

# Fischerhütte Fähre to Albersdorf

**NOW  
20**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Start      | Fischerhütte Fähre, north landing      |
| Finish     | Albersdorf, Brutkampsweg at Eichstraße |
| Distance   | 8.15km                                 |
| Duration   | 1 hour 49 minutes                      |
| Access     | Buses and trains at Albersdorf.        |
| Facilities | All facilities at Albersdorf.          |

|      |   |       |
|------|---|-------|
| 20.1 | Fischerhütte Fähre, north landing   | 0m    |
| 20.2 | W along canal; beyond Fischerhütte signal station, leave canal by path on R; L on road; NW to and through woodland; L on Südermoorweg 2.2km to Waldstraße.  | 4420m |
| 20.3 | L on Waldstraße; after 650m, R on track; bear L, then R-L zigzag; before main track bears L to dip, L on path; ignore next path to L, keeping W of S to reach road; L, then after 240m R; bear R on path to grave barrow, then L to another at edge of woodland; ahead (SSW) on suburban street; R on Waldstraße to crossroads; L over railway; R down steps into Kurpark; follow path to R of youth hostel, then after 100m, L then R onto Osterstraße, where L to junction with Bahnhofstraße; L on Bahnhofstraße then R on Brutkampsweg to junction with Eichstraße. | 3730m |

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.

## 20.1

This section of the walk starts at the northern landing of the Fischerhütte ferry for the final section of the canalside path on the Nord-Ostsee-Wanderweg.

This is a viable point for pick-up or drop-off by a supporting car and driver.

## 20.2

Start off along the canalside path, with the canal on your left. After a little step to the right to accommodate a bridge over a canal inlet, return to the canalside.

The word *Fischerhütte* in large letters on a signboard indicates the location to passing ships (though of course, they all have GPS nowadays, and are no longer entirely reliant on visual signs): the brick building nearby is the canal signal station of that name.

About 60m beyond the signal station building, take a path on the right which leads out onto a road. Turn left to follow the road. Ignore two smaller roads going off, the first to the left and the second to the right. The road climbs gently through a small patch of woodland and continues on the other side.

Take the next road, Südermoorweg, on the left: this will be 1.2km after joining the road at the canal. Follow Südermoorweg round its several bends for 2.2km, the final 300m of which has woodland on the left, to reach a T-junction. Here, you are about 1.5km south of Bunsöh.

This is a viable point for pick-up or drop-off by a supporting car and driver.

## 20.3

Turn left along the road, which is Waldstraße (but be aware — it is not the same Waldstraße as you will meet in Albersdorf ahead!).

After 650m, turn right off the road onto a forestry track.

Keep your wits about you in the forest, maintaining awareness of distance and direction.

After about 110m, the main track swings to the right: here, take a track on the left, which starts off on a generally westerly bearing. This track executes a mild right-then-left zigzag.

About 200m after coming out of the zigzag and returning to a westerly bearing, the path bears round slightly to the right.

Ahead, the path continues into a left-hand bend as it starts to descend: before the left-hand bend, look out for a smaller footpath leading off to the left, and take it, again picking up a westerly bearing at first, before bearing slightly left at a junction with a path going off to the left.

If you find that you have missed this turn, and you are descending

*The first left turn in the forest after having turned off Waldstraße*





with a sharp left turn and then a compensating right turn, just keep ahead to reach a road (Ochsenweg), where turn left to regain the route about 450m ahead.

The footpath through the woodland is a delight, especially so if you have been walking the earlier tracks in the wake of heavy forestry activity. This part of the wood is called *Tiefer Grund*. The path takes a sweep to the left to bear south-south-west, then to the right to return to that westerly bearing, then to the left (south-west), before easing right a bit to come out onto a road.

This road is the Ochsenweg: it is a very old route: in fact, some parts of it may be traced back as far as 4000BC. It runs from Viborg in Midtjylland (Denmark) along the watershed of the Jutland peninsula all the way to Hamburg. In Denmark, the route is known as *Hærvejen* (literally, *the army road*), whereas the German section bears the name *Ochsenweg* (*the ox road*), though the primary purpose was trade — livestock, of course, but also amber, honey, furs, glass and metal (including weaponry). Although the route was never (*pace* its Danish name) used for military invasion, there are defensive earthworks in locations along the full length of the route. Each of the two countries has devised a long-distance walking route which follows the old way.

At this point, there is a very effective traffic barrier to stop wheeled traffic from reaching the footpath through Tiefer Grund from Ochsenweg.

## Achtung! Warning!

At this point, the waymarked route deviates from that delineated on some maps (notably the 1:50000 maps issued by the Schleswig-Holstein government mapping agency). The route differs between this point on Ochsenweg to the crossroads at the level crossing adjacent to Albersdorf station. Take care!

Once you have negotiated the tree-trunk barrier, turn left on Ochsenweg, and walk ahead for about 240m in a south-south-easterly direction. Just into a right-hand bend, where Ochsenweg starts to head due south, take a small path to the right.

After about 150m, take a path which bears right. This leads in about 75m to a large hummock on the right of the path.

This is a Hugelgrab, or mound



*The footpath through Tiefer Grund*

*The western end of the footpath through Tiefer Grund is effectively blocked to wheeled access from Ochsenweg*





*Grave-mound (Hügelgrab)  
in woodland to the east of  
Albersdorf*

burial site, from the Neolithic era. There are lots of these mounds on the sandy heathland of Dithmarschen — no doubt, the proximity of Ochsenweg is one reason for their location here.

From this mound, turn left to go south to the edge of the wood (with another mound off to the left) at the end of a suburban street. This is Dreebargen.

Descend the short street to reach a crossroads. Here, turn right and follow Waldstraße, all the way down to a crossroads by a level crossing, next to Albersdorf

station. Turn left and cross the railway at the level crossing.

There is a train every two hours at Albersdorf on the line between Heide and Neumünster. Tickets are bought on board at an automatic ticket machine: there is no machine at the station.

Once across the railway, turn right to take a path down a set of steps, and ahead through the Kurpark (Albersdorf has been a spa centre, known for its pure air). Bear to the right of the youth hostel and then, about 100m beyond the hostel, take a left turn, then a right turn, and exit onto Osterstraße. Turn left, and follow Osterstraße to its junction with Bahnhofstraße.

Turn left on Bahnhofstraße, then first right onto Brutkampsweg. You will soon reach Hotel Bess, opposite the end of Eichstraße.

This point marks the end of this section of the Nord-Ostsee-Wanderweg.

The bus station is located at the other end of Eichstraße. There are refreshment facilities near the bus station.

Albersdorf is a good place for a pick-up or drop-off by a supporting car and driver, and there are parking facilities for a support vehicle within the town.