

Norfolk

TRAVEL GUIDE



Oliver's Travels
— YOUR GREAT ESCAPE —

Found in the west of England, Norfolk's charms are as broad as the famous network of rivers that run through it. With an abundance of natural beauty and wildlife, this is one county where you can really kick back and enjoy some quintessential English countryside. But it's not just a rural idyll – there's loads of stuff to see and do, which we've put together in our handy Norfolk travel guide.

NORFOLK 101

CURRENCY	POUND	TIME ZONE	GMT
ELECTRICAL	THREE PIN	HIGHEST TEMP.	21° C
LANGUAGE	ENGLISH	LOWEST TEMP.	4° C
EMERGENCY	999	PEAK SEASON	JAN-JUNE





TRANSPORT TALK



BY WHEELS

The most flexible way of exploring Norfolk is by car, as you can travel door to door at your own pace. Most major car rental firms including [Hertz](#), [Avis](#), [Budget](#) and [Europcar](#) – operate out of Norwich Airport.



BY BIKE

Norfolk is an ideal place for cyclists as it has quiet lanes and splendid scenery. The famous Broads and the lovely Norfolk coast are just two routes waiting to be discovered by cyclists.



BY TAXI

There is nothing complicated about Norfolk taxis. You can find them at ranks in all the major cities and towns in Norfolk. Alternatively, taxis can be pre booked online through several taxi companies.



BY WATER

Norfolk Line, now part of [DFDS Seaways](#) offer ferry crossings on 4 different routes, including ferries to France & ferries to England.



BY AIR

[Norwich International airport](#) has direct flights from many UK and European destinations. Alternatively, Stansted airport is a short drive away.



BY BUS OR TRAIN

The major towns in Norfolk, can all be reached by train – check the [National Rail](#). When in Norfolk there are bus services which cover much of the region.

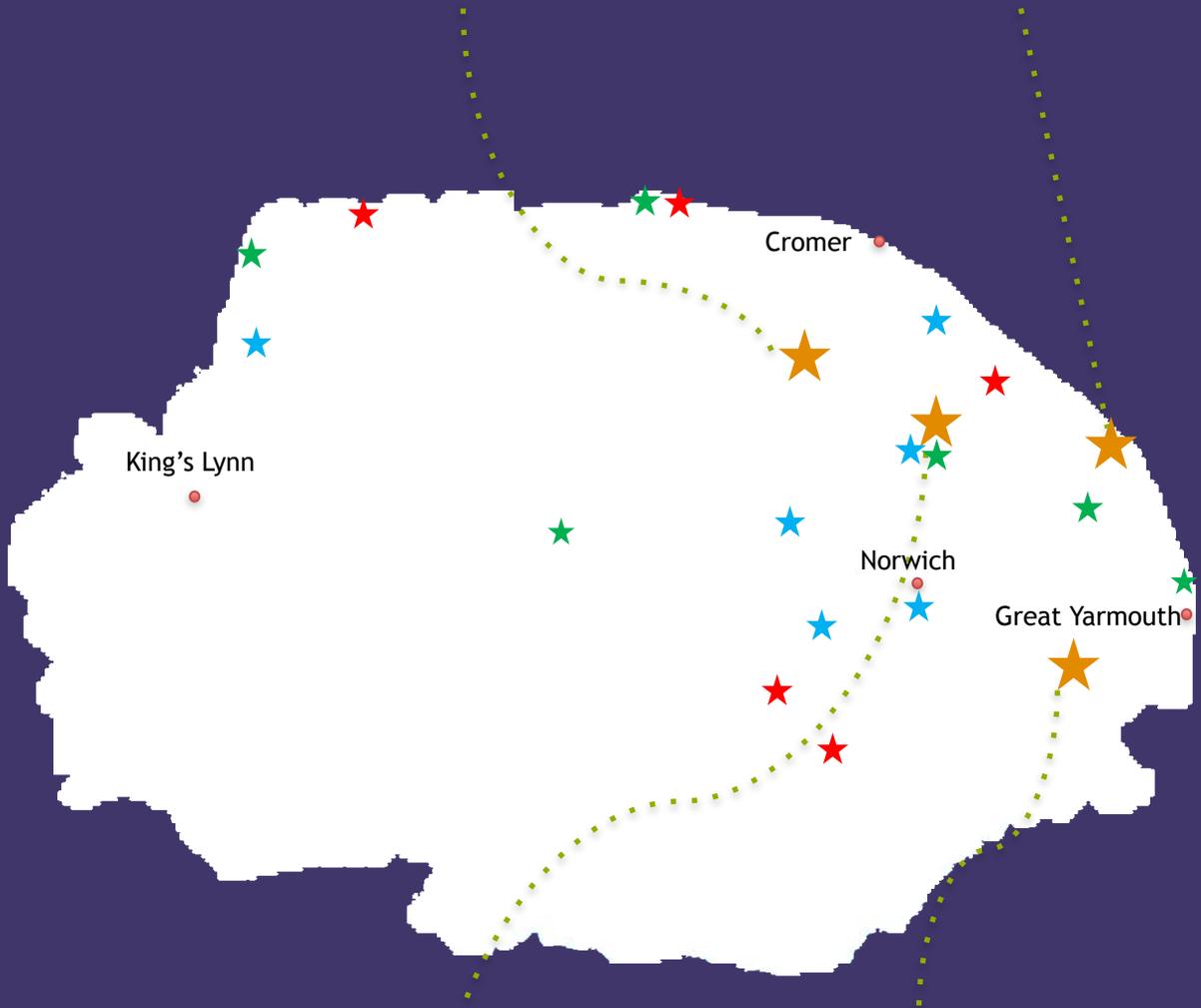
HIDDEN GEMS

Blickling Estate

Fancy a day of exploring noble family homes and elegant gardens? You're in luck – Norfolk has lots of **National Trust properties**. Most visitors make a beeline for Blickling Hall, one of the most attractive heritage sites in the county.

Winterton Dunes National Nature Reserve

If you want a solitary ramble along deserted shores, there's no better place for it than the **Winterton Dunes National Nature Reserve**.



Bure Valley Railway

Trundle around the beautiful Broads on the **Bure Valley Railway**, a narrow gauge steam railway that winds through some of Norfolk's prettiest landscapes.

St Olaves

Explore the small village of St. Olaves – it's medieval priory and an old mill before ambling further up the River Waverney for lunch in another of the lovely nearby villages.

- ★ Hidden Gems
- ★ Picks for Kids
- ★ Best Activities
- ★ Foodie Delights

TOP PICKS FOR KIDS

See the Seals



[Beans Boat Trips](#) take you near Blakeney Point where a colony of around 500 seals can be seen hanging about. Allow the kids to take photos as you watch the comical seals play and frolick in the shallow water.



Make your Own



Kids who love crafts will have a great time decorating their own personal pieces of crockery. [Paint Me Ceramics](#) offer hundreds of different items, from clocks to cups.



Paddle Through



Paddle through the rivers of the Norfolk Broads with [the Canoe Man](#). An expedition that will bring your family closer together. Entertain the kids by taking part in a game of spot the wildlife..



Explore the County



Personalise your guided [Norfolk Tours](#) with trips around some of the county's most interesting historic sights. If your family background lies in Norfolk, then trace your roots.



Meet the Animals



Here, children can meet big cats, colourful birds and cheeky primates. What's most impressive about the [gardens of Thrigby Hall](#) is the diversity and rarity of the wildlife comfortably held in a relatively small area.



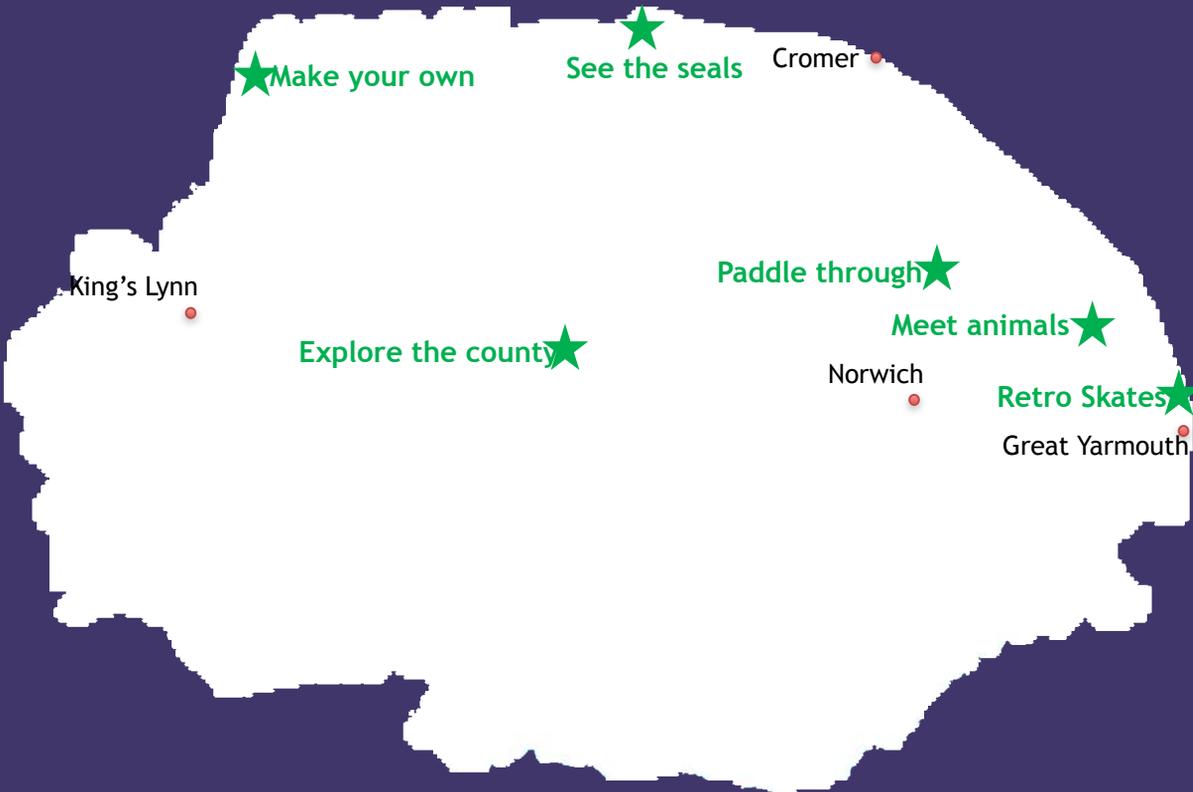
Retro Skates



Adults can relive the glory days of disco while kids can spin around on eight wheels at the fun roller discos of [Retro Skate](#). The site features a play area for under-fives and a Roller Tots Rink.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR KIDS



CROWD-PLEASERS: BEST ACTIVITIES

Hop between bars



The old streets of Norwich hide a number of excellent drinking spots, all of which demand to be visited. [Norwich Pub Tours](#) are happy to help, and can take you round the city's best watering holes.



Cruise Along



Cruise along the network of waterways that wind through the green fields of the Norfolk Broads for a truly relaxing afternoon. With [Norfolk Broads River Trips](#), sit back and enjoy a drink whilst simply watching the water roll by.



Make feathered friends



[Happisburgh Owls](#) have an impressive collection of birds. On a visit to the sanctuary you can hold the magnificent creatures and learn from the passionate experts about the life and diet of these special birds.



Breathe in the Smells



Step into the powerfully scented purple fields at [Norfolk Lavender](#) farms and you'd be forgiven for thinking, for a moment, that you have been transported to an abbey in Provence.



Hole- In-One



Norfolk's undulating greenery and plentiful waterways are the ideal landscape for evergreen golf courses; [Glen Lodge](#) is one of the best. It has one 18 hole course and another with nine holes, great for groups.



Browse art



One of the best art galleries in Norfolk. The [SCVA](#) is designed to showcase the creativity of humans from 5,000 years of civilisation. There is always something new, interesting and unexpected to see.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR GROUPS





BEST FOODIE DELIGHTS



The Ingham Swan

Norfolk is the inspiration for the dishes served in [the Ingham Swan](#), a traditional inn that turns out gourmet food with a real aesthetic flair. Dine on one of their tasting menus to try a wide selection of cuisines.



Wiveton Hall



[Wiveton Hall](#) serves food grown at the estate and caters to all tastes and requirements. In season, you can wander through the farm and pick strawberries, meeting the various animals that live in the grounds as you go.



The English Whisky Co

Tour the factory where the malts are fermented and distilled, and learn about all the processes that go into crafting [English Whisky](#). The journey ends with a tasting session!



Amandines



[Amandines](#) serves up vegan and vegetarian dishes that will make the mouth of any hardened carnivore water. The menu changes regularly according to the produce they source from local farms.



Dishes to try

Look out for **Cromer crab**, one highly prized crustacean off the Norfolk coast. As a side dish for your seafood, try **samphire**. You'll find some great cheese in Norfolk, but keep your eyes peeled for **Binham Blue**, and **Ruby Dapple**.

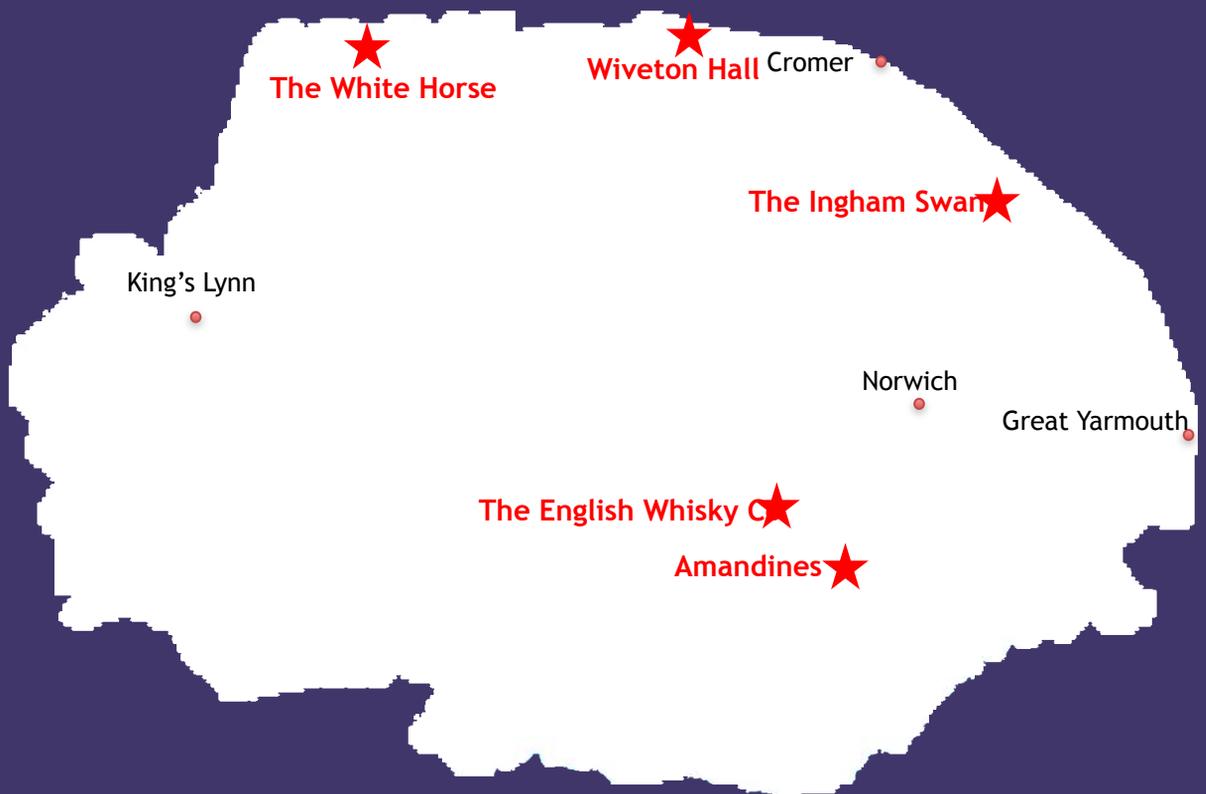
The White Horse



The beauty of the location of this restaurant is matched by the quality of the food. [The White Horse](#) serves food straight from the sea, offering trout, mussels and shellfish, depending on the time of year.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR FOODIES





We'd like to think we know travel pretty well. Since we first hatched [Oliver's Travels](#) in 2003 it's been essentially all we've talked about. You could call us obsessed.

Our extensive [blog](#), Oliver's Journal has got tons of information and inspiration on locations across Europe and the Caribbean. It's a one-stop shop for family-friendly holiday fun, the best group activities, foodie finds and a good dose of adventure. If you found this travel guide useful, (we hope you did!), you can find a whole host more on the blog, too!

At Oliver's Travels we don't do ordinary. From [family chateaux in France](#) and [luxury cottages in Norfolk](#), to Mediterranean [villas with pools](#) and [Caribbean beach villas](#), we have something for everyone, everywhere.



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