

## WELCOME TO THE BLYTH VALLEY

Discover this peaceful and historic countryside by taking the **99A** First Eastern Counties bus service between Southwold and Halesworth.

It runs 7-8 times a day on weekdays and connects with the Greater Anglia train service at Halesworth - and you can pay contactless.

The main attractions on the route are marked on the map along with **bus stops** which are numbered from Halesworth thus (1). The first stop (1) is on Saxons Way, where the **X41** bus from Bungay arrives. Buses **521** to Aldeburgh and **522** to Beccles also use the stops here.

**HALESWORTH** is a busy market town and you can reach the main Thoroughfare by walking through the car park (for 511 Hoppa bus). Halesworth has a good selection of restaurants, galleries, independent shops and a history trail, as well as the interesting St Mary's Church and The Cut Arts Centre. From the bus stop cross the road (there is an underpass by the river) and walk through the park to the playground, skate park and along the river the beautiful 50-acre Millennium Green with all-weather track.

Past stop (2), stop (3) by the railway bridge is for the **railway station** with the recently expanded local museum, www.halesworthmuseum.org.uk

Platform 1 is served by trains to Lowestoft and platform 2 by trains to Ipswich. You should not use the foot crossing when a train is in the station.

Your bus, passes stops (6), (7) and (8) before reaching *HOLTON* village (9). Here you can see St Peter's Church, a preserved windmill and the garden centre and store with local produce. Beside stop (10) is the former Lord Nelson Inn, now a B&B.

After passing through **BLYFORD** village, the bus turns right opposite the Queen's Head Inn. Here the bus stop (13) is perfect for a visit to this fine old pub and All Saints Church. A short walk along Blyford Lane (southwards) leads to the Blyth River foot paths (to Halesworth and towards Blythburgh).

Over the second river bridge is the site owned by the Southwold Railway Trust, railway fencing and crossing gate, where Wenhaston Station used to be.

The bus then winds its way south through the ancient village of **WENHASTON**. In the centre, stop (14) is for St Peter's Church, famed for its apocalyptic Doom

painting, re-discovered in 1892. Bus stop (15) is ideal for the Star Inn, walks on Wenhaston Common, and Woottens nursery (specialists in hardy perennials). Check open days at www.woottensplants.com

The bus turns on to the main road where stop (18) is south of **BLYTHBURGH** village. A short walk northwards will bring you to Holy Trinity Church, which is famed for the legend of "Black Shuck", to the White Hart Inn, and to the river. To the west is Blythburgh station with 400 metres of track, platform and buildings. Open days are held by the Narrow Gauge Railway society (H&SNGR).

Approaching **REYDON** you see in July to September the Maize Maze (Tel: 07801 065845) which is ideal family entertainment. The next two bus stops are for walks to the river. Past stop (20) you cross the bridge over Buss Creek and enter **SOUTHWOLD**.

The bus continues to the former King's Head (23), for connections to Lowestoft and Beccles. The magnificent St Edmunds Church is an essential to visit. Southwold Museum is nearby. A short walk brings you to the market, shops and cafés; a walk across the common (or take the Shuttle bus) leads to the harbour; and the bridge (or rowing boat ferry) to Walberswick.

The Halesworth to Southwold Narrow Gauge Railway Society has re-laid part of the line along the north side of Millennium Green and erected an interpretation board. Its main site is Blythburgh station.

see www.halesworthtosouthwoldrailway.co.uk

The SOUTHWOLD RAILWAY TRUST Steamworks site in Blyth Road, Southwold, has regular open days. Stop (21) is a short walk away.

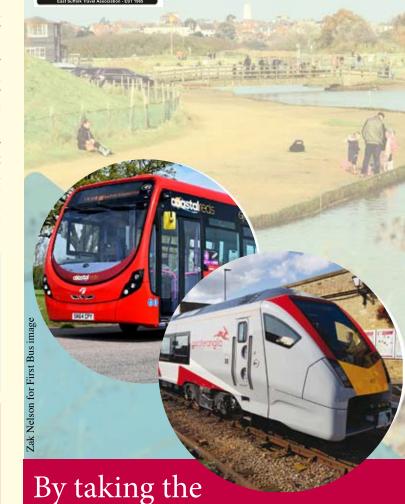
Details at www.southwoldrailway.co.uk

More details about the valley & its towns and villages on http://www.blythvalleyexperience.com/ and daily posts on current events on Facebook page Blyth Valley Experience
Visitor information points in Southwold & Halesworth Libraries and Angel Hotel, Halesworth.

Bus times on http://www.traveline.info or phone 0871 200 22 33 Rail times from Greater Anglia 0345 600 7245 or www.greateranglia.co.uk

The East Suffolk Travel Association, which has published this leaflet, is the independent local association for public transport users and collects evidence of passenger experiences, good and bad, as part of its campaingning. Join us via www.eastsuffolktravel.org.uk

## Discover the Blyth Valley



Halesworth Train, Southwold Bus

Useful map and information inside