



Winchelsea Walk



Also refer to Ordnance Survey Pathfinder Map (Scale 1:25000) TQ8191

HERRING GULL

Winchelsea Walk

This tranquil walk takes you along the quiet paths by the Royal Military Canal. Built as a defence against French invasion during the Napoleonic wars, the canal now functions as a vital part of the drainage system of Romney Marsh. It is the home of crested grebes, herons, moorhens and swans.

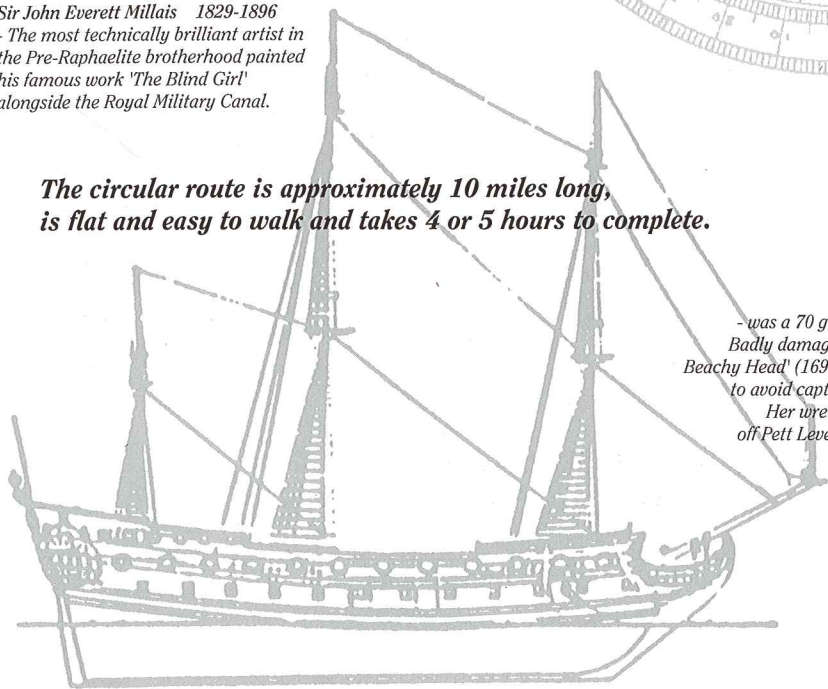


From the canal the flat marshland stretches out towards the sea. It is here where the artist Sir John Millais worked in 1856. Behind, the land rises to a band of hills and sandstone cliffs of the ancient shoreline on which stands the medieval Cinque Port town of Winchelsea.

To complete its loop, the route turns inland through Rye Harbour Nature Reserve. This area of shingle ridges provides a habitat for many rare plants and animals. With Camber Castle close by, the setting becomes more pastoral again as the path meanders back towards the canal.

*Sir John Everett Millais 1829-1896
- The most technically brilliant artist in
the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood painted
his famous work 'The Blind Girl'
alongside the Royal Military Canal.*

***The circular route is approximately 10 miles long,
is flat and easy to walk and takes 4 or 5 hours to complete.***



*'The Anne'
- was a 70 gun ship of the line.
Badly damaged in the 'Battle of
Beachy Head' (1690), she was burned
to avoid capture by the French.
Her wreck can still be seen
off Pett Level at very low tides.*