

Explore Beccles & Bungay...



The historic market towns of Beccles and Bungay are full of history, sitting proudly in the heart of the Waveney Valley and the Southern Broads. Both have an abundance of quirky, independent shops and bustling cafe's for you to enjoy.



1 Beccles

Start your day in Beccles. When you arrive, stop off at The Station Café for breakfast and some extra research for your visit. As well as providing a selection of delicious food and drinks, the cafe also operates as a visitor information point.

After breakfast, head into the town centre for a walk down Northgate, housing a wealth of listed buildings. Much of the architecture has a strong Flemish influence and a number of the fine town houses have Georgian facades to what are, in fact, much older buildings. Follow the road along the river and make your way up the lofty bell-tower of St. Michael's church. The church dates from 1500's, and was recently renovated. It now serves as a tourist information point. You can take a guided tour to the top of the tower, which provides unrivalled panoramic views over the surrounding countryside.



From April to October you can enjoy a river trip on the Big Dog Ferry, which runs and departs from Beccles Lido. The 3-mile relaxing boat trip will take you along the River Waveney. Look out for otters, kingfishers and marsh harriers. Journey time is approx. 40-45 minutes, depending on the wind, tides, number of passengers and the interesting things to see.

The Ferry stops at The Locks Inn, where you can have lunch or stay on for the round trip back. It's also possible to buy a single ticket and walk back along the footpaths.

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After lunch, head out of Beccles on the A146 and turn left at the roundabout on to the A143 towards Bungay. This will take you through Earsham, where you can make a stop off at Flint Vineyard.

Flint Vineyard's Bacchus 2017 was named by The Independent as Indy Best Buy English Still Wine 2018 and included in The Times Top 50 White Wines. Tours and Tastings are available every Saturday and must be pre-booked. The shop is open every Saturday from 10-4. Get in touch if you'd like to pop in to buy wine at any other time.

Continue on to the Market town of Bungay.

2 Bungay

Bungay sits in the heart of the Waveney Valley, with roots that can be traced back to Roman times. A fine lead-domed Butter Cross marks the centre of town. Bungay also boasts a Roman well, a Saxon church and the remains of a Norman castle and Benedictine priory.

No trip to Bungay would be complete without visits to both the Earsham Street Café, known for its fantastic food using local & free range ingredients and The Earsham Street Deli which boasts the title 'Suffolk's Finest Deli'. Therefore, we suggest you start your visit in Earsham Street!

Once you've stocked up on delicious treats; it will probably be time for a little fresh air.



Wander up to Castle Street and Bungay Castle. Not much more than ruins today, the castle was erected by Hugh Bigod, the powerful Earl of Suffolk, in the late 12th-century and was presented to the town in 1987 by the Duke of Norfolk. It is now operated by a civic trust, with a cafe and visitor centre at the entrance.

Tracing your steps back to the town centre you will notice the townscape is dominated by the majestic tower of St. Mary's Church. From here you can pick up the **Bungay Town Trail**. The Town Trail includes virtually all of Bungay's historic buildings, churches, the River Waveney and shops of special interest. The routes are ideal for visitors to the town and offer a chance to explore the 'old world charm' that is unique to Bungay and can be completed at a moderate walking pace in approximately 2 hours.

Enjoy!

For more Trails and Itineraries visit
www.visitwaveneyvalley.co.uk

If you would like to be included in a Trail or Itinerary,
please contact us at info@visitwaveneyvalley.co.uk

