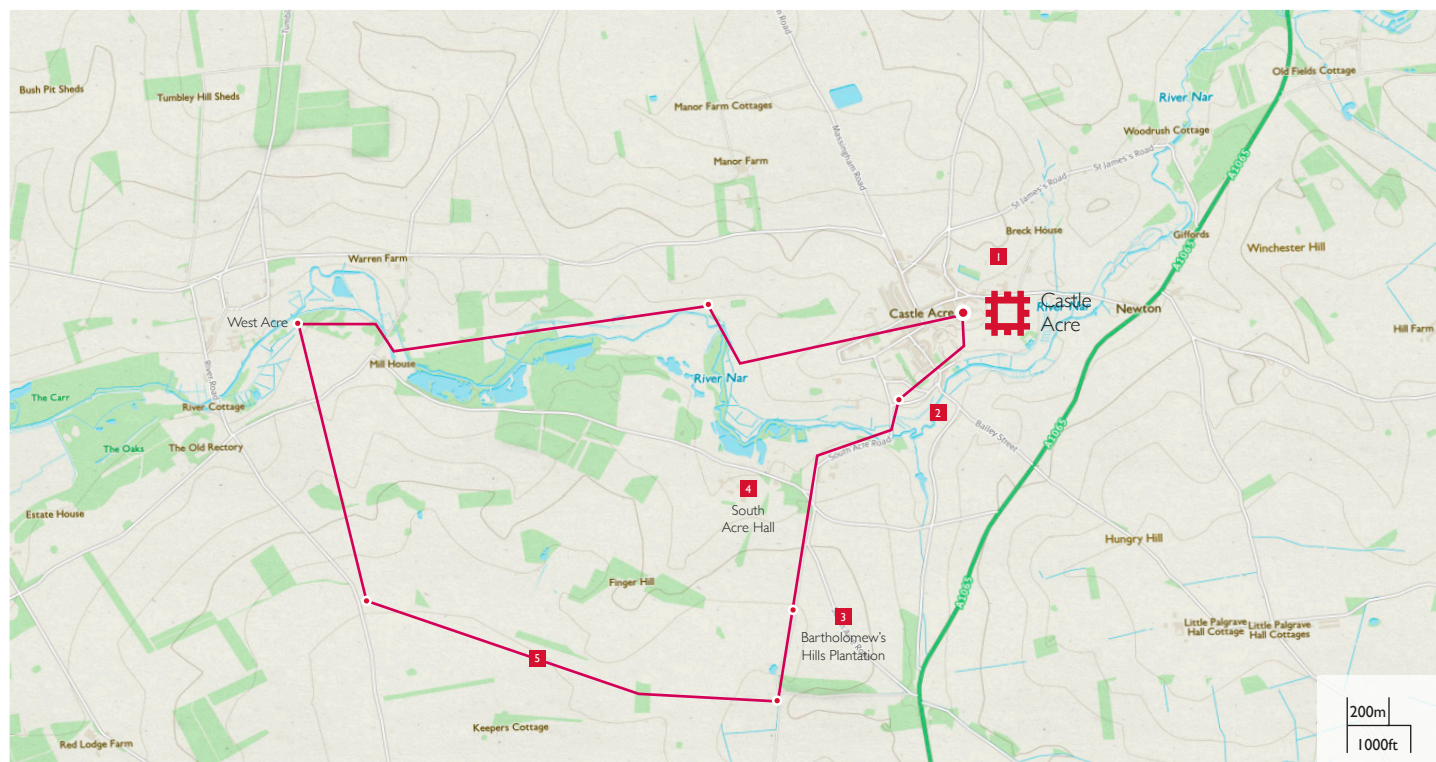


Castle Acre Priory and Castle Acre Castle and Bailey Gate circular walk Norfolk



ENGLISH HERITAGE



Note: this map is intended as a guide only. We would always advise you to use these guides in conjunction with the OS maps referenced below. Please also remember to plan ahead for facilities, including parking, toilets and refreshments.



Need to know

- **OS reference:** OS Explorer map 236
- **Distance:** 6 miles/9.6km (four hours with visits to the properties)
- **Difficulty:** 2/5
- **Terrain:** A gentle walk on established footpaths, crossing a wooded river valley and open fields
- **Opening times:** Castle Acre Priory: 1 Apr–30 Sep, daily, 10am–6pm. 1–31 Oct, daily, 10am–5pm. 1 Nov–29 Mar, Sat–Sun, 10am–4pm. 24–26 Dec & 1 Jan, closed. Castle Acre Castle and Bailey Gate: any reasonable daylight hours
- **Access:** This walk is not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs
- **Dog walkers:** This walk is suitable for dog walking
- **Refreshments:** There is a picnic area at Castle Acre Priory
- **Sat nav:** Starts/ends Castle Acre, King's Lynn, PE32 2XD (01760 755394) via Castlegate, Helmsley, YO62 5AB
- **Grid reference:** Castle Acre Priory (grid ref TF817151) to Castle Acre Castle and Bailey Gate circular walk, Norfolk

Directions

- 1 The trail starts near the Norman castle. Follow the footpath waymarked Nar Valley Way until you reach a pond.
- 2 Turn left and walk through the kissing gate along the waymarked trail. Head southwest towards the small village of South Acre, keeping the River Nar to your left and crossing it by a ford. At this point, there is an excellent view of the ruins of the Cluniac priory just to the north.
- 3 Follow the waymarking through a wood and on until you crest a hill at a crossroads. The trail leads through a couple more crossroads on to an ancient drove road that was used in Roman times, passing Bartholomew's Hills Plantation on your right.
- 4 This next section is waymarked as the Peddars Way. From South Acre, the route passes the village's church and South Acre Hall before following tracks through pastoral farmland above the Knar valley to arrive just east of West Acre.
- 5 At West Acre the route heads east along the Nar Valley Way back towards the village of Castle Acre. It passes through Castle Acre Common, designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest.
- 6 Beyond Castle Acre Common, the route passes north of the entrance to the Cluniac priory just before entering Castle Acre village. Then, after skirting 12th-century St James' Church, the track peters out into a grassy path that skirts the 13th-century stone Bailey Gate.
- 7 Turn left and walk along the lane, past the old castle gate, to the village green.