

Rambles around the Island

in association with the IW Ramblers



Description: Investigate the heritage of Brading Station. Walk through a reclaimed harbour and along a disused railway embankment with the chance to see Little grebes, cormorants, coots and tufted ducks. You get bonus points for a bittern or bearded tit - they are rare. Take binoculars.

Distance: 3.2 miles

Start: Brading Railway Station car park (free).

Access Information: Flat walk but some stiles on return leg.

Refreshments: Café at station or in Brading village.

Toilets: Brading village

Route: With back to station (1), leave on the road and after 50 yards take a concrete pathway, between houses to the right which leads into the end of a cul-de-sac. Find path on the right between houses which crosses railway line (2). Then turn left by line following path B1. You can see Bembridge Fort to your right, beyond the flat marshes. Continue past a pipeline and waste water works.

At path junction carry straight on to the left of a house on footpath B2 towards St. Helens (3). At a gate, bear left along broad track into Brading Marshes Nature Reserve. You are now on the old railway embankment with marshes on both sides.

Follow this track to eventually reach industrial buildings (4). Follow the track on the left of the buildings and, at a road (5), cross and turn left for a short way. It is necessary to walk on the road edge. At bus stop, cross the road and take footpath B4. Cross stile (6) and head slightly right, aiming at wide gap in hedge at end of field.

At a footpath sign and stile continue on B4 towards Brading and bear left over a wooden sleeper bridge, then turn right (7). Head for of stile in a hedge clump, cross bridge and then head for the church and sports complex in the distance. After entering North Marsh RSPB reserve go to the left of the

sports complex.

You will see a 3-bar fence and a metal kissing gate to cross the railway (8). Follow the path for 20 yards and then turn left over a bridge and stile. Go ahead across a field to another stile and an enclosed path. The path crosses Quay Lane and continues to the right of Cliff Close. Descend into marsh again and bear left at a Y junction, and then left at the next junction.

Go up the slope to find a road (9). Turn left and follow it round to the right to the end of cul-de-sac at start of walk. Return along the concrete walkway and back to the station on the left.

Around
BRADING STATION
and **MARSHES**

