

CAISTOR CHALLENGE

From Caistor Market Place go down Bank Lane, which is alongside The Nat West Bank, carry on to the church, turn left into Church Folly. At the end of the wall go up the semi-circular steps; continue on to the road, going downhill, follow road round to main road junction. Turn right 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 the stream, walk down the field with hedge and fence on your left. Cross the 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 to 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 lane, coming out on the A46 opposite The Salutation Inn at Nettleton.

Turn right and walk down the A46 crossing the Moortown Road, passing the playing field. Just before a white painted fence look across the road and locate the metal footpath signpost. Distance along A46 approx 1000 yards, 1km. Proceed diagonally across the field, heading just to the right of derelict building. **DO NOT FOLLOW THE LINE OF PATH SHOWN ON MAPS TO NEW FARM - IT IS DIVERTED.** Through the hedge turn left then right and follow the field boundary, hedge on your left. Follow the field all the way round to large trees, turning left cross bridge and continue. Cross a stile, bearing left till tarmac road is reached.

Turn left, then right into grass field behind the house. Continue with hedge to your right. In the corner of second field locate stile, cross, turn left, follow field boundary. After some 200m locate bridge low down in wooded hedge, cross and continue with hedge on your left. Cross 2 more bridges. When field/hedge finishes and goes left, you walk straight on across the field heading for an opening and tree. Continue over from bridge, hedge on your left again. At hedge end turn left for 20m, then right across field, roughly the same line as before to road. Cross the stiles and continue on the same line across the field to the road. Turn left.

Walk down Pelham Road towards CLAXBY past The Viking Centre J road turns left, walk straight on, with church to the right. Go through gate, cross field with hedge to your right (this is a permissive path). At the road go on, turn right and follow the road about 1km. When it turns sharp right, carry on across wooden bridge, turn half right. From where you stand go across, heading for the 4th telegraph pole. Pass by it and your course is continuing across to left hand pole and right hand tree of the line. Turn left at trees; with railway on your right

continue to the road. Turn right, cross level crossing then turn left. Walk along woodland path, railway on your left. Continue until Nova Scotia Bridge is reached. Cross over and continue down the main track. Keep to the main track, past the caravan site, to the road. Cross the road and continue down the byeway in roughly the same direction, coming out by the farm on Rasen Road. Turn left and walk on rough pavement for 600m. After slight bend, look for well defined opening into the woods, marked FRP4.

Cross road and walk down main track into woods, follow it round to the right. After some 200m the track turns left, you turn left with it. DO NOT GO STRAIGHT ON. Continue until the track turns right at a field. You turn off left into bushes, then right. Continue through trees with field boundary on your right. Cross small bridge and stream. Turn right on to the main trail again, turn left. Continue on main track until a cross-road of trails meet, about 500m. Turn right and after some 100m look to the trail on your left. Go down this to car park, picnic area, cafe and toilets.

Go out to the A631, turn left, and walk along the road on the path for 1km. On passing a house on your left, cross the road and enter the wood, walking down the edge of the wood, turning as the track goes right. After some 100m, seek a small track on your left. You are, in fact, following the line of the field. Go down as far as the hedge, turn left, ditch on your right, cross stile and continue towards Lowfield Farm. At the farm, walk round to the right through gate and go left. Carry on left of telegraph pole, cross bridge and head across to telegraph pole between gable ended bungalows. Carry on down the lane. This is North Willingham.

At the road junction turn left down A631. After 50m, turn right over stile into field. Continue for 150m, cross stile, then cross field down towards willow trees and bridge. Cross and bearing slightly left, walk across field to hedge. Turn left, following hedge, till good track is met. Turn right, keep on the line, of heading for Tealby Church. When track runs out, cross fields, heading about 5° to right of church, going across the bridge and through hedge. Church appears slightly to your right; walk straight on, cross bridge and farm road past large ash tree. Continue straight across field, through hedge, out on road near The King's Head. Turn left, follow road to right to The Old Barn Pub.

Turn right out of The Old Barn car park, follow the road to left, King's Head to your right. Look for footpath on your left. Go up the side of the grass field to a stile in the corner. Follow path beside a house, up the drive to the road. Cross the road to a stile and path along another garden. Carry on along the side of the field to join The Viking Way path. Keep the fence on your left. Go through a gate into grass field. Walk up the valley to a stile at the left hand corner of the wood, above the entrance to Castle Farm. Go along the wood side, hedge on your left. Over the stile to grass field, aim for a gate by the right hand of 3 telegraph poles. Go through gate, keep fence on your right, to tarmac road. Cross at stile; continue gradually going to the right. Go down steep incline, cross the small bridge. Continue on up steep bank to right hand corner of wood. Over stile and go straight across cropped/ploughed field. The tower of Walesby Church is your guide. Crossing the stile into grass field please note simple inscription to Nev Cole on the fence surrounding memorial oak tree. Walk down to the church of All Saints, The Ramblers' Church. Look inside or sit on the

seats outside and admire the view; on a clear day you will be able to see Lincoln Cathedral.

Walk past Walesby Church, through the gate and down the steep track, coming out on the road. Turn right, then as road goes right, turn left past the Village Hall, turning immediate right down Otby Lane. Walk up the lane. Just before Highfield Farm turn left down the private road. Follow the road and just before Otby House turn left through a gate into the field. Cross the field going down hill to the field corner. In the bottom corner go through the left hand gate. Continue, keeping hedge on your right.

Cross a sleeper bridge and then a stile. Walk down the field, heading to the right of the old mill. In the corner of the field go through the small gate and go up the side of the field, hedge on your left. When nearly at the top of the second field, seek out stile, cross and turn right to top of grass field. Back on Viking Way. Carry on towards Normaby-le-Wold, following well defined path with hedge and wall on your right with good all round views. Pass the church on your right and walk down tarmac road to the small village; approaching the telephone box, turn left down the road past cottages to footpath signpost on your right. Go through gate and cross grass field. Over the stile and on to the road.

Turn right and walk along the road, heading for Acre House, approx 2km. Just past Acre House turn right through a gate by a mast. Viking Way markings all the way now to Nettleton and Caistor. Walk down the track till gate is reached. Pass through and turn left, walking down hill to valley bottom. On nearing hedge corner, a stile will be found in the hedge. Cross over and continue with Nettleton Beck on your left. As signs of ironstone mining are seen and when fronted by trees and bushes seek out the tunnel under the hill, go round to the right, signed because the tunnel is now closed and continue on path in trees, lake on your left. At the top a concrete road is found.

Turn left; after 30yds turn right through gate into field and continue, beck still on your left, crossing stiles and bridges until a farm comes into view with lake. Walk past the lake, on your left, and at field end turn left through gate. Walk towards farm. Turning right onto track continue 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 field, cross stile, hedge on your left, Viking Way signs in abundance, reaching a grass field. After crossing, 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.