

## DISCOVER MORE SOUTHWOLD

### Hidden Heritage Walk

Circular route: 2 miles (3.3 kms)

**Start / finish:** Southwold Pier 1. With pier behind you, go right to historic Boating Lake / Model Yacht Pond 2 (left) before turning to head towards town along North Parade above the beach huts 3. Turn right onto Chester Road, then left (Stradbroke Road) to meet a lovely lady on Douglas House (right) and the lighthouse 4 towering above (left). At T-junction (St James' Green left) go right through East Green past Methodist Church (right) and Adnams Brewery buildings (both sides) 5. Turn right to detour to Arts Centre 6 in Cumberland Road, or continue ahead (Victoria Street) to Bartholomew Green for St Edmund's Church 7 (right) and former weaver's cottage, Southwold Museum 8 (left). At end of road, go left briefly onto High Street to view (left) Sutherland House (1455), rare survival of Southwold's 1659 fire and HQ for the Duke of York and Earl of Sandwich before the Battle of Sole Bay. Then cross over road, going right via York Road (left) to Blackmill Road (left) for Electric Picture Palace 9 (right), a 21<sup>st</sup> century nostalgic re-creation, complete with Wurlitzer organ. Retrace a few steps, but go right down Manor Park Road. At Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church 11 (ahead) take the footpath left with wide views (right - Southwold Common 10) towards Blyth estuary. Walk down to the track. Turn left. Track becomes Woodley's Yard leading onto High Street by United Reformed Church.

Turn right, past Georgian frontage of Buckenham House (c.1540), now partly a gallery, to Market Place 12 where the Town Hall 13 (left) nestles by the Swan Hotel and real gems await in tiny Amber Museum 14 (right). Keeping right, High Street becomes Queen Street. As the greens around South Green 16 beyond the Red Lion come into view, turn right after Lorne Road into Park Lane to detour for Arts & Crafts house, Southwold School of Industrial Art 15 (right), now a private dwelling. Retrace steps. Continue down Constitution Hill to view historic fishermen's net sheds (right, on Gardner Road). Retrace steps a little, cross Queen's Road with care, heading to Gun Hill 17 through a wide green between flint walls to see its 6 anti-pirate 18 pound cannons and 'Casino'.

Finally take cliff-top path back towards the pier to Sailors' Reading Room 18. Descend to beach huts to return along the promenade.

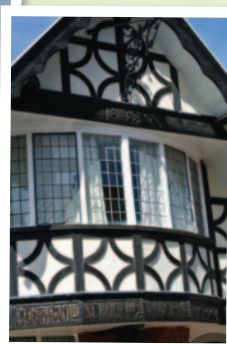
### Did you know?

The Sailors' Reading Room was originally a fishermen's refuge and now houses collections of maritime memorabilia, including colourful carved ship figureheads like Lord Nelson. You'll find Lucille and Princess Augusta in Southwold Museum and even a queen in Stradbroke Road.



### Did you know?

Just like all Southwold's museums, entry to the award-winning Southwold Museum is free! What are you waiting for?



### Southwold's Public Transport

**Buses:** To nearby towns & villages, plus Southwold-Reydon Shuttle  
**Main bus stop:** Kings Head, High Street, The Pier  
**Timetables:** [suffolkonboard.com](http://suffolkonboard.com)  
**Trains:** Regular service to Ipswich & Lowestoft  
**Nearest station:** Darsham & Halesworth  
**Timetables:** [nationalrail.co.uk](http://nationalrail.co.uk)

### Key

- 1 Pier (2001) [southwoldpier.co.uk](http://southwoldpier.co.uk)
- 2 Boating Lake & Model Yacht Pond [southwoldboatinglakeandtearoom.co.uk](http://southwoldboatinglakeandtearoom.co.uk)
- 3 Promenade & Beach Huts
- 4 Lighthouse (1890) [trinityhouse.co.uk](http://trinityhouse.co.uk)
- 5 Adnams Sole Bay Brewery (1872) & Copper House Gin Distillery (2010) [tours.adnams.co.uk](http://tours.adnams.co.uk)
- 6 Southwold Arts Centre (St Edmund's Hall) [se-arts.org](http://se-arts.org)
- 7 St Edmund's Church (1460)
- 8 Southwold Museum (1933) [southwoldmuseum.org](http://southwoldmuseum.org)
- 9 Electric Picture Palace (2002) [southwoldcinema.co.uk](http://southwoldcinema.co.uk)
- 10 Southwold Common
- 11 Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
- 12 Market Place
- 13 Town Hall (c.1810) [southwoldtown.com](http://southwoldtown.com)
- 14 Amber Museum [ambershop.co.uk/amber-museum](http://ambershop.co.uk/amber-museum)
- 15 Southwold School of Industrial Art (1894)
- 16 South Green
- 17 Gun Hill
- 18 Sailors' Reading Room (1864) [southwoldsailorsreadingroom.co.uk](http://southwoldsailorsreadingroom.co.uk)
- 19 Alfred Corry Lifeboat Museum [alfredcorry.co.uk](http://alfredcorry.co.uk)
- 20 Southwold Harbour

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**Visitor Information Points**  
Look out for this sign

- WC** Public Toilets (seasonal)
- P** Parking
- BS** Bus stop/Shuttle bus stop Mon-Sat only, except Bhol Mons.

### Did you know?

Southwold lighthouse shines 17 miles out to sea with a white navigation light. It has been operational since 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1890 and is midway between Lowestoft and Orford. Why not climb the 113 steps to the top? Tours: Mar-Oct. See noticeboard at base.



### Top Tip

15<sup>th</sup> century St Edmund's Church is unusual. It was built in one go, in about 60 years, under a single continuous roof. Don't miss its fine flintwork, medieval painted screen, cheeky bench carvings and towering font cover.

The Pocket Guide to Southwold is produced in association with Southwold Town Council and with thanks to funding partners:



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### SOUTHWOLD MUST-SEES

- ✓ Pier, Prom & Beach Huts
- ✓ Lighthouse
- ✓ St Edmund's Church
- ✓ Southwold Museum
- ✓ Sailors' Reading Room
- ✓ Alfred Corry Lifeboat Museum & Harbour
- ✓ Gun Hill
- ✓ Market Square
- ✓ Adnams Sole Bay Brewery & Copper House Gin Distillery



**Sole Bay Brewery**  
Adnams brewery emblem, 'Southwold Jack', is based on a 17<sup>th</sup> century mechanical Wars of the Roses soldier, designed to strike a bell to mark the hours. Meet him in St Edmund's Church.

### Spotlight on Southwold

**Market Town:** Charter 1489  
**Market Days:** Monday & Thursday  
**Lighthouse:** 101 ft high, 1,500,000 bricks  
**Pier:** 623 ft long; completed 2001; Britain's only 21<sup>st</sup> century pier  
**Beach:** Award-winning beach  
**Museums:** Southwold Museum; Sailors' Reading Room; Alfred Corry Lifeboat Museum; Amber Museum  
**Sole Bay Brewery:** Adnams named it after spot where British-French fleets battled the Dutch in 1672  
**Famous resident:** Eric Blair aka writer, George Orwell  
**Famous beach hut:** 'Roaring Boys' formerly owned by writer, P.D. James

### An inspiration all round

Fab beaches and a quirky 21<sup>st</sup> century pier; yachts by lively little Blackshore harbour and a rich fishing heritage; an unexpected island, cut off by Buss Creek and brimful of swashbuckling sailors' tales of battles, pirates and smugglers; elegant townhouses and oh-so-English greens; wildlife-rich lakes, reedbeds, woods and marshlands... Ah, Southwold – what's not to like?

It has always been an enterprising sort of place, reinventing itself along the way, as busy medieval quaysides and passenger landing piers for Victorian steamships succumbed to the tides and storms of time. Here in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, devastating fire ignited the desire for a new approach to town planning. In the late 1900s, local fishermen were helped to provide for their families in winter, by learning wood-carving and furniture-making at the Southwold School of Industrial Art, their work exhibited and sold in London. Between 1893 and 1918, Southwold's oldest sailing lifeboat, the Alfred Corry saved 47 lives. It has a very special place in Southwold's history and now has its own museum by the harbour.

As ever, thriving Southwold goes about its business, honouring the past and engaging with the future - from the visitors who come to share the charm and nostalgia of such a real, family seaside resort to its service-led independent retailers, artisan bakers, smokehouses, fishmongers and innovative brewers, Adnams. Creative, colourful and home to vibrant annual theatre, music and literary festivals, Southwold is a real inspiration - not just to artists and writers, but to everyone.

### Super Southwold Events

**Southwold Charter Fair** (May)  
**Southwold Arts Festival** (June) [southwoldartsfestival.co.uk](http://southwoldartsfestival.co.uk)  
**Southwold Summer Theatre** [southwoldtheatre.org](http://southwoldtheatre.org)  
**Model Yacht Regatta** (Aug)  
**Ways with Words Literary Festival** (Nov)  
**Southwold Christmas Lights Switch-on** (Nov/Dec)  
**Christmas Day Swim & Traditional Pantomime** (Dec/Jan)  
 Southwold also regularly hosts popular artisan markets, fêtes, model railway exhibitions & antique fairs.

## The Pocket Guide to SOUTHWOLD

Maritime & Market Town Heritage  
 Seaside • Walks • Green Spaces  
 Family Fun • Cultural Events & Activities

Explore a little. Discover a lot. Enjoy all the more!







## ENJOY MORE GOOD TIMES BY THE SEA

*Creative, colourful, with fun by the spade!...*

What's on your bucket list?

Maybe now? Or next time...

- ☒ Build a whole family of sand castles
- ☐ Count all the jolly beach huts
- ☐ Sweet dreams in a striped deckchair
- ☐ Get the best ice-cream in Southwold
- ☐ Watch Tim Hunkin's cheeky water-clock 'perform' on the Pier
- ☐ Sit and sip a while with a local brew
- ☐ A round of golf – crazy or otherwise
- ☐ Float a boat on the Model Yacht Pond
- ☐ Put a toe in the water
- ☐ Dive into the Under the Pier Show
- ☐ Pedal off... across the boating lake
- ☐ Get the green light to visit the Amber Museum

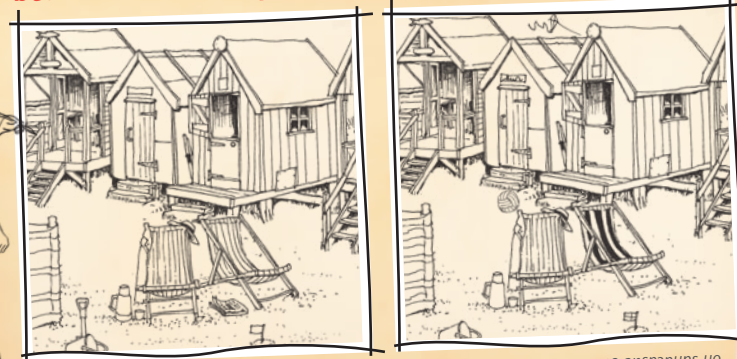
- ☒ Take the family to the fair or circus when it's in town
- ☐ Have a nostalgic evening out at the Electric Picture Palace arts cinema
- ☐ Get tickets for the Southwold Arts Festival
- ☐ Enjoy a spot of Southwold Summer Theatre
- ☐ Lose yourself in the Maize Maze
- ☐ Go on an Adnams gin making course

### Unscramble the beach hut names

– then see if you can spot them along the prom!

1. LESO ABY  
(Don't battle too long over this one)
2. TBAELR  
(Victoria would be amused)
3. TEHWI SSRHOE  
(All a bit wavy)
4. NIGAROR OSYB  
(Was Adam Dalgleish one of them?)
5. RM EBUL YSK  
(Thinking, ELO style – remember them?)
6. TIVAALN  
(Brave choice)
7. ZYLA ASYD  
(Better than hazy ones!)
8. BBJAA HET UTH  
(Think Star Wars!)
9. PTCAAN  
(To steal a feline)
10. ZEECFURF  
(Sounds like this one will make you queasy)

### Can you spot 10 differences between these two pictures?



Answers: 1. Sole Bay 2. Albert 3. White Horses 4. Roaring Boys 5. Mr Blue Sky 6. Valiant 7. Lazy Days 8. Jobby the Hut 9. Catnap 10. Ceezruff

### After real adventure?

Check out the waves on a super-speedy adrenalin-rush-of-a-powerboat ride along the coast. (Gentler river trips also available!)

### Truly Oar-some!

Free little award-winning Southwold Museum boasts the longest, best-preserved Viking warship steering oars in the world! Full of fascinating Southwold stories, exhibits and family-friendly interactive displays, pop in, do and discover everything from smugglers to steam engines.

### What's in a name?

Southwold comes from 'Sudwolda', Anglo-Saxon meaning 'south forest or wood'. Along Southwold's pier and prom, you'll find many names – every bench and bit of railing has a story to tell, and every beach hut too. Wonder as you wander.

*If you had a Southwold beach hut, what would you call it?*



**Walk for Health**  
Find out about Stepping Out in Suffolk health walks [onlifesuffolk.co.uk](http://onlifesuffolk.co.uk)

## EXPLORE MORE GLORIOUSLY GREEN & PLEASANT LANDS

From clifftop hills and seaside gardens to neatly mown lawns and tiny triangular town greens, Southwold is renowned for its elegant open spaces. But its wild side is just as irresistible too.

Together with neighbour, Reydon, Southwold sits entirely within The Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Both parishes have Sites of Specific Scientific Interest on their north and south borders, and they are also home to reserves managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Hear booming bittern, spot heron or let your spirits soar with rare Marsh Harriers on

the southern marshes, land claimed from the Blyth River in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, now part of the Suffolk Coast National Nature Reserve. North of Southwold Pier, shingle and sandy heathland becomes marsh and reedbeds inland – Easton Marshes are a great place to watch migrating birds in spring and autumn and at Buss Creek in winter, you might even spot a Hen Harrier.



## HISTORIC HARBOUR & RAILWAY WALK

Circular route: 4 miles (6.4 kms)

Start / finish: Southwold Pier 1.

With pier behind you, go left to walk along the Promenade 3 all the way to Gun Hill 17 and very last beach hut – conveniently a café! Alternatively, follow 'cliff' path along railings above beach huts to Gun Hill Cliff, then take path down to end of prom. Continue either on beach or path behind dunes, (keep cottages on right) to Alfred Corry Lifeboat Museum 19 and Blyth estuary. Turn right along river into Southwold Harbour 20, past lifeboat station; sea/river trips HQ; foot-ferry (to Walberswick); Blackshore jetties, workshops, huts, smokehouses and eateries. See 1953 storm water-line on wall of historic Harbour Inn, then stay with riverside paths to Bailey Bridge footbridge, former river crossing for Victorian 3-foot gauge Southwold Railway.

Turn right along straight footpath (former trackbed) towards Southwold. At footpath crossroads, take right path across golf course (beware of flying golf balls) towards watertowers. Keeping them on right, continue on diagonal mown path to carpark at York Road. Turn right (Godyll Road). Walk on Common alongside road, then cross with care to the green and Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church 11. From here follow Hidden Heritage trail route (see over) to Market Place and then keep left past Town Hall 13 to meet the seafront.

### Did you know?

Southwold Railway Trust aims to restore the 8 mile historic branch line between Halesworth and Southwold, closed in 1929. Look out for 'Steamworks' Blyth Valley Light Railway on Blyth Road.



### Hen Reedbeds Nature Reserve

Ever seen a hairy dragonfly? A Hobby, Bearded Tit or Norfolk Hawker? Just 3 miles from Southwold town centre, there's a real wildlife treat in store. Fens, dykes, reedbeds, mudflats and pools created in 1999 offer a home to everything from otters to oystercatchers. Maps and trails: [suffolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/hen-reedbed](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/hen-reedbed)



### Medieval Reydon Wood

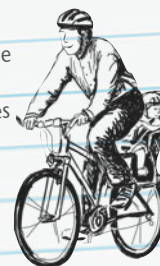
Take a circular walk back in time in a remarkable coppice wood of ash and hornbeam, recently loved back to life by the local community. It's a world of dappled light, wide rides and sunny glades, graced by spotted orchids, orange tip butterflies and tiny treecreepers. Dozens of outdoor discoveries and a natural place for kids of all ages to hone their den-making skills! Maps and trails: [suffolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/reydon-wood](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/reydon-wood)

### Super for Cycling

Explore Southwold and beyond by bike. Cycle hire for all the family and bike racks are available in town, and rewarding discoveries in this Area of

Outstanding Natural Beauty are only a pedal push away.

Southwold is the start of Regional Cycle Route 31 leading to Raveningham on the Norfolk side of the Waveney Valley. [sustrans.org.uk](http://sustrans.org.uk) The 'Southwold Cluster' of Angels & Pinnacles church heritage trails includes cycle rides from Southwold to Walberswick and Westleton. [angelsandpinnacles.org.uk](http://angelsandpinnacles.org.uk)



### Foot-ferry to Walberswick

Why not enjoy being rowed across the Blyth to try crabbing, discover the village, enigmatic church and marshes then walk the old railway line back to Bailey Bridge later? [explorewalberswick.co.uk/ferry.php](http://explorewalberswick.co.uk/ferry.php)

### Meet the Greens

Barnaby Green is only little; Bartholomew Green, just a bit bigger. St James' Green, St Edmunds' Green and Church Green have a certain reverence about them. North, South and East Green are wondering where West has gone.

The town owes many of its greens to the Great Fire of Southwold (1659) – during the subsequent rebuild, open spaces were left as firebreaks. Today, East Green is synonymous with Adnams' famous 'green' brewery. Putting Green by the pier speaks for itself. Whereas Tibby's Green, home to a great play area, is the place for families who've had enough sand between their toes – and conveniently situated just around the corner from the fish and chip shop!

