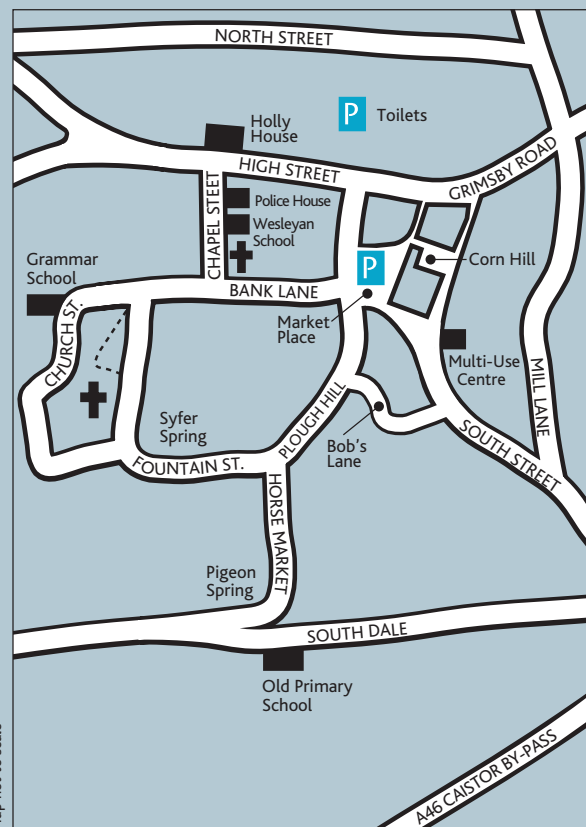


## CAISTOR STREET MAP



Map not to scale  
Great care has been taken in the compilation of this leaflet, but West Lindsey District Council shall not be liable for any inaccuracy contained herein.  
DISCLAIMER



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West Lindsey District Council is extremely grateful for the co-operation of Caistor Society for their support with this project. Photographs courtesy of: Alan Dennis  
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Inset L/R St Peter & St Paul Church | Caistor Grammar School

## HISTORY

- Return to the top of the steps and follow the churchyard path to the front of the church. Enter the church by the north door. Of particular interest in the church is the Gad Whip, displayed within a glass case on the wall to your left on entering the church. Traditionally, this was cracked in the church on Palm Sunday and held above the Vicar's head during the service. There are also medieval effigies of two knights and a lady, dating from the 14th Century, and a modern rood screen. The chancel was rebuilt in 1848 and the church was restored generally in 1863.
- Leave the church by the north door and walk up the path to the gate. The long building on the far left is Casterby House – the original 19th Century school boarding house. Old boys include the poet Henry Newbolt (1862-1938). Some may remember such lines as "The voice of the schoolboy rallies the ranks: Play up! Play up and play the game".
- To the right of Casterby House is the original, restored Grammar School, still in use today - the stone on the front of the building is inscribed with a quote from Homer's "Iliad", meaning "Always to Excel", the school motto. This records the school's foundation in 1631 by the Reverend Francis Rawlinson.

To the right of the Grammar School is the former Congregational Chapel (1842). This now houses the Grammar School library. To the rear is the town's Nonconformist burial ground.

- Walk up Church Street. The house at the corner on the left as you reach the junction is Hestcroft House (marked by a plaque outside), formerly an independent Chapel. Look for the sword handle in the metal fence. The building to your right, Legion House (so called as for many years was home to the British Legion), is the original National School (1824) mentioned earlier (marked by a small blue plaque).
- Turn left into Chapel Street. Noting along the right the Wesleyan Methodist Church (1842), the Wesleyan School (1867), and the Police House built in 1855, two years before the Police Act, indicating a serious worry about Caistor crime! You are now leaving Roman Caistor at its North West corner.
- Turn right into High Street. Walking up the gentle slope of High Street, on the left is Hundon Walk, which is part of Lincolnshire's most outstanding walk, the Viking Way long distance footpath. This long distance footpath starts at the Humber Bridge, runs right

through the county and finishes at Oakham. From this point, the footpath passes over the Water Hills offering superb views.

- Continue up High Street, passing the Talbot Inn, a little of which may date from 1642, when Caistor's earliest recorded Inn stood here. Just beyond the Talbot Inn is the Town Hall (1887) with the Arts Centre to the rear.
- Carry on up High Street passing Yarborough School on the right. A little further on the left is the previously mentioned Water Hills. Why not take a walk revealing magnificent surroundings along the public bridleway just over the fence on the left. Further up High Street, you will find Tophouse Tearooms where you may want to stop off for a drink and snack in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. One of the largest sheep fairs in England were held around this site in Caistor in 1858 when 60,000 sheep were sold. Future plans for this area include the development of a Tractor Museum and holiday accommodation.

- Retrace your steps along the High Street and turn left into South Street. Just past the wine merchants, is the narrow passage Lucy's Lane which was named after a famous local dancer. On your right are The George Court flats, built on the site of the former Magistrates Court and The George, an old Coaching Inn.

- Carry on into the Corn Hill and retrace your steps down the passage way at the side of the Corn Hill to the Market Place where your walk began.

This brings you to the end of the market town trail. We do hope you enjoyed experiencing the sites and history of Caistor. Please come again to see the exciting changes which are planned for Caistor in the future.



## ROUND AND ABOUT CAISTOR

Brocklesby Park, Brocklesby  
Open 1 April to 31 August.  
Tel: 01469 560214

Caistor Antiques  
12 High Street, Caistor  
Tel: 01472 851975

Caistor Loco  
8 Market Place, Caistor  
Model railway shop for the model railway enthusiast  
Tel: 01472 851736

Caistor Multi-Use Centre  
19 South Street, Caistor  
Venue for room hire and bookings, tourist information available.  
Open Mon/Wed/Fri 9-12  
Tel: 01472 859017  
[www.cmuc.org.uk](http://www.cmuc.org.uk)

Caistor Quad Adventure  
Holton Road, Nettleton,  
350 metre quad and buggy track, children's play area, zip line and adventure trail –  
Tel: 01472 859391/07783 349958  
[www.caistorquadadventure.co.uk](http://www.caistorquadadventure.co.uk)

Market Rasen Racecourse  
Legsby Road  
Race Days and meetings throughout the year  
Tel: 01673 843434  
[www.marketrasenraces.co.uk](http://www.marketrasenraces.co.uk)

St Peter & St Paul Church Caistor  
The church is usually open daylight hours. Tourist Information is available inside the church.  
Tel: 01472 851339

Free walking and cycling routes available from West Lindsey District Council Tourism Unit. Tel: 01427 676666

Viking Way  
A 147 mile walk through territory once occupied by Vikings, from Barton-Upon-Humber to Oakham.

### WHERE TO EAT IN CAISTOR

Tea Cosy Café  
Cornhill, Caistor  
Open weekdays 9 – 4.00pm

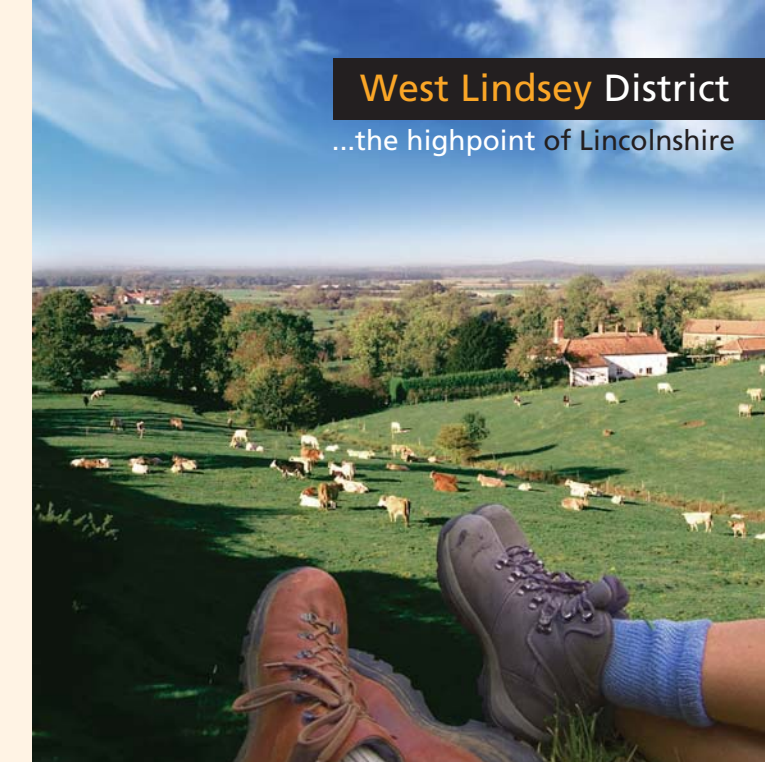
Tophouse Tearooms  
Caistor Top, Caistor  
Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays  
11.30am – 5.30pm.  
Tel: 01472 859051  
[www.tophouseholidaycottages.co.uk](http://www.tophouseholidaycottages.co.uk)

Salutation Inn  
Church Street, Nettleton.  
Friendly inn with good traditional fayre.  
Tel: 01472 851228

White Hart  
21 South Street, Caistor  
Tel: 01472 851734

West Lindsey District

...the highpoint of Lincolnshire



Walkabout  
Caistor



West Lindsey  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

VISIT LINCOLNSHIRE

## WHERE TO FIND US

For a detailed street map of Caistor please refer to the back page.



## INTRODUCTION

The name Caistor comes from the Latin word "Castra" (meaning camp) and this is how this little market town, perched on the edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds, originated before the first Century AD. The occupying Roman forces established a camp here, probably drawn to the site by its natural defences, natural springs and the supply of iron ore at nearby Claxby. Evidence of Roman occupation is shown from coins found dating back from AD69. The original area totalled some seven and a half acres and was encircled by a wall. Parts of this Roman wall can still be seen today.

Caistor continued as a stronghold long after the Romans departed. Although little is known about the post Roman development into a medieval town. In 1086, according to the Domesday Survey, there were fifty two families living here.

Caistor became an early ecclesiastical centre, probably the site of a monastery, which may have used the walled centre as its precinct. (This may explain the establishment of a market to the east outside the walls, the site of the present Market Place.)

1536 saw the Lincolnshire Uprising and the Pilgrimage of Grace which were the direct result of the dissolution of the monasteries instituted by King Henry VIII. Groups of men got together to protest, and one such group assembled at Caistor before marching on to Lincoln.

Later, Caistor suffered the Plague, and in 1681 the town was ravaged by a terrible fire. Most of the timber framed houses were destroyed, forty five families were rendered homeless and a number of unfortunate townfolk were killed. The cost of the material damage was put at £6,786. The town was rebuilt in the red brick we see today.

The main street pattern of the town forms a series of squares - Market Place, Buttermarket, Cornhill, and Horsemarket. The names suggest much earlier agricultural prosperity in and around the town, for no longer does an active agricultural market exist today.



Inset L/R War Memorial | Syfer Spring | Horsemarket | Bobs Lane  
Town Pump | Church Stained Glass



## WALKABOUT CAISTOR

Caistor Walkabout is designed to take you around the town to see sites and places that are considered to be of most interest to visitors. Along the way, there will be various places for you to stop off and eat, or just to sit down and enjoy the surroundings.

- **The walk will commence in the Market Place where there is ample parking.** In the centre of the Market Place is the town pump - set up in 1897 to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Caistor House, to the left of the Natwest Bank, is one of the more imposing buildings here - built in 1682, in the classical style, with washed stucco walls and a hipped roof of Welsh slate. The front was added a century later and bears the coats of arms of the Wickham and Walpole families. Later the house became home to members of the Tennyson family, the lion being part of their coat of arms. The lane to the left of the bank is thought to mark the east gate of the Roman camp.

## DIRECTIONS

- **Head towards the far left corner of the Market Place.** The pathway on your right hand side leads up to the Corn Hill. As you walk up this pathway, the first building to your left is The Cellars restaurant and bar. Once you reach the street at the top of the Corn Hill, passing the butcher's shop on your right you will see the King's Head - built in 1710, this was originally a beer house and from 1856-72, a soup kitchen.
- **Turn right into South Street and proceed to the Buttermarket.** On your right, once you reach the junction, is the war memorial. It is dedicated to all those from Caistor who gave their lives fighting in the two World Wars.
- **The White Hart public house is on the left - one of the remaining public houses from the original twenty nine!** Continue along South Street, noting the arches on both sides of the road which indicate coach entrances to former Inns.

- **Turn right into Bob's Lane just before the arch** - a picturesque miniature street with quaint, little houses. Continue along Bob's Lane, bearing right and emerge into Plough Hill. On the immediate right are three attractive cottages which have been renovated. No. 7 Plough Hill on the left was formerly "The Windmill Public House", now known as Westgate House.
- **Stroll down Plough Hill. On the other side of the road,** the granary at the rear of No. 6 was used as a preaching place by early primitive Methodists and subsequently by General Booth, founder of the Salvation Army. On the left side is W.Staves formerly the Temperance Hotel.

As the road veers to the left, look down along Horsemarket to the tunnel in the hillside with the green double doors at the far end - this once housed the town's horse drawn fire engine and dates from 1869. The call out fee was reputed to have been £3 and the engine was summoned to a fire by the tolling of the church's treble and tenor bells. At the side of the old fire station is Pigeon Spring. The building above the hill is the Old Primary School, built by the

## REGENERATION

Church of England in 1859 to replace the original National School, which we shall see later. Behind you is the former primitive Methodist Chapel, a centre for campaigns against alcoholic troubles, now a youth centre.

- **Cross Plough Hill and walk down Fountain Street (formerly Duck Lane),** by the Spar shop on your left. The bank on the right is the south wall of Roman Caistor.

At the bottom of the street on the right hand side is the Syfer Spring where water used to flow across the road into the brewery

- **At the bottom of Fountain Street, turn right into Church Folly and climb the steps into the churchyard.** In front of you is the church of St Peter & St Paul. At the top of the steps, follow the path to the left. Hidden amongst the foliage behind the fence to your left are some remains of the Roman Butress.

With your back to the Roman wall, face the church - the impressive south door still bears some of the original 13th Century ironwork. It is suggested that Paulinus (died 644AD) established a church here.