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## Route Direction

This walk begins in Oare where only street parking is available but there is a car park at Harty Ferry which is en route.

1. This walk is for the most part a short section of the Saxon Shore Way, a long distance footpath which begins in Gravesend and ends in Hastings, a total distance of 163 miles.
2. The walk starts at the footpath just to the RIGHT of the Castle pub car park where there is a gate into a field. Cross diagonally across the field to reach the path alongside the creek. This raised path follows the creek until it reaches the Sea Wall Hide (maintained by the Kent Trust) where it bears LEFT and continues as a gravel path to Harty Ferry. The path now follows the Swale.
3. There is a car park at Harty Ferry; the walk could begin here as this is a circular route. Continue on the raised path for approximately 1/2 mile (800m) until reaching a gate. This is the boundary of the Oare Marshes Nature Reserve. (There is an information board here) Go through the gate and almost immediately turn LEFT down a grassy slope which is marked by a mauve 'Explore Kent' arrow. DO NOT continue along the Saxon Shore Way.
4. At the bottom of the slope go through a 5 bar gate and continue on this track to the houses at Uplees. Continue on this lane, passing some interesting houses (spot the 250 yr old dovecote) until meeting a lane.

5. Go straight across to a gate in the hedge and into a field. Continue on to the next gate onto a narrow path between two hedges which can be very narrow when the hedges are overgrown.
6. The path meets a cinder track, cross over to a kissing gate with a 'Beware of the Bull' sign and into a wide field. Cross the field to the footbridge just before the power lines and aim for a gate at the RIGHT end of the trees ahead. Go through the gate, keeping to the edge of the field to a house where there is an interesting collection of assorted Land Rovers.
7. Go straight ahead on the track for approximately 150yds (138m) to a kissing gate on the RIGHT. There isn't a footpath sign here but the path cuts diagonally across the field, crossing a small wooden footbridge and heading toward the grey farm buildings ahead and a kissing gate.
8. Through the gate onto the lane, ignoring the footpath sign which shows the path continuing straight ahead (there isn't a path) and turn RIGHT on the lane to pass through the farm buildings. Where the lane veers to the RIGHT to Luddenham church keep straight ahead where, after a few steps turn LEFT onto a footpath.
9. Follow the path through the fields to a lane and take the concrete path opposite, going slightly uphill. Bear RIGHT where the path divides and continue to the brow of the hill and down to a road.
10. Turn RIGHT and follow the road back into Oare.

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## Sample the Saxon Shore Way

A level 5mile (8K) walk along the waters of Oare Creek



