

# Bluntisham to St Ives - 7 miles

## Overview

Gentle walk, starting from the village of Bluntisham using the Ouse Valley Way and Pathfinder Way. Long stretch along the River Ouse, then footpaths to the ancient Old Ferry Boat Inn at Holywell. After the village, way continues along footpath to St Ives, then north of the town to the Way Station.

## Points of Interest

RSPB reserve Ouse Fen

Old Ferry Boat Inn, Holywell - record of ale being served in 560 AD.

St John the Baptist church in Holywell

## Maps and Reference

OS Explorer 225 -	Huntingdon & St Ives
Bluntisham	TL 373745
Burleigh Hall Farm,	TL319742
St Ives	

## Route

Leaving Bluntisham church, turn left onto A1123. Keep to footpath through village. After bus shelter turn left down footpath towards the Ouse Valley Way. (Please note, when the Via Beata follows long distance paths, we do not waymark unless necessary so please follow Ouse Valley Way signs)


Turn right onto Ouse Valley Way. At sluice, keep to right hand side of path with river on left. At marina, follow footpath sign to right. Cross private road. Follow footpath to Holywell. At the Old Ferry Boat Inn, go straight ahead, past thatched houses on right, with river on left. Follow road past the church, then turn left onto Congar lane. At wooden footbridge, turn left onto Parson's Drove.

At Industrial Estate, cross concrete bridge, continue along footpath to A 1096. Cross A 1096 to footpath on far side. At end of footpath, cross to B1040 and walk along the wide verge on left. At Marley Gap Bridge roundabout, continue left along Marley Road until you reach footpath on the right by 40 mile sign, signposted "Woodhurst 1 3/4 miles".

Walk along hedge line, short dog leg, then straight ahead to Burleigh Hill Farm.

Waystation "The Word made Flesh"

Ref: BLT to STV

 Take care crossing roads and railway lines

## Alternative route through St Ives, Cambridgeshire

Instead of turning off the Ouse Valley Way onto Conger Lane (REF: ) Continue on it till you reach the main road (A1096). Turn left to the pedestrian lights. Cross over main road towards Waitrose and the car park. Walk through the town via: Station Road, Market Hill, Crown Street, the Broadway, The Waits towards All Saints Church. (This is the second church with a spire). There is a chemical toilet here but there are plans to install a toilet here. They are happy to welcome overnight pilgrims.

Turn right onto Ramsey Road. Continue north to the main road (A1123). Cross and continue on Ramsey Road to King Hedges road. Turn right. Go ahead and then turn left on Burstellars, then right towards Wheatfields Primary School. At the school turn left onto the cycle and footpath. Where the path splits, turn right past playground towards Burleigh Centre. Cross the car park to Ring Road. Turn right and keep on verge to Constable Road. Continue on verge till you see the footpath sign on the opposite side of the road. Cross, turn left then almost immediately right. Here you will join the other route. Continue on that route to Burleigh Hill Farm and the way station.