

Directions

- 1 Head south from the Market Place on the B1176, signposted for Willoughby.
- 2 After about 0.4 of a mile, turn left signposted Farlesthorpe. This puts you on Farlesthorpe Road, follow it through Farlesthorpe, until you arrive at the village of Bonthorpe.
- 3 In the village of Bonthorpe, the road forks. Take the left fork signposted for Cumberworth. After about 1.2 miles, the road turns sharply to the left and it becomes Willoughby Road. Stay on this road until you come into Cumberworth.
- 4 After a sweeping left-hand bend the road forks. Take the left-hand fork, signposted for Alford, passing the Church of St Helen on the left.
- 5 In about 1.5 miles, turn left at the traffic lights, onto the B1449. The road drops down, and as it rises turn right onto Huttoft Road. Stay into Huttoft, where it becomes a T-junction with the A52.
- 6 Turn left onto the A52, taking care as it is a major road. After passing the Axe and Cleaver Public House, turn right onto Jolly Common Lane and follow for 1.6 miles. At the T-junction turn right onto Sea Lane, this will take you to the junction with Huttoft Bank.
- 7 Cross over the road to continue to the beach.

Cycle Lincolnshire

Getting there

Alford sits between Louth and Skegness, and if travelling by road, access via the A1111, A1104 and B1196. There is no rail travel available.

Parking

Parking is available in the Market Place, Smith Street, South Street and Millers Way.

Suitability

This route is suitable for all types of bicycle.



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Cycle Lincolnshire



Three Towns Cycle Routes

Alford to the Coast

7 stages | 11.6 km / 7.2 miles



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What to expect

Starting point: Alford

Finish point: Huttoft Beach

Distance: 11.6 km / 7.2 miles

Picturesque and steeped in history, our Three Towns Cycling routes are relatively flat, easy rides along quiet rural roads. Between them they take in the towns of Alford, Spilsby and Wainfleet All Saints, leading them to be collectively known as the Three Town Rides.

A slight departure from the Three Towns Route, this ride offers the opportunity to visit Lincolnshire's golden sandy beaches.

The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust manages many nature reserves around the county



Focal points & attractions



Market town of Alford

Alford

This attractive market town, set in beautiful countryside at the foot of the Wolds, is an excellent base for cyclists and walkers. The town's prosperous past is evident in its many fine buildings, which include its thatched Manor House, which is a must-see for visitors. Along the ride, visitors can also enjoy a range of pubs and cottages.

Farlesthorpe, Bonthorpe and surrounding area

Scattered farms and a few houses form these hamlets. In Farlesthorpe, St. Andrew's Church, built in 1800, is approached through Glebe Farm. South of Cumberworth Road is an area of Bronze Age burial mounds called Butterbump. This charming name was inspired by the local name for the bittern, the elusive marsh bird that, in years gone by, was hunted for food.

Cumberworth

This small village was listed in the Domesday Book and there is still evidence of its origins. The greenstone medieval church of St Helen is a Grade II listed building, although it closed in the 1980s. The red brick Primitive Methodist Chapel, built in 1849, closed in 1949 and is now a house. The green lane, known as Westfield, leads to fields that in medieval times were farmed using the ridge and furrow method – a communal way of farming, with each resident cultivating their own strip of land.

Huttoft

Huttoft Beach, also known as Moggs Eye, is a quiet rural beach backed by sand dunes. It is a popular spot for surfing and fishing. Huttoft Car Terrace offers ample parking virtually on the beach, treating visitors to spectacular sea views. The recently opened

beach café, Vista at the Boatshed, boasts floor-to-ceiling windows and a rooftop viewing platform.

This route takes in vast stretches of dune-backed golden sands, small, sheltered picnic sites and serene nature reserves.

Another must-visit is Huttoft Bank Pit, a Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust reserve set in a clay pit, which provided clay for sea bank repairs after the 1953 floods. There is a large area of open water, as well as extensive reedbeds which are home to many nesting birds including moorhens, water rail, reed bunting and reed warblers. They also host, amongst others, short-eared owls, marsh harriers, bitterns and snipe.

The Wolds

Although not directly on this route, the Lincolnshire Wolds, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, stretches for over 40 miles and has always inspired daydreams amid romantic rolling green hills, sleepy stone villages and cobbled streets in historic market towns.

Nature Reserves & SSSI

The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust manages many nature reserves around the county. They also maintain several stretches of grass verge to encourage the growth of wildflowers and herbs. Many of the reserves are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The nature reserves are extremely varied, ranging from ancient woodland to coastal reed beds to disused railway tracks.



Cyclists at Huttoft

Alford to the Coast

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