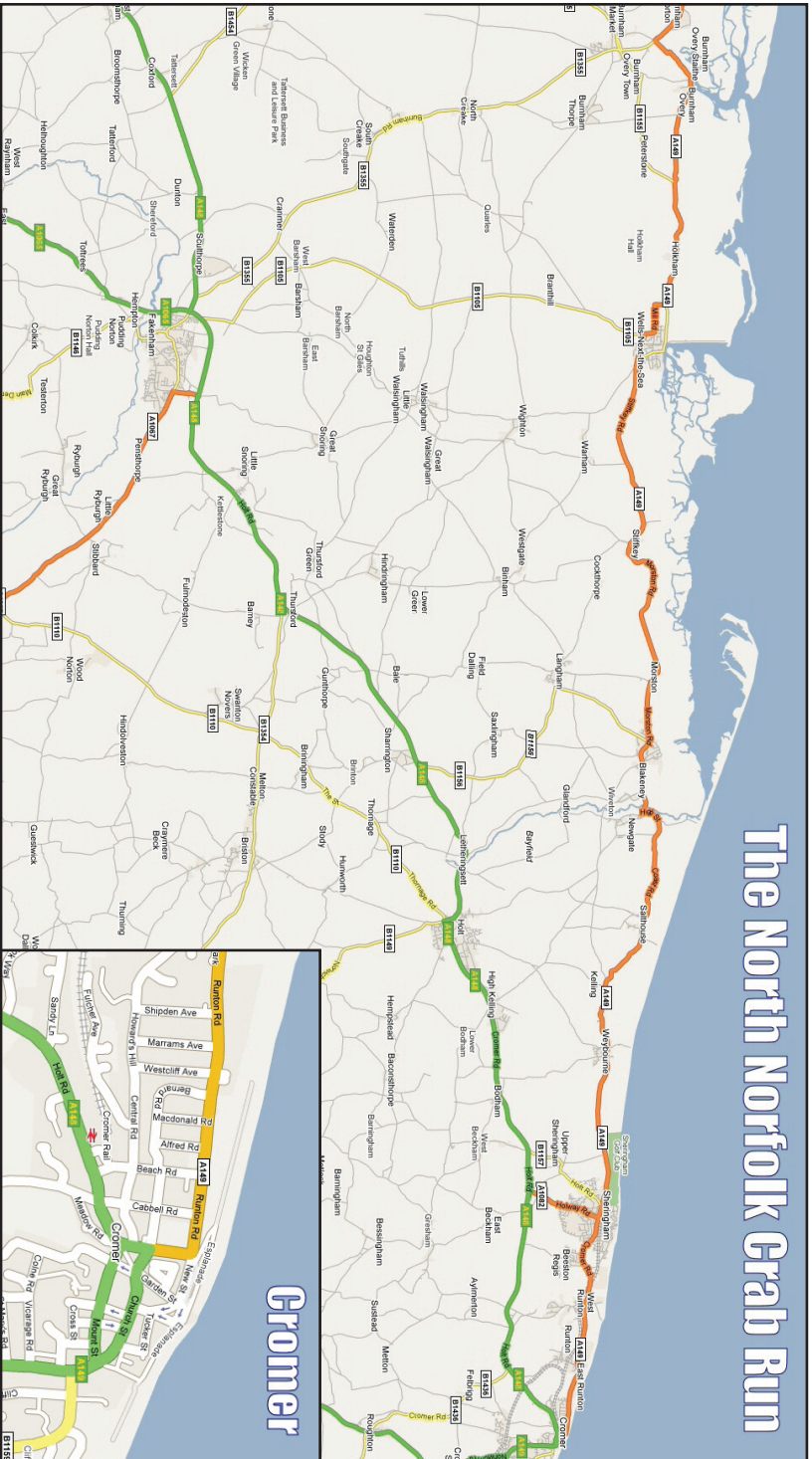




Route Book



Norfolk Mini Owners Club
www.drive.to/nmoc



Have fun and please drive safely and courteously at all times.

Leaving the Racecourse, turn right

1. At cross roads turn right

2. Follow road into Fakenham

In the late 1990s the town was listed by a contributor to the knowhere guide as “the most boring place on Earth”. The contribution was specifically referring to Wednesday afternoon which is ‘early closing’ in Fakenham. This comment, made by an individual, was taken and quoted out of context as “voted the most boring place on Earth” and very rapidly the story was running in national newspapers with the town council defending the town and spending considerable time, money and effort trying to prove that this was not the case.

3. At roundabout turn right

4. At roundabout turn left

5. At double roundabouts follow signs for Cromer A148

6. At T junction turn right follow “All major routes”

7. At roundabout turn left

8. At roundabout straight over

9. At roundabout turn left

10. At roundabout turn right follow signs for Kings Lynn

11. After 100 yds turn right “Burnham Market B1355”

12. Through South Creake

South Creake lies on the River Burn, which flows through the centre of the village. On a hill above the village can be found the Bloodgate Hill Iron Age Fort.

13. Through North Creake

On April 27, 1944, a De Havilland Mosquito fighter bomber, on a night training exercise, crashed in the centre of the village killing the crew of two. On the 60th anniversary of the crash in 2004, a plaque on the approxi-

mate location of the crash was unveiled by an Royal Air Force guard of honour and other dignitaries, including relatives and friends of those killed.

14. Into Burnham Market

In recent times Burnham Market has attracted a significant number of second-home owners, mostly affluent residents of London, and in consequence acquired a somewhat metropolitan atmosphere. Long term local residents often refer to the village as Chelsea-on-sea. One of the factors driving this movement is the presence of the up-market pub and restaurant, the Hoste Arms, named after Captain William Hoste.

15. At T junction turn right

16. At T junction turn right “Wells B1155”

17. Through Burnham Overy

Nelson learned to row and sail a dinghy at Burnham Overy Staithe, at the age of 10, two years before joining the Navy.

18. At T junction turn right

19. Through Holkham

Holkham Hall is one of the principal Palladian houses of England, built for an ancestor of Thomas William Coke, noted agricultural innovator and later 1st Earl of Leicester of Holkham. The hall is still the home of the current Earl and is surrounded by an attractive park, with a herd of fallow deer, a lake that was once a tidal creek, several monuments and drives, and its own church.

20. At the sharp bend after the Wells village sign turn left towards Wells Quay

The Wells Harbour Railway is 10¼ inch-gauge railway that takes passengers from the harbour towards the beach.

21. By “The Ark Royal” pub turn left by quay side

BEWARE SPEED BUMPS

22. At roundabout go all the way round and back on yourself

23. At T junction turn Left

24. Follow the road round to the right

25. Turn left “Cromer A149”

26. Through Stiffkey

The village is remembered as the parish whose rector, Harold Davidson, was more interested in ministering to fallen women in London than in his normal clerical duties and was defrocked.

BEWARE NARROW ROADS

27. Over narrow bridge

28. Through Morston

The 1973 Derby Stakes Winner was Morston, the horse being named after the village, Running for just the second time he won at odds of 25-1.

29. Through Blakeney

High up the village, the Church of Saint Nicholas has two towers: the main tower is over 100 ft high and a well-known landmark for miles around, and the smaller tower was built as a beacon to guide boats into Blakeney harbour.

30. Through Cley-Next-The-Sea

It is hard to imagine Cley as one of the busiest ports in England, where grain, malt, fish, spices, coal, cloth, barley and oats were exported or imported. The many Flemish gables in the town are a reminder of trade with the Low countries.

31. Through Salthouse

During the construction of the village hall in 1954 a drinking vessel or beaker was dug up which dated from the Neolithic period around 2000 B.C. along with the fossilised vertebrae of a whale.

32. Through Kelling

Kelling is a small village, which had a reputation for smuggling.

33. Into Sheringham

Allan Smethurst aka “The Singing Postman” was raised in Sheringham

34. Straight over roundabout

35. Through West Runton

The pub, called the “Village Inn”, has a blue plaque on the wall that recalls a concert played at the pavilion by the Punk band the Sex Pistols.

36. Through East Runton

The beach at East Runton is popular with the surfing fraternity

37. On entering Cromer look out for the Beach Car-park on your Left

The town is famous for the Cromer crab, which forms the major source of income for the town’s fishermen. The town had grown up as a fishing station over the centuries and became a year-round fishery, with crabs and lobsters in the summer, drifting for longshore herring in the autumn and long-lining primarily for cod in the winter, when the weather permitted. The pattern of fishing has changed over the last thirty years, and it is now almost completely focused on crabs and lobsters. At the end of the 19th century, the beaches to the east and west of the pier were once crowded with fishing boats. Now, about ten boats now ply their trade from the foot of the gangway on the east beach. Four shops in town continue to operate and sell fresh crab, whenever the boats go to sea.

For those returning to Fakenham

Turn left out of the Carpark

Turn right into Beach Road

At the bottom of Beach Road turn right at the roundabout

Follow signs to Holt until signs for Fakenham appear.