

THE ALTERNATIVE CAISTOR CHALLENGE

Walk out of Caistor Market Place, NatWest Bank on your right, down Plough Hill passing Spar Shop; turn right at Southdale Road. Viking Way (VW) sign post on your left is where you will emerge 25 miles later on. Carry on towards the road junction with telephone box and walk down Navigation Lane. Continue down green lane to its end, turn left and walk round the field boundary until bridge over stream is found. Turn left over stream, walk down field with hedge and fence on your left. Cross stile and turn left along a hedged lane, gradually bending to the right. Over the stile at the end of the lane and on to cross a bridge over the stream. After crossing, turn left; go on the left side of the small pumping station, over another small bridge, then bear right to a stile hidden by a bend in the fence near the farmhouse. Cross the stile and walk straight on down the road. Cross the A46 with care to The Salutation Inn at NETTLETON.

Turn immediately left at The Salutation Inn, up the road through Nettleton Village, past the Post Office and church. At the junction follow the road to the right. You are now on The Viking Way all the way through to LUDFORD. At the next right hand road bend fork left down a track signed with the VW symbol. Follow farm track until it goes left at the farm situated on your right. Go over the stile (recently dedicated to the memory of the late Nev Cole) and immediately turn right with hedge on your right and also pond to your right.

Carry on in the same direction with stream on your right. The stream is Nettleton Beck. Continue to follow its direction until a concrete farm track is reached (from pond to track 1km). Turn left at the track for 20m, then turn right over a stile into a plantation. Follow the winding path to an old tunnel; go round the tunnel, then over a stile, before rejoining the beck. Continue up the valley, beck on your right. Cross the stile in the field corner and bear right. Walk up field to a gate in the top right hand corner of the field. Go through the gate and up the track to the road, turn left. This is Acre House. Walk along the road for nearly 2km to locate a stile on your left, which allows you to cross the field into NORMANBY-LE-WOLD.

Turn left along the road, then right at the junction with phone box. Continue on the road, passing the church on your left onto the track and over the stile. Continue with the hedge on your left; VW signs are ever present. After about 1km the VW descends in a large grass field; bear right on the steep slope till the sign post on the corner is reached. Continue down with the hedge on your right and continue on this track until you reach the road, turn left and walk into WALESBY.

At the road junction turn right, then left up the track to The Ramblers' Church of All Saints. Continue on the VW across two fields, down a steep incline, then up again to pass Risby Manor Farm, some 50m on your left. Continue up to some woodland, coming out by Castle Farm. After crossing stile, turn left and go down hill following the path to the road. This is TEALBY.

At the road turn left and cross over by a wooden seat, go down the path to your right. At the bottom turn left, passing a few shops; at the end turn right. Walk down the road to the ford. Cross the River Rase and continue up the track, passing a few cottages. Continue for 1km till open fields are reached. Look for the VW turning to the right off the track. Follow field boundary with hedge on your right. After crossing stile, look for sharp right turn, hedge again to your right. At the next sharp right turn (hedge will be on your left), follow track till it turns left, follow and walk to the road (Caistor High Street).

Turn right, walk about 200m before crossing road to find VW signpost on your left. Follow field path with hedge to your left for J fields, before turning right, walking through the farm to the road A6J1. Turn left and walk into the village of LUDFORD. Cafe, shop and 2 pubs.

Continue to walk through the village. Turn left immediately after passing the church. Go up the track gradually going round to the right. At the large white house, as the track goes left, go across two fields, which are signposted, as far as the road. Turn left and continue down the road. As the road turns right, walk straight on, signed as THORPE-LE-VALE.

Passing the house on your left and large Dutch barn, turn left, then right, cottage on your right. Walk down the track with trout lake on your left. Continue on this farm track, passing trout lakes to your right, until track ends, bearing left with stream to your left continue for some 500m until you cross the stream at a bridge. After crossing, turn right and continue on farm track, passing a copse. Bear right to the road at KIRMOND-LE-MIRE.

Straight across the road, passing The Manor House on your right, continue on a track till it turns left. Walk straight on through gate, across field to another gate. Walk out into the field (the path is generally clear and apparent). Gradually angle off to the left and when the hedge comes in sight, aim for the field corner. Cross the bridge and go up the field path, hedge on your right. Carry on till a wood copse and disused pit are reached. Turn right, go down steep incline and carry on along a good path towards two cottages. Turn left for 30m, then right, coming out on the road. Carry on downhill and walk into the village of STAINTON-LE-VALE.

Walk on to the road T junction and turn right; continue to the church. Opposite the church turn left and go up a good track for over 1km. At the road turn left for about 30m; turn right on marked path, walk down into the valley, the track turns right. Walk towards the hedge; turn left, walk up the field with hedge on your right, till the THORESWAY road is reached. Cross over; go through the gate, cross field to a further gate. Carry on in this direction until the ROTHWELL road is reached. Turn left and walk, 2km down the road into ROTHWELL.

At the junction turn left. The Nickerson Arms is to your right. Going behind the pub, turn right into Wold View, then immediately left up a farm road. Continue up the track; when it turns sharp left, you continue straight on along a good grass track to the field boundary hedge. Turn left, with hedge to your left and continue; the path becomes a farm track. When it turns sharp left, continue out into the field and aim for the field corner. Go through the hedge, cross the road into field and turn right. Go up the field with hedge on your right. Cross the main road and proceed down good farm road. It will go left, but you continue slightly right down with barns on your left, down to the pond and Nev Cole stile, which was encountered some 20 miles previously. Turn right and retrace your route into NETTLETON.

At road junction turn right up Mansgate Hill to stile on your left at the bottom of Bungalow Drive. Follow the path across the field, cross stile, hedge on your left. Viking Way signs in abundance. After crossing large grass field, go up steep embankment of Caistor by-pass. **CROSS THE BY-PASS WITH CARE - FAST TRAFFIC.** Follow path at side of playing field and housing estate. Go towards garages - to the left a path. At the road turn right, take left fork and walk up hill to CAISTOR Market Place.