

TOUR 9 EAST ANGLIA

The counties of Suffolk and Norfolk have seen a marked increase in interest in local food in the past few years, with traditional suppliers receiving a boost and speciality shops and restaurants opening up along the coast.

This tour affords a taste of the past and present, beginning at **The Trinity** bistro, part of The Crown and Castle in Orford. After breakfast, savour the views over Orford Ness, a shingle spit separating the river from the North Sea and described as half wilderness, half military junkyard after many years of MoD occupation. Now owned by The National Trust, trips to this intriguing strip of land are available by boat from Orford harbour. Orford is also blessed with two smoke-houses in Pinneys.

(also known as *Butley Orford Oysterage, Market Hill, Orford, Suffolk IP12 2LH; 01394 450277; www.butleyorfordoysterage.co.uk*) and **Richardson's**, so you might want to buy something to take with you. You might also like to take a walk along the riverbank and pick some wild samphire.

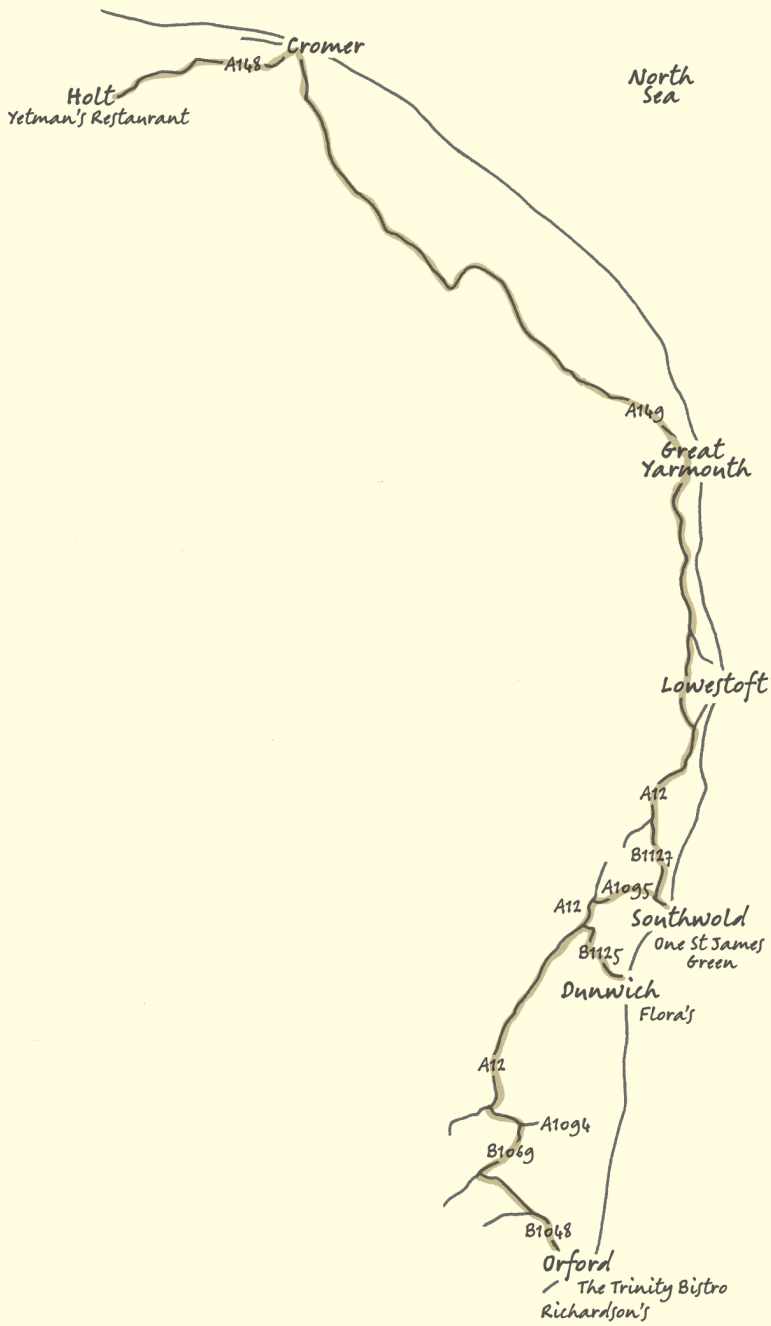
Head out of Orford along the B1084 and the B1078. Once at Tunstall, take the B1069, turn left on to the A1094 at Snape, and then follow the A12 north until you reach the right turn on to the B1387. The B1125 will bring you back south so turn left following signs for Dunwich. This little town has some rich history and is under constant threat from the eroding waves of the North Sea. Treat yourself to a fish and chip lunch (the local skate is good) from **Flora's** on the seafront.

Southwold lies just along the coast and is reached from the A1095 after returning to the A12. Here you will discover an impressive beach that morphs from shingle in winter to sand in summer, and a generous harbour complete with picture-postcard lighthouse. Southwold pier is also enjoying a new lease of life after a recent refurbishment and the sweetshop at **One St James Green** will

provide some nostalgic treats for the journey ahead.

The B1127 provides a scenic route back to the A12 where we head north, gradually edging nearer to the sea. Follow the road towards Lowestoft, joining the A1117 to avoid the traffic. Once back on the A12, head straight for Great Yarmouth where the coastal road merges into the A149. Continue up along the cliffs weaving in and out of the beautiful flatlands of the Broads National Park before reaching Cromer. At Cromer head away from the coast on the A148 to Holt, our final stop. The sleepiness of the village is somewhat deceiving since Holt is gaining a reputation as an increasingly epicurean town. Leading the way is **Yetman's Restaurant**, a pretty little yellow cottage which would make a great venue for dinner. Alternatively, a glorious summer's evening couldn't be better spent than acquiring a picnic from **Picnic Fayre** and enjoying the sunset by the sea.

This tour was created with the help of Mark Ratcliff, a native of Suffolk, and lover and champion of East Anglian food.



Cromer

Holt
Yetman's Restaurant

North
Sea

A149

Great
Yarmouth

Lowestoft

A12

B1127

Southwold

One St James
Green

A12

B1125

Dunwich

Flora's

A12

A1094

B1069

B1048

Orford

The Trinity Bistro
Richardson's