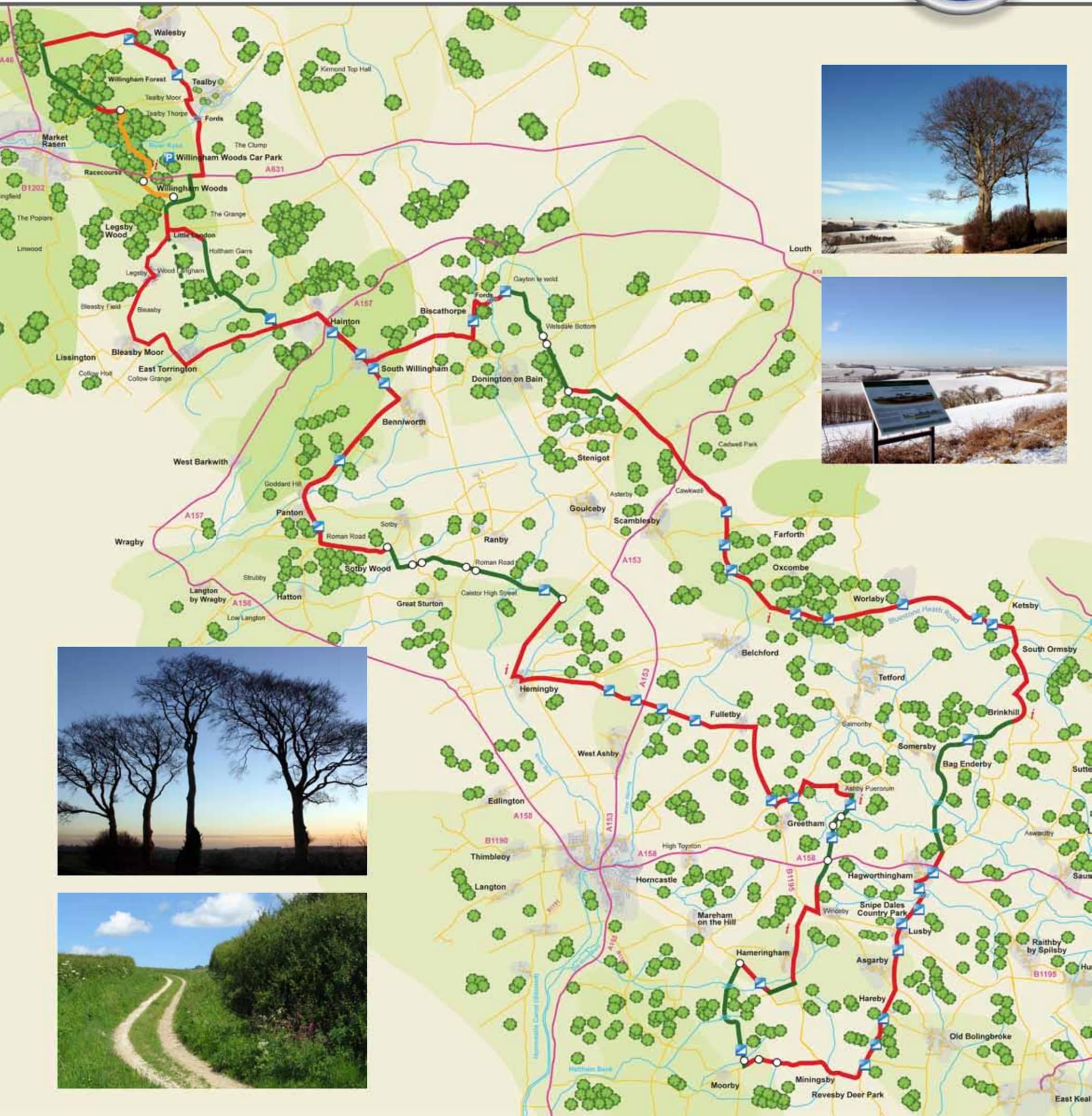
Sustrans:
sustrans.org.uk

Lindum Endurance:
freewebs.com/lindum-group-egb



Trail Map

For detailed Trail directions go to:
lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside



Key - Trail Route

					 Gradient
On road	Off road	Off road Forestry Commission woodland Horse riders and carriage drivers require public liability insurance	Off road (horse riders, cyclists and walkers only)	A Road	 Horsebox Parking
				Other Roads	 Ford
				River	 Access control point (narrowest width 2m)
					 Information Board

A route with a view

Being the highest land between Kent and Yorkshire makes the Lincolnshire Wolds a great place for stunning views. On a clear day you can see for miles into neighbouring counties and across the marshes to the coast.

As you follow the chalk escarpment on the eastern section of the Trail there are views across the Bain Valley to the Lincolnshire Limestone Edge and Lincoln Cathedral. You may even be able to see the cooling towers of the Trent Valley power stations beyond.

On the southern section of the Trail your view is across the Fens and you may see Boston Stump, the tower of St Botolph's church in Boston, and on a clear day Hunstanton cliffs on the Norfolk coast.

Historic attractions which can be seen from the Trail include Hainton Hall, South Ormsby Hall and Harrington Hall, where it is suggested that Lord Tennyson based his famous poem 'Come into the garden Maud'.

The Wolds landscape inspired the writing of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, one of the most successful poets of Victorian times. He was born in Somersby, in the Wolds, and held the post of Poet Laureate from 1850 to his death in 1892.



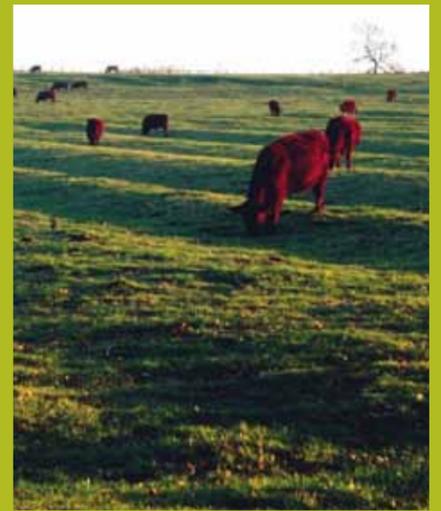
A place to stop a while....

Bustling market towns line the edge of the Wolds. Louth, Horncastle, Market Rasen, Spilsby, Caistor and Alford still have regular markets and are great places to spend some time. Sample some local produce, browse the range of independent shops or investigate the local history and places of interest.

Today pretty villages are found across the Wolds but in medieval times the area was home to many more people and villages. One of the highest concentrations of Deserted Medieval Villages in the country can be found in the Lincolnshire Wolds. Often all that remains of these villages are lumps and bumps in grass fields and the ridge and furrow field strips.

It is suggested that the villages were abandoned during the 14th and 15th centuries as a result of the Black Death and changing land use. Landowners wanted to make more money so enclosed their land to raise sheep. Their tenants lost their small areas of land on which they relied and had to move into the towns to look for ways to make a living.

Many of today's villages have a shop, pub or tea room - why not stop and sample their delights! Or visit one of the many events that take place in the area including village shows and fetes, horse racing at Market Rasen and motor racing at Cadwell Park.



When is a verge not just a verge?

It is important to remember that many verges across the Wolds are not just a grass strip next to a road but are important wildlife habitats.

The wide verges alongside the old drovers roads and ancient routes, such as the Bluestone Heath Road, are havens for wildlife. Some resulted from a change in farming practice when early open field farming methods involving shared strips of land over a large area became enclosed resulting in the hedged field pattern often seen today.

They were used in the past to graze sheep and cattle en-route to the coastal grazing marshes for the summer. Today they are flower-rich linear corridors for small mammals, birds and insects and connect pockets of grassland.

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the County Council protect these special verges under the Roadside Nature Reserve (RNR) scheme. There are 65 RNRs across the county totalling more than 50 miles.

All RNRs are signed on the ground. To avoid damaging these valuable habitats please do not drive, ride or park on them.

For more information go to lincstrust.org.uk



What lies beneath your feet, wheels and hooves!

The diverse Lincolnshire Wolds landscape includes the dramatic western scarp, rolling chalk uplands with steep dry valleys, the former eastern sea cliffs and broad river valleys of the Bain and Lymn.

The northern part of the Trail passes through Walesby and Tealby, nestled at the foot of the western scarp face made of ironstone and limestone, once mined on an industrial scale. Willingham Woods grow on the blown sands, deposited here after the last Ice Age retreat.

The central section of the Trail uses the Bluestone Heath Road, an ancient route that follows the south east chalk escarpment. The soils here are thin and flinty, often showing both the red and white chalk beneath.

In the south and west of the Wolds, and the southern part of the Trail, the geology is different again, with seasonally waterlogged clays in the broad river valleys, with buildings of locally made bricks and Spilsby Sandstone. Known locally as 'greenstone' as it weathers to a khaki-green colour, fossils found show that it was deposited about 140 million years ago in a shallow sea.

