

Prieser Strand to Holtenau ferry

NOW
3

Start	Prieser Strand at Fritz Reuter Straße
Finish	Holtenau ferry: Holtenau pier
Distance	3.91km
Duration	48 minutes
Access	Buses 501/502 at start of section; buses and ferry at end of section.
Facilities	Café in Holtenau.

3.1	Prieser Strand	0m
3.2	WSW along road; cross ex-railway; L past security hut and under airport lights; bear R, then L, then R to Strandstraße; L at the end (Kanalstraße); R on Tiessenkai to lighthouse.	2580m
3.3	R along quayside, picking up Kanalstraße; park path along Schleusenwiese; R to Kanalstraße; L along L pavement to ferry terminal.	1330m

The red and blue stripes running down the pages in these documents (and separating the text from captions and users' notes) are the heraldic colours of the *Land* of Schleswig-Holstein, through which the route passes.

3.1

This section of the walk starts out from the Prieser Strand bus stop on the street of that name, near the southern end of Fritz Reuter Straße in Christianpries.

This bus stop is served by all of the 501/502 bus journeys between Kiel and Schilksee/Strande. If you arrive at this point by bus from Kiel, you will need to cross the road and turn left to follow the route. This is not a suitable location to park a support vehicle.

3.2

Make your way west-south-westwards along the right-hand pavement of Prieser Strand, past shipyard buildings on your left, to a staggered junction just beyond the point where a long-dead railway track crosses the street. Turn left at this junction — if you find yourself surrounded by car repair businesses, you have overshot.

Following the pavement on the right-hand side of this road, you will soon reach a security hut. Just keep straight ahead: there is no need to check in here.

This is the entrance to an old warehouse and industrial area which wraps itself around the south-eastern corner of Kiel airport.

Pass a sailing club on your left, and keep on southwards. You will notice the gantries for the airport landing lights above you to left and right.

Eventually, the road bends to the right, and crosses a wider road. Do not be tempted to bear right onto the road. The route then bends left to cross another remnant of the old railway. Another bend to the right leads to a long straight stretch, heading in a south-westerly direction.

The ghosts of commerce past haunt this area, though there is a degree of urban renewal at the far end, where there some modern flats have been erected on the left of Strandstraße, as this road is named.

*Former western gatehouse
to warehouse/industrial
complex, Holtenau*



At the end of this post-industrial park, the former gatehouse to the complex on the right-hand side of the road has been spruced up as a holiday cottage.

Continue ahead on Strandstraße, then turn left onto Kanalstraße. Immediately, turn right onto Tiessenkai to reach the edge of the water beside the Leuchtturm Kiel-Holtenau.

This lighthouse is to guide shipping into the Nord-Ostsee Kanal from Kieler Förde. It stands 20m high on a spoil-heap from the construction of the canal. It was constructed in 1895, and its chamber (known as the Hall of the Three Emperors) is a

popular venue for weddings and other events.

The canal is 98km long, and was completed in 1895, saving shipping about 460km of rough water around Jutland, though there had been a water route linking the North Sea and the Baltic since the latter part of the eighteenth century, linking the Baltic by a canal to the navigable River Eider.

Since the old canal was less than 30m wide, and had a depth of only 3m, the need for a new canal was pressing. The canal now allows ships up to 235m long, with a draught of 7m, or up to 160m long with a draught of 9.5m. It is the busiest sea-access inland waterway in the world.

The canal is generally known in English as the Kiel Canal: is this perhaps because the port at the western end, Brunsbüttel, is more difficult for many English speakers to pronounce properly?

3.3 Moving off from the foot of the lighthouse ramp, turn right to walk along the quayside. You will come to an area of traditional brick-built houses.

There is a café here (and other shops, including an estate agency, though this last is likely to be of less immediate interest to walkers than some of the other offerings). There are parking facilities nearby for a support vehicle.

Keep going along the quayside, past the small buildings — shops, houses and businesses. The canalside street becomes Kanalstraße at the end of Tiessenkai: now, the bulwarks of the canal's sea-locks loom larger on the left.

When you finally reach the bridge over the side-channel onto Schleuseninsel (Lock Island) on your left, you are rewarded with a pathway going ahead through a narrow park, the Schleusenwiese (Lock Meadow).

Where the path turns left, following the curve of the canal bank around the upper end of Schleuseninsel, take the path up to Kanalstraße and turn left.

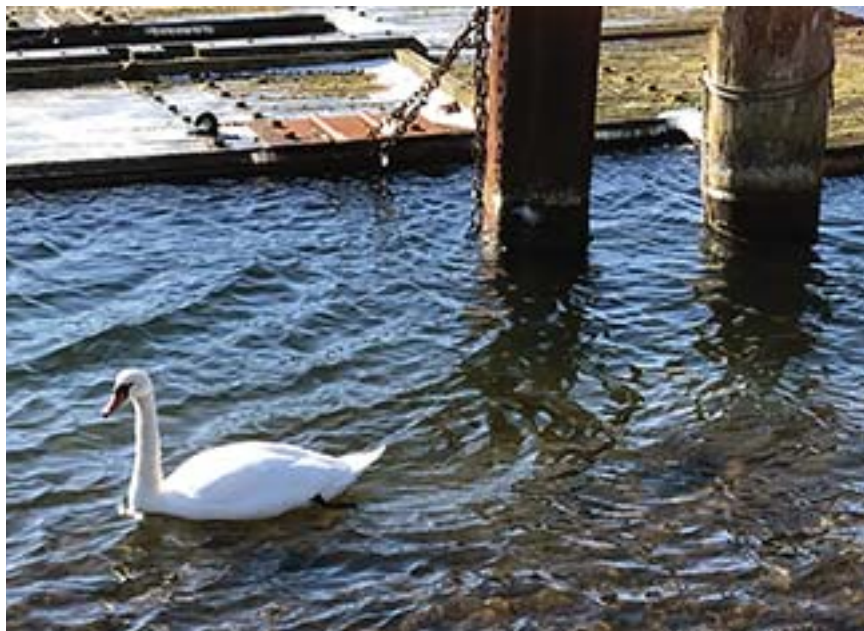
On your right at this point, there is a small car park, which may be



Leuchtturm Kiel-Holtenau



*Traditional houses on
Tiessenkai, Holtenau*



*A swan treads the shallows
at Schleusenwiese*

a suitable location for parking a support vehicle.

Follow the street to reach the ferry terminal, which is down on your left.

The ferry here, like all ferries across the canal, is operated as part of the canal business, and is free. Its basic timetable is to run every fifteen minutes, but these times may be bent to best accommodate arriving passengers.

Buses on route 32 connect the terminal with Kiel.

There is no suitable parking for a support vehicle at or near the ferry terminal.