

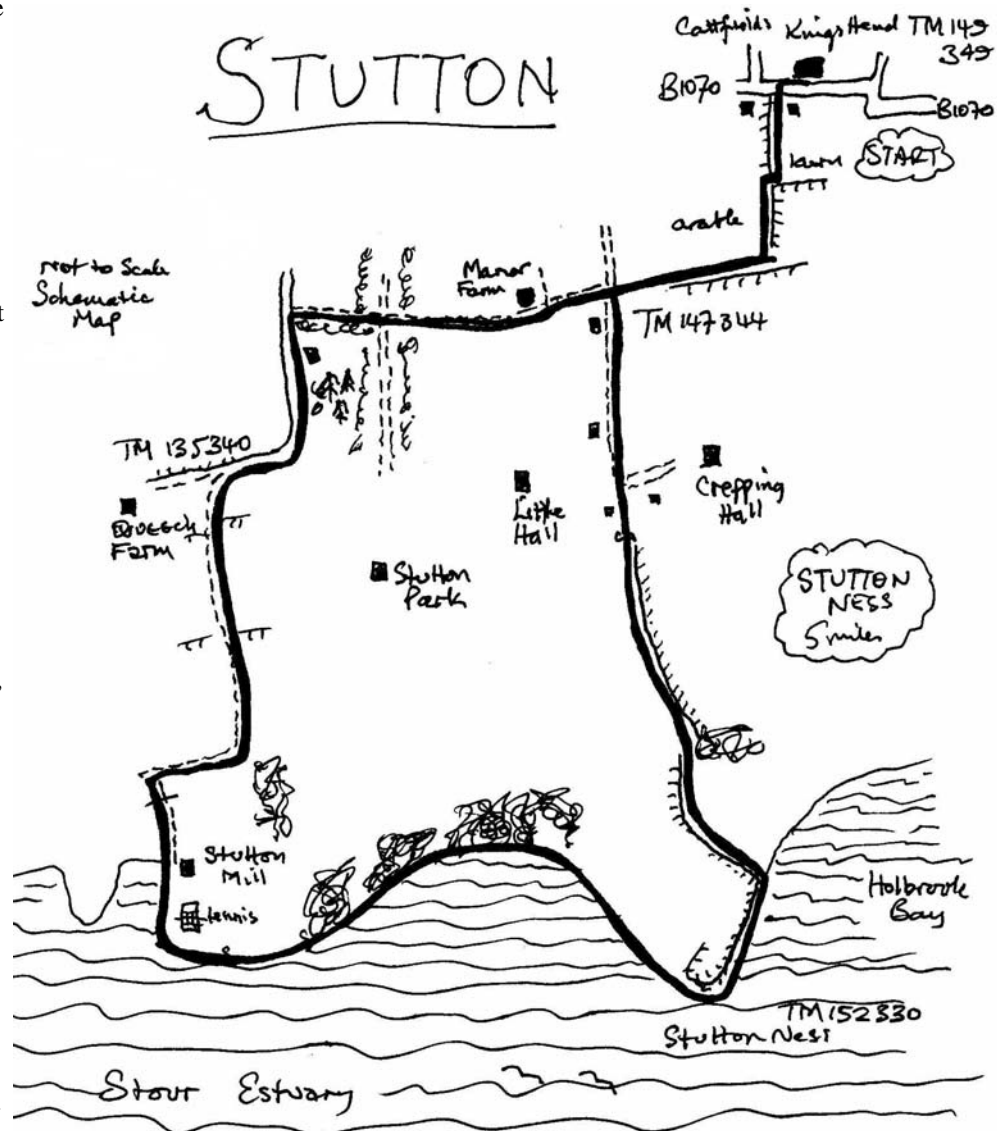
Stutton Ness - 5 Miles (With reflections on Sheep Herding)

BASE STUTTON, Kings Head along B1080 road map referenced TM 149 349. Get there by car? The A137 road provides the first bridge over the River Stour. Rise on the Suffolk side through Brantham, under pylon-cables, over railtrack, to a delta junction with the B1080 overlooked by the Brantham Bull. Stutton is first village 30 mph zone encountered along the B1080. Gardeners Arms on rightside, then Kings Head on leftside. Find the zed bend and you have overshoot. Obtain permission to park, book food and boot-up.

FETCH Target is Crepping Lodge Cottages Crosstracks TM 147 344. Facing the road on the pub forecourt, turn right towards Brantham and immediately cross to enter the path opposite the bus shelter. Steer by the rightside wall which becomes a lawn-side hedgerow. At the southern end, wriggle through a gap to continue by the same hedgerow, now on its broad western side. Head westwards from the T junction of paths to find a crossing of tracks, all three of the others having harder surfaces. Go southward downhill by a pair of Cottages.

GATHER Target is Sutton Ness TM 152 330. Pass another pair of cottages and cross a broad green with strictly no parking. Little Hall and a brick barn are off right, whilst Crepping Hall and a wooden barn adorn the leftside view. The main track swings left to Crepping Hall, but a softer track takes the right-of-way downhill through a pedestrian gap beside a gate. Continue between hedges, by a wood, all the way to sandy Graham's Wharf. Vertigo sufferers should turn back here because a crumbly low cliff walk ensues. Head upstream on the clifftop track. The arable hinterland becomes a wooded zone.

DRIVE Target is Queech Farm drive TM 135 340. A quarry gate signals a change to grass underfoot as the Sutton Ness landmark is rounded. The shallower cliff has hawthorn bushes, rather than larger trees tumbled to the beach, as more arable landscape is revealed on the rightside. A grassy dell is entered, just as apple-munching thoughts enter rambler's minds. Exit via the silver birch tree which locates a shallow ramp left up under the canopy of trees but beside the sea. Thread along the cliff top, as waymarked, over a handrailed slatted footbridge and a partially crumpled seawall to leave the woodland, but having a conifer tree belt in view. Stay with the Suffolk Heaths & Coast Path over the stile by the tennis court and around the bend to Stutton Mill. Leave the wall when close to a roundel window, and share the drive by the water gardens and out by pedestrians' wrought iron gateway with waymark beyond. Be prepared to step aside should vehicles approach on the unmade road which serpentine gently uphill to pass eastside of Queech Farm, there to form a junction with the farm drive.



PENNING Back to the Start TM 149 349. Join the smoother tarmac right and swing left by a conifer wood. Pass Lodge Cottage and twist right on a gravelled track before the row of pampas grass is reached. Proceed along by the northern edge of trees, Cross the sylvan corridor approach to Stutton Park, and pass south side of Manor Farms major buildings to regain the crossing by Crepping Lodge Cottages. Maintain the easterly direction over the crossing to have hedge on rightside. Avoid the barricade by going northwards on the broad fieldedge and look for the gap to get eastside of the hedgerow lawnside. Trace the same hedgerow leftside which becomes a wall northwards leading to the B1080 road with the bus shelter and the King's Head opposite