

# NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK COASTS AND BEACHES

It wouldn't be a holiday without heading to the beach, right? Luckily, we've compiled our favourites here for you to enjoy. There is something for everybody's taste.



## [OLD HUNSTANTON BEACH](#)

35.9 miles



1 hr 5 mins

Forget Hunstanton main beach — Old Hunstanton is the way to go. Oozing in character and set far enough away from the hustle and bustle of the arcade-abundant New Hunstanton, you're sure to have a delightful time here. It has everything from golden sand to expansive dunes and the famous striped cliffs.

## [CROMER BEACH](#)

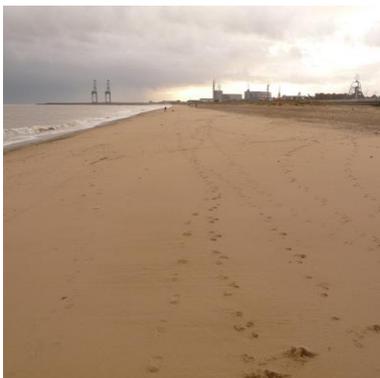
61.1 miles



1 hr 32 mins

Looking for a traditional Victorian seaside town? Cromer is the place for you! It consists of a shingle *and* sand beach, with many of the buildings dating back to the Victorian epoch and beyond.

As far as facilities go, you can find toilets, food stands, shops, and so much more here. Fun for *all* the family!



## [GREAT YARMOUTH BEACH](#)

74 miles



1 hr 38 mins

Great Yarmouth Beach boasts soft, clean, golden sand that is somewhat of a rarity in most places! The coastline is a whopping 15 miles long where you'll find sand dunes, amusements, bouncy castles, and so much more. It's one of the most beautiful stretches in the whole of East Anglia.

## [WELLS NEXT THE SEA](#)

49.1 miles



1 hr 15 mins

Wells-next-the-Sea is a popular harbour town nestled between the expansive salt marshes. Venturing over this landscape leads you to the open golden sands beyond.

If you're a history buff, you'll especially like the port. It was the greatest in the country throughout Tudor times.





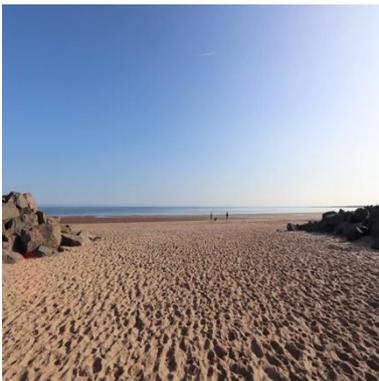
[SHERINGHAM BEACH](#) 58.3 miles 🚗 1 hr 29 mins

Searching for a wonderfully sandy beach? You can't go wrong with Sheringham! Sitting on the edge of the Victorian town, it was awarded Blue Flag Status. What does this mean, we hear you ask? Well, you can be sure the water is clean and safe for you to enjoy!

Top Tip: make sure the tide is *out* before you go, otherwise you won't be able to go for a stroll.

[HEACHAM BEACH](#) 33.1 miles 🚗 57 mins

Lying on Norfolk's west coast, you'll either love it or hate it. Like marmite. Some parts are very rugged and empty, while others are incredibly busy due to the holiday chalets. We recommend sticking to the more isolated places, so you're not bothered by rowdy holidaymakers (unless that's what you're looking for).



[BRANCASTER BEACH](#) 41 miles 🚗 1 hr 8 mins

Brancaster beach boasts pillowy soft golden sands, perfect for relaxing, strolling, building sandcastles, or anything in-between. The beach is maintained by the National Trust, so you are safe in expecting nothing but the best.

You'll want to [plan your visit](#) beforehand to ensure you see all the best bits.

[HEMSBY BEACH](#) 74.3 miles 🚗 1 hr 44 mins

Vibrant, bustling, and full of charm, Hemsby beach is for those of you who want a family atmosphere 24/7. Situated on the well-known East Norfolk coast, Hemsby has everything from arcades to fun fairs to shops to cafes. It's certainly a jam-packed day out.



[MUNDESLEY BEACH](#) 71 miles 🚗 1 hr 47 mins

Ask anyone from Norfolk and they'll tell you that Mundesley is one of the area's finest beaches you could ever hope to visit.

At low tide, it's safe to swim, and the amenities ensure you can grab a bite to eat once you're finished. The stretch is long and the sand is as golden as it gets. You can't go wrong!

### [SALTHOUSE BEACH](#)

55.4  
miles



1 hr 25  
mins

If you're already visiting Blakeney, take the ten-minute drive to Salthouse beach, you won't regret it.

The village is tranquil, boasting views of the marshes, pebble-dashed sand, and blue waters. Whether you fancy walking, fishing or wildlife spotting, Salthouse beach will help you do just that.



### [TRIMINGHAM BEACH](#)

67.5 miles



1 hr 50  
mins

Searching for seclusion? Trimmingham is the best place. It's quite hard to access/find it, but once you do, you'll never want to leave.

Edged by high cliffs, it is a famous spot for shell collecting and fossil hunting. Seriously, you won't find a more beautiful coastline.

### [EAST RUNTON BEACH](#)

60.4  
miles



1 hr 32  
mins

Just next to Cromer beach, you'll find the stunning East Runton beach. It sports a Victorian pier and a long, sandy expanse bordered by sandstone cliffs.

Amazingly, it's home to the biggest chalk reef in *Europe*. Now *that's* something to tell your friends. Who knows what kind of fossils you'll uncover here?



### [WAXHAM BEACH](#)

71 miles



1 hr 53  
mins

Unless you're local, you won't know Waxham beach. And that's what makes it so special!

You must traverse the tree-lined paths and sand dunes to find the beautiful beach. Don't expect to find a standard coastal car park; Waxham doesn't have that. You'll need to lace up your walking boots and go on a mega hunt!

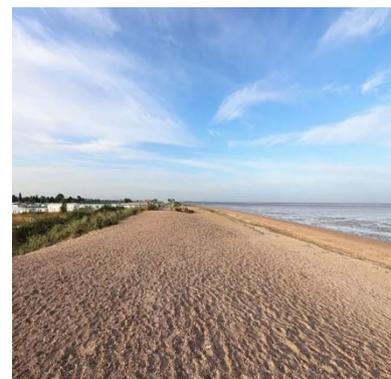
### [SNETTISHAM BEACH](#)

31.8  
miles



57  
mins

Snettisham beach isn't a standard beach. It's a utopia for walking, romantic sun sets, year-round bird watching, and all-out fun. If you go to just *one* beach during your stay at Crafter's Retreat, make it this one.





[WALCOTT BEACH](#)      70.7 miles      🚗      1 hr 47 mins

Segmented by wooden groynes, Walcott beach presents a delightful stretch. Currently, the sea seems to have been tamed, but it has presented an ongoing struggle for more than 60 years. You'll notice the council's efforts to keep the sea back from the man-made structures via the massive, sloping concrete wall.

[BACTON BEACH](#)      71.4 miles      🚗      1 hr 50 mins

Bacton beach winds all the way to Mundesley coast that we mentioned earlier. It even has a well-maintained coastal path situated at the back of the beach that will take you straight down the shoreline.

You'll be interested to know that this beach is never busy, regardless of the time of year. So, enjoy the seclusion no matter what!



[OVERSTRAND BEACH](#)      63.4 miles      🚗      1 hr 40 mins

This large sandy beach is located just south-east of Cromer town. It's perfect for swimming, surfing, relaxing, and all other beach activities.

Bear in mind, however, that there isn't any automobile access. You'll need to park by the public toilets on top of the cliff's sloping pathways.

[WEYBOURNE BEACH](#)      55.5 miles      🚗      1 hr 25 mins

Weybourne is a place of outstanding natural beauty. Hardly touched by man, the coast and countryside surrounding it is stunning. Granted, the shingle beach isn't as comfy on the toes as the sandy ones, but we can't recommend Weybourne enough. We suggest riding the North Norfolk Railway line to get there (although you can drive if you wish).



[HOLKHAM BEACH](#)      50.3 miles      🚗      1 hr 21 mins

The coastline here is largely unspoilt. Unarguably, it's the most gorgeous stretch of untouched sand in the entire country. How lucky are you to have it right on your Crafter's Retreat doorstep?

Fun Fact: Gwyneth Paltrow strolled across Holkham's sand during the final scene of the film Shakespeare in Love.

### [CLEY NEXT THE SEA](#)

53.1  
miles



1 hr 21  
mins

Into shore fishing? You should definitely visit Cley beach! It's well-known for its deep shelf drop into the sea. Not to mention that it's right next to the ultimate birdwatching spot in the United Kingdom.

If you want to spy some Common and Grey seals, you should head to Blakeney Point located a short way to the west.



### [HAPPISBURGH BEACH](#)

71.4 miles



1 hr 50  
mins

Fancy seeing the iconic red and white striped lighthouse? Happisburgh (pronounced haze-bruh, by the way) is the place for you. Of course, the slightly pebble-dashed sea is alluring too.

Over the last 20 years, corrosion has really hit this coastline. You'll spot several attempts to impede the sea's progress.

### [CAISTER ON SEA](#)

73.8  
miles



1 hr 40  
mins

Located on the east coast of Norfolk, you'll find Caister beach off the extremely popular Great Yarmouth beach that we discussed earlier.

This beach is incredibly long, dotted by sand dunes and groynes. It's definitely part of the forgotten Norfolk coast. While it's not dirty or terrible, it's less maintained than other spots we've mentioned.



### [WINTERTON ON SEA](#)

74.7 miles



1 hr 43  
mins

Soft sand, a National Nature Reserve, clean blue water, dunes. Winterton beach has it all. The beach is wonderfully wide and uncrowded, allowing you to feel truly free. Whether the tide is in or out, you'll be able to have a fun and relaxing time here.

### [GOLESTON ON SEA](#)

76 miles



1 hr 41  
mins

This 2-mile stretch of golden sand and clear water is a fantastic destination for young couples, body-boarders, kite-lovers, and surfers. When the tide is out, you'll experience the true expanse of the dry land. When it's in, you can marvel at the power of the water. Oh, and the promenade is definitely worth a walk down. It's a mile long!





### [LOWESTOFT BEACH](#)

79.5 miles



1 hr 52 mins

South of Great Yarmouth, you find yourself upon Suffolk's Sunrise Coast. Complete with a plethora of amenities, this Blue Flag beach is perfect for everyone, whatever the weather.

Consider Lowestoft the classic English seaside town. Everything you expect from that, you receive.

### [DUNWICH BEACH](#)

85.3 miles



2 hr 5 mins

Once a bustling seaport, Dunwich's sea has since eroded most of the amenities away, leaving very little behind. The shingle beach seems to expand endlessly every way, bordered by speckled, crumbling cliffs.

If you end up visiting this out-of-the-way location, head to Dunwich Heath too, a National Trust establishment.



### [WALBERSWICK](#)

84.5 miles



2 hr 2 mins

Situated across from the River Blythe, you can walk across the mixture of golden sand and shingle to see both marsh and heathland. The view here is truly magical. With sparkling blue water and crunchy yet somehow still soft sand, you are guaranteed to have a brilliant day out.

### [THORPENESS BEACH](#)

89.4 miles



2 hr 9 mins

Thorpeness is a quaint little village located near Aldeburgh. It features a boating lake, golf course, Tudor buildings, and pretty much everything else you expect from a seaside village! As you can see from the picture to the right, the beach is hemmed by quirky houses, making for an incredibly picturesque backdrop.



### [KESSINGLAND](#)

80 miles



1 hr 51 mins

Low cliffs line this sand and shingle beach. The surrounding area is fairly well-protected from erosion due to the iconic marram grass growing here, courtesy of Henry Rider Haggard. The beach itself is popular for all kinds of water sports. But the large expanse ensures no one will bother you.

### [SIZEWELL BEACH](#)

77.2  
miles



2 hr 11  
mins

Sizewell is a traditional fishing hamlet boasting a large, open beach. While it's mostly shingle, you'll find soft sand in the dunes to the back. It's managed by the local council to ensure the rugged aesthetic remains for years to come.

If you're looking to dive into yesteryear life, you *need* to visit.



### [COVEHITHE BEACH](#)

80.9 miles



1 hr 54  
mins

Remember when we talked about the forgotten part of the Norfolk coast? Well, Covehithe is the forgotten part of the *Suffolk* coast. The beach stretches out and along from the expansive countryside surrounding it. You'll definitely find peace here, as it's never frequented by hordes of people.

### [SLAUGHDEN BEACH](#)

89.1  
miles



2 hr 8  
mins

Situated a mere mile or so from Aldeburgh, the long stretches of shingle beach are perfect for shore fishing and swimming. It even boasts a [sailing club](#) that operates out of Slaughden Quay. And of course, you can visit the fish and chip shop to complete your beach-going day trip.



### [EASTON BAVENTS](#)

81.9 miles



1 hr 53  
mins

Into fossils? Fancy finding your own Pliocene mammal remains? Easton Bavents is the beach for you. It's the only public fossil site where naturally preserved mammal remains can be found. However, you should keep in mind that the success of your fossil hunting adventure depends on how the tides feel like acting on the day!