

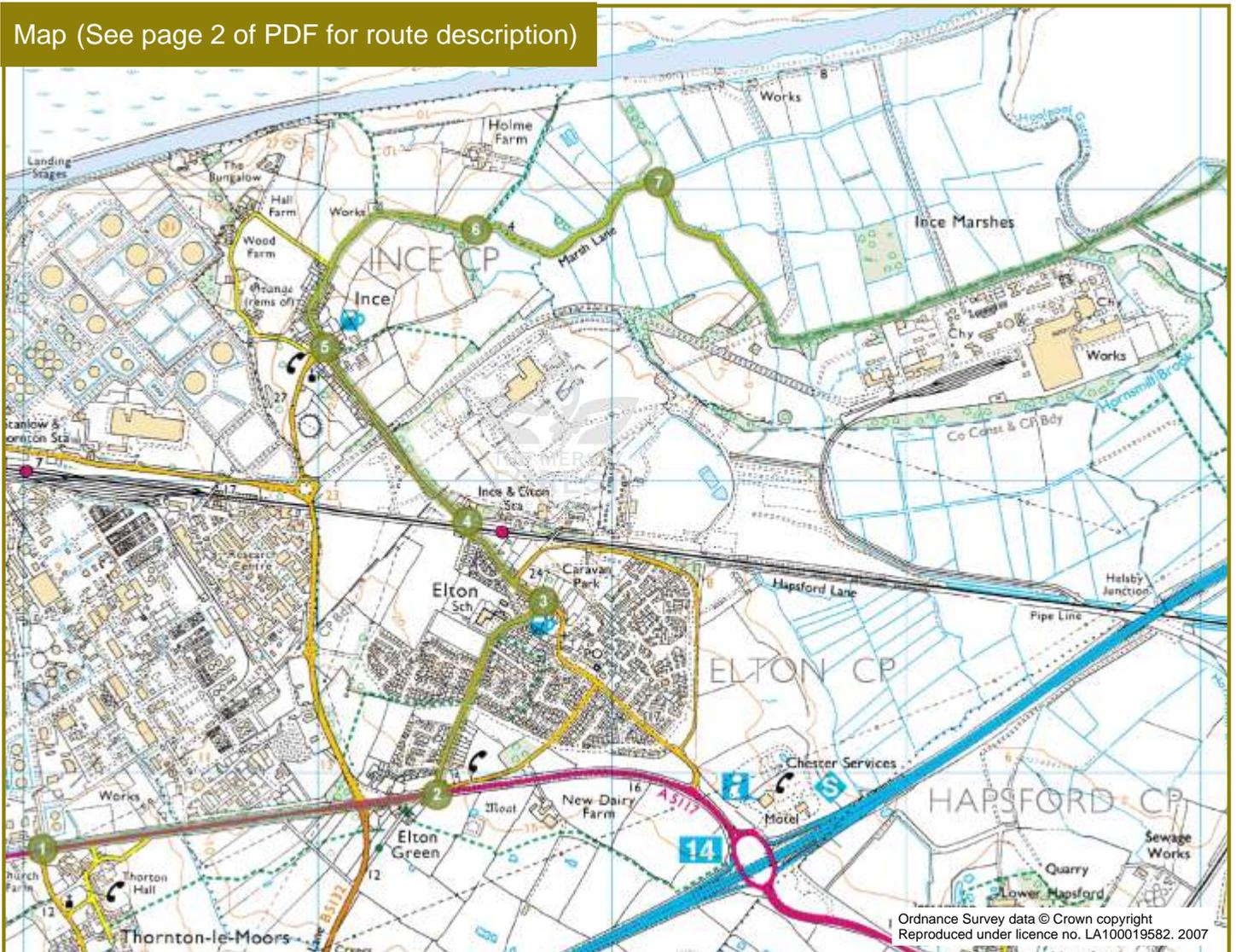
Thornton-le-Moors to Frodsham Greenway (via Ince)

Route Summary

Peaceful country roads pass by villages and welcoming pubs. Farm tracks cross the low-lying farmland, lagoons and mud flats, home to many birds and wildlife.

Grade	Challenging
Distance	11½km / 7 miles
Accessibility	★
Allow	3 hours
Start	Junction of A5117 and Thornton Green Lane, Thornton-le-Moors
Map	OS Explorer 266 Wirral & Chester/Caer and 267 Northwich & Delamere Forest

Map (See page 2 of PDF for route description)



Thornton-le-Moors to Frodsham Greenway (via Ince)

Route Details

The landscape of Ince, Helsby and Frodsham Marshes is unique. The sea used to inundate this area of low-lying former coastal marsh. In Roman times, the Gowy estuary would have been much wider and at high water only land above a certain height would have been visible.

During the 13th and 14th centuries, the monks of St Werburgh's in Chester and the Cistercian Abbey at Stanlow reclaimed land from the sea. They excavated extensive networks of dykes and ditches, many of which were subsequently destroyed by storms and flooding. Despite these setbacks, land reclamation carried on through the ages.

The Manchester Ship Canal was opened to vessels in 1894 and its banks, and subsequent canal dredging deposit dumps, provided perhaps the most effective man-made defence against flooding.

Common reed, widespread on the Marshes, was once harvested on a grand scale to provide thatch for roofs. The Marshes today are largely used as grazing land, with a small area used for grain crops such as wheat and barley. Root crops, such as potato, can be found on the drier fringes of the area.

Route Directions

1. Head east along the A5117 towards Elton. There's a footpath to the right of the road.
2. Turn left on to School Lane just after the traffic lights and petrol station.
3. At the T junction turn left.
4. Cross the railway.
5. Bear right at the centre of the village of Ince and follow Marsh Lane, which becomes Lordship Lane, all the way to a kind of staggered crossroads shortly before the motorway.
6. Bear right at the turning to Holme Farm.
7. Bear right again.
8. Turn left, remaining on Lordship Lane.
9. Bear right and cross the motorway.
10. Bear left into Frodsham.
11. Turn left on Main Street.
12. Turn right into Church Street at the Golden Lion PH.
13. Turn left into the station car park.
14. Arrive at your destination.



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