



Walk on the WILDSIDE



SKEGNESS ISN'T ALL 'KISS ME QUICK' HATS AND AMUSEMENT ARCADES, SAYS JO VAUGHAN

SKEGNESS just about typifies most people's idea of the quintessential British coastline, but what they don't imagine is the rambling beaches and quiet countryside. Yes, there's also the odd amusement arcade and Butlins is

walking distance from the Skegness Sands, but don't dismiss a break here on those grounds.

What I can't deny is the profusion of static caravans in the area, but having passed through lines of the same at Skegness Water Leisure Park (where there's also an attractive lake), you're out into quiet fields and wooded dyke-side paths.

Worth noting is that the section of promenade adjacent to the golf club is private property – so, if the tide's in or you don't like walking along the short stretch of soft sand, continue along the main road before turning right down North Foreland Drive (following the public footpath sign). This brings you to the start of the promenade. Turn left and continue back to the site.



General information

Club Site: Skegness Sands Touring Site (an Affiliated Site), Winthorpe Avenue, Skegness, Lincolnshire PE25 1QZ. Tel 01754 761484 or see skegness-sands.com

Open: all year

Distance: 3.6 miles/5.8km

Terrain: Good paths with a couple of muddy fields



DIRECTIONS

1 Leave the site by walking up the road that passes both the high level sea-view pitches and the children's play area. Go straight ahead by the lamp-post and continue through the locked gate (don't forget your key), on to the promenade.

2 Turn left, keeping the beach on your right. Pass the first few cafés and restaurants, but when the 'Boat House, Free House' looms in front of you turn left up a small road (passing a 'Skegness Watersports' sign on your right). At the end, veer right down a narrow pavement to the right side of another road, heading through some trees.

3 Keep right at the main road, and cross the road at a set of traffic lights. Then bear left before almost immediately turning right, down Walls Lane (past 'Premier Walls Lane Store' and 'Parklands Holiday Park').

4 Follow the grey metal fence until you reach a crossroads. Turn left here (sp 'Public Footpath' and 'Water Leisure Park'). Continue through the Water Park's entrance, and then keep left (sp 'Holiday

Home Sales Area'). Pass the 'Public No Access' sign (this applies only to vehicles) and continue through the village of static caravans, passing a lake on your right.

5 Keep following the signs to the 'Holiday Homes Sales Area'. At the end of the road veer slightly left to cross a bridge that spans the dyke, as well as its stile (still following a public footpath sign). Continue towards the church spire, soon picking up a slightly trodden path that continues to the right of a telegraph pole in the field's centre. This line ensures you can easily pass the network of dykes that cross the field.

6 Cross the wooden footbridge next to the signpost, and veer left again to continue towards the church. When you reach a deeper dyke, having passed a metal water-butt on your left, veer right to cross two stiles, before veering left (again heading towards the church).

7 Continue to the far right corner of the field and cross the stile, and then head onwards again as you pass through another stile to the side of a metal gate. At the road (opposite the church's entrance), turn left, before turning right at the T-junction (be careful here as there's no footpath). At a sharp right-hand bend, cross the wooden bridge and turn right following the public footpath sign. Almost immediately bear slightly left to walk straight across the middle of the field towards a line of trees.

8 Head through the gap to the right of a metal gate and then very soon turn left, following the direction of one of the three public footpath signs. Keep the dyke to your left, heading through the trees and past some benches (which are perfect for a picnic).

9 Follow the dyke through a green metal kissing gate and across a wooden bridge. Continue following the reeds and the dyke when you reach the small road, and keep left at the T-junction. Continue to keep left, now walking along the main road, but cross at the traffic lights. Continue to walk in the same direction.

10 Soon, having reached a red dog-litter box, turn right following the public

Local attractions

- **Natureland Sea Sanctuary**, North Parade, Skegness, Lincolnshire PE25 1DB. Tel 01754 764345 or see skegnessnatureland.co.uk. Open: every day from 10am. Cost: £5.20 for adults, £4.15 for OAPs, £3.40 for children.
- **Butlins Skegness**, A52 Ingoldmells. Tel 01754 765567 or see butlins.com/dayvisitor. Open: every day from 10am to 6pm, except for some periods in April, November and December Check website for details. Cost: £9.50 for adults, £7.50 for children and OAPs. Facilities for the disabled.
- **Bateman's Brewery Visitor Centre**, Salem Bridge Brewery, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire PE24 4JE. Tel 01754 880317 or see bateman.co.uk. Open: every day from 11.30am to 3.30pm. Cost: Brewhouse Tours (daily at 2.30pm), adults £4.95 (with 25% discount for OAPs), children £2.

Tourist information

Tower Gardens, Grand Parade, Skegness, Lincolnshire PE25 2UG. Tel 01754 899887, email skegnessinfo@e-lindsey.gov.uk

footpath sign through the centre of a golf course. At the beach, descend the steps and turn left to walk along the sand. At the end of the fence that marks the far end of the golf course, continue along the beach or rejoin the concrete promenade.

11 Walk past Dunes Pub and Amusement Arcade and head around the launch ramp. Continue along the promenade (don't be tempted to walk along the beach here as there are no steps up to the campsite gate). Pass through the wrought-iron gate and return to the site.

SKEGNESS SANDS: 3.6 miles

