



Title: Clacton to Walton

Distance: 7.1 miles

Time taken: 2.5 hours

Location: Clacton on Sea coastal path

Parking: Thorpe-le-Soken Rail Station (for trains from Walton, & to Clacton)

OS Explorer Map: 184

Grid Reference: TM184150

Transport:

Rail: Liverpool St. - Colchester - Clacton-on-Sea, returning from Walton-on-the-Naze via Thorpe le Soken.

Bus: 3 or 4 to Clacton Pier (every hour), and 105,107,109 from Walton to Colchester, via Thorpe le Soken.

Hourly buses 7/7X/8 run from Walton-on-the-Naze back to Clacton-on-Sea.

Refreshments: there are several beach kiosks along the route, offering tea and coffee, ice creams and snacks.

### **Walk description**

This is a very pleasant walk along the sea wall from Clacton to Walton on the Naze. The sea wall is mostly below street level in the built up areas meaning there is little traffic noise. However once past the residential area, the sea wall is actually higher than the neighbouring land, so that there are lovely views across Holland Haven Country Park. From the beach huts of Frinton you can, tides permitting, walk along the smooth firm sands all the way to Walton. This walk is ideal for a hot summer's day, with sea breezes and plenty of ice cream and drinks along the way. The walk could be extended to the north of Walton on the Naze to visit the John Weston Nature Reserve.

### **Directions**

A. From Clacton-on-Sea rail station (1), walk through the small park in front of the station and head down Carnarvon Road to the left of the Library, until you come to the junction with Marine Parade. Cross over onto the coastal pavement and turn left.

B. As you walk along the pavement, look out for a path down to the sea wall you can see on your right. Once on the sea wall, turn left and head north east along the coast.

C. Keep walking. You will pass several rows of beach huts on your left, as well as some kiosks

selling snacks, and will be able to see the Gunfleet Sands wind farm far out to sea, on your right.

D. Keep walking. The sea defences along this part of the Essex coast are varied, with the original wooden groynes still visible, as well as breakwaters, pre-cast concrete structures (2), and rock armour at various places along the route.

E. Keep walking. You will pass some more beach huts (3). After walking along the coast for about 2.5 miles, you will pass a tall radio tower. Just after this point the lower sea wall path begins to look a little unpleasant, being covered with seaweed and shingle. Turn slightly to the left, up a concrete slope, to the higher sea wall path.

F. Keep walking. Holland Haven Country Park is inland as you approach Frinton-on-Sea. (4)

G. Keep walking. As you pass Frinton golf course you can see some beach huts ahead of you, which are unusual, being built on stilts over the beach. Tides permitting, you can turn right down some steps immediately before the first of these huts to reach the beach, and you can walk the rest of the way along the sands (5). Otherwise, continue along the sea wall.

H. Keep walking. If you have chosen the beach route you will have to climb over very, very many wooden groynes.

I. Keep walking until you are almost at Walton pier, then turn left to go inland and walk up The Parade to Walton-on-the-Naze Station.



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