

SDOS Birding Walks Risk Assessment Form: Thorney island

Assessor: Tony Benton, with support from Clive Hope : Date of Assessment 28 July 2022

Location: Meet at the corner of Thornham Lane, Southbourne, Prinsted, Chichester, West Sussex, England, map reference SU757049. Distance up to 4 miles.

Brief Description: This walk is on relatively flat surfaces including a sea wall. The path is narrow in places and there is **one style** to negotiate. **Overall, this is judged as a very low risk walk.**

Suggested clothing: This walk is most likely as a summer outing. Participants should judge what clothing is appropriate and walking shoes or walking boots are always recommended.

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Evaluation of Risk	Risk mitigation measures	Comments
Bad weather	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Lightning storms	All participants	Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Snow and ice	All participants	Low / unlikely	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Darkness, cloud, fog	All participants	Low	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Hot weather	All participants	Low/medium	Participants should bring a drink and wear suitable clothing and consider the need for sunscreen	Monitor weather forecast
Uneven walking surfaces	All participants	Low	Suitable walking shoes or boots are recommended	Participants to ensure that suitable footwear is available to them
Muddy conditions	All participants	Low	Walking boots after rain.	Monitor weather forecast
Standing water and flooding	All participants	Low	Adjust route	Monitor weather forecast
Slippery surfaces	All participants	Low	Adjust route	Only likely to be a problem after torrential rain.
Unprotected drop to water's edge or shingle/stones and bushes close to the path	All participants	Low	Participants to judge their own capabilities and take care	The eastern sea-wall path is narrow and unprotected on each side - this is where participants need to exercise care.

Trip hazards	All participants	Low	Participants to judge their own capabilities and take care	
Stiles and gates	All participants	Low	Care to be taken with the one style.	Participants to be aware that there is style to be negotiated.
Barbed wire, electric fences	N/a			
Obstructive vegetation	N/a			
Stinging or thorny plants	N/a			
Falling trees or branches	N/a			
Biting insects	All participants	Low	If wearing shorts or similar, be aware of very low possibility of ticks	Consult a GP if a tick bite is suspected
Snakes	N/a			
Farm or other animals	All participants	Low	Unlikely on this walk.	