

Owens Walks

Route Description: Around Sunderland Point and Bazil Point

1. There's a car park on the shore at the end of Carr Lane (SD41362 57178). Walk S along the shore on the good bridleway. Ignore the concrete ramp (SD41859 56779) leading to farmland and continue along the shore to reach a gate to 'The Lane' (SD42187 56045), this leads directly to Sunderland village but our route is around Sunderland Point. Continue for about 300 metres to a seat overlooking the Bay by Sambo's Grave.

2. Continue along the shore to Sunderland Point, in the estuary is Plover Scar Lighthouse marking the channel of the Lune. Round the point then follow the path along the shore to a stile leading onto the sea wall. As we pass the Old Hall, (aka 'The Captains House') we notice the distinctive influences of West Indian architecture, a link to Sunderland's past. Continue along the road to reach The Second Terrace, (the ex-warehousing for import & export goods). Several vertical poles here were used for drying & repairing fishing nets. Continue along the quay to The First Terrace to reach the Public Toilet block.

3. From here, there is an option to walk along the road across Lades Marsh to 5 (if the tide is out!). Else continue past the concrete ramp (to the house), follow the shore to a stile (SD42528 56336) then over the sea wall using steps, the SP is sometimes hidden by brambles! Cross the field diagonally to a footbridge (SD42389 56459) by a power pole. Continue to a 2nd FB by a farm road, then with the ditch on your R to a 3rd FB (SD42331 56740). Now cross the field to a stile (SD42201 56923) and follow the hedge to a stile (SD42256 57209) leading to the top of a bank. Trailholme is in front. Leave the bank (before the wooden gate) by a stile and follow the fence around Trailholme to reach a stile & farm road. Turn L to the junction (SD42530 57608).

4. Now turn L towards the farm buildings at Marsh Lea and a junction of the footpaths, then turn R to the stile at the road. Turn L along the road to Overton, at the junction, turn R over the sea wall & cattlegrid.

5. Follow the path SP Bazil Point, a stile leads to the top of the sea embankment to avoid the wettest ground, before returning to the shore. Pass the fisherman's huts then Ferry Cottage. Bazil Point is a very special place of solitude where we can enjoy nature and our landscape. Continue along the shore, past the farm cottages to reach a stile (SD42820 57779).

6. Leave the shore along a path, then cross the meadow on the farm track to reach Bazil Lane, continue to the junction with Church Lane. A short excursion affords a visit to the Ancient Church before returning. Walk along Chapel Lane, follow the sharp L bend & then a R turn to reach Main Street in Overton. Turn L along Main Street, through the village to reach the road junction, turn R along the road to the FP and stile previously crossed.

7. Walk to Marsh Lea & cross the ladder stile (SD42541 57802) on the R, then follow a faint path across the field to a kissing gate (SD42438 57801). Head across the large pasture towards the corner of the field to a stile (SD42056 57767), now follow the hedge, over a stile and walk alongside the hedge next to the buildings, a stile leads to a driveway to the workshops. Follow the driveway to Carr Lane, turn L & walk along Carr Lane to reach the car park on the shore.