



Sing along, everyone: “It’s the mooost wonderful tiiiime of the year.” *Especially* Christmas Day. After another gorgeously festive December full of ice skating dates, steaming mugs of hot cocoa, decorating the house with whatever you could find under the stairs, dropping hints as to what you want, looking for hints as to what your other-half wants, shopping for handmade gifts at your local Christmas Market and inhaling more mulled wine than you care to admit, Christmas Day is all about family and food. Okay, and presents, but mainly family and food -- and there’s no better way to enjoy your family while earning that food than a pre-turkey walk.

Ladies and gentlemen, cue North Norfolk, the winter wonderland of every walker’s dreams. Forget the canals of Venice, the fjords of Norway or New York’s Central Park because our little slice of coastal life is the perfect place to revel in the outdoors and reconnect with friends & family, all while rocking your new wardrobe of warm, comfy layers (as bought for you by your slightly strange Aunt Sally - yay!).

And to help make sure you enjoy a Christmas Day stroll that has life-affirming good vibes, we’ve rounded up six places that will keep you feeling warm and fuzzy from now through the New Year.

## 1. Blakeney's Beautiful Nature Reserve



Before you feast your eyes on a plate piled high with naughty goodness, head to the [Blakeney National Nature Reserve](#) and feast your eyes on this dramatic slab of coastline as you stroll out along the saltmarshes and toward the cuter-than-cute colony of seal pups at The Point. We're pretty sure you won't remember seeing a sky this big, a landscape this open or views this stunning, which is why it has been made an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. And if your not willing to make your toddlers go on a walk 'cos that could ruin Christmas, you can take a ferry trip out to the wildlife instead. Then reward yourself with a quick pint in front of a roaring log fire at the award-winning [Wiveton Bell](#) just ten-minutes away.

*K\ YfYtc'ghUm [Horse Yard Barn](#) is a stunning conversion on the Holkham Estate. Sleeps 13.*

## 2. Stroll Through Sheringham's Picturesque Park



The winter season is always the best time for a good adventure, and there's nowhere better to explore than the 1,000 acres of wilderness at the [National Trust's Sheringham Park](#). Take a wander through the tranquil pines trees, have a soul-stirring moment on the cliff tops as you take in the lovely coastal views, walk past the incredible Sheringham Hall and up to the age-old temple and then, if you want the magic to continue, point your toes toward the sea, enjoy the feel of wet sand under foot and don't stop until you reach [The Ship at Weybourne](#). That's how to enjoy a real local ale.

*K\ YfYtc'gHUm [River Cottage](#) is a luxury bolthole in Letheringsett that sleeps 6.*

### 3. Brave The Madness At Brancaster Beach



This is a Christmas Day walk for everyone: from those who have a love of the great outdoors to those who have a fear of missing out because somewhere along this endless stretch of shipwrecked sand will be a group of people in Santa hats, yelling “YOLO” as they run into the water for a quick dip in the freezing North Sea. That’s what Norfolk is all about. Making memories, letting that little voice on your shoulder takeover for a moment and leaping into the unknown (or in this case, the bracing shallows). You might regret it for the ten-minutes that follow, but you will regret not doing it for a lot longer than that. So have a walk, have a swim and then have a merry drink at [The Ship](#) (again) at Brancaster (not again).

*K\ YfYtc'ghUm [2 Manor Farm Barns](#) is a drop-dead gorgeous holiday retreat that sleeps 10.*

#### 4. Lovely Walk Around The Lake at Blickling



The [Blickling Estate](#) is so beautiful there should be a thousand love songs written about it, from English poems to sea shanties to Mexican corridos - and this picturesque beauty is what makes it the perfect place for a Christmas stroll. Steeped in history, this Jacobean house is surrounded by some of the most breath-snatching grounds in the country -- all 950 acres of them. Enjoy a gentle walk through the rolling woods, let your kids play with their new toys in the huge parkland or make the most of the winter scene by taking a lazy stroll around the lake where you'll be able to fill your Instagram stories with boomerangs of the frost-bitten trees reflecting in the water. Whichever trail you take, though, Blickling *will* give you all the festive feels, especially after you've popped into [The Buckinghamshire Arms](#) for that classic mulled wine in a cosy country pub moment.

*K\ YfYtc' ghUm [Oystercatcher](#) in Syderstone is Christmas comfort 2.0 and it sleeps 6.*

## 5. A Peaceful Stroll At Pensthorpe



A Christmas walk is great, but a Christmassy walk through the wintery landscape at [Pensthorpe Nature Reserve](#) is next-level. North, east, south or west: whichever way you head, getting lost on these trails is an incredible chance to wander through wetlands and woodlands, past wildflower meadows and deer parks, along riverbanks, brecks and through heaths filled with bluebells. And, no matter which way you throw a glance, your stroll will be made even more surreal by the endless species of birds that call this conservation area home. Arrive, walk, say the word “wow” a thousand times and soak it all in at the Courtyard Cafe. Perfect.

**Where to stay:** [The Old Chequers](#) in South Creake provides non-stop luxury for all 12 guests. ’

