

Castle Acre is situated five miles north of Swaffham. This delightful and attractive village boasts an extraordinary wealth of history and is well worth exploring. Round the little green there are two public houses, two tearooms/restaurants and several other quaint little shops. There is usually somewhere to park around the green, but if not go to the English Heritage car park at the Castle. To find this, drive away from the village green leaving the Bailey Gate on your right. The narrow lane down to the Castle is straight in front of you as you get to the sharp left hand bend.

From Stocks Green go towards the church and turn left at the far end of the church wall. Follow this narrow lane down to where it meets the lovely river Nar, then along the banks to a footbridge over the gin clear water. Stop here to get a lovely view of the Priory across the field to the right, before crossing the bridge and continuing up another stony lane.

Soon after the left hand bend at the farm buildings, take the lane on the right, which then joins a larger lane going in the same direction. Continue straight on for about one and a half miles to a sharp left hand bend at West Acre common.

\*West Acre ford and common are down the stony lane on the right, a popular picnic place, where there is clear shallow water, ideal for children (and adults!) to paddle in, and an extensive wooded common.

Continue round to the left and follow the lane to the next crossroads where you turn right towards West Acre village, crossing over the River Nar again at a little bridge. Soon after the bridge there is a tiny lane (Sandy Lane) on the right, which takes you to a crossroads. Turn right here into Church Green, passing All Saints Church and continuing down to the Stag public house, where the lane goes round to the left and up to a junction.

Go straight across and up the hill to join a larger lane, continuing through an attractive wooded area for about two and a half miles to a junction. Turn right and follow to the next junction and turn right again, following this lane for just over a mile to a lane on the left. Turn up here to a slightly manicured area where there are some huge oak and beech trees by the entrance to Wickens Farm.

The lane splits three ways here and you take the narrow one in the middle for a very pretty ride

to the next junction, where you turn sharp right and follow this (mostly level or downhill you'll be pleased to know) lane for slightly under two miles to a junction.

Follow the main track round to the right which leads you up to a little common on the edge of Castle Acre, where you go straight across and up to a junction by the bungalows. Turn left and continue until the road bears sharp right, taking you back to Stocks Green.



