

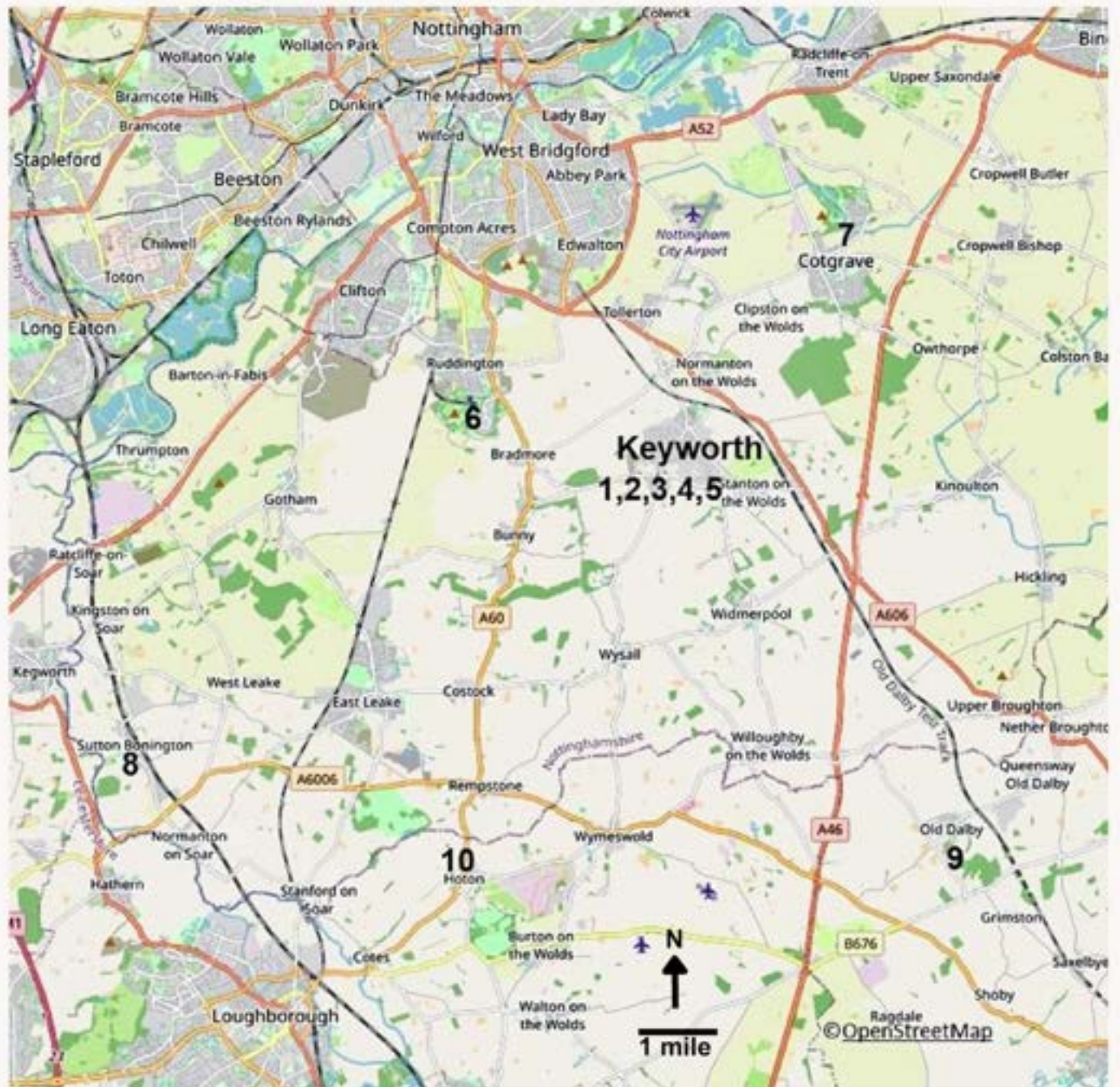
# Keyworth and District Footpaths Association

## Ten Circular Walks Around Keyworth





# Walks Locator Map



Fields near Wymeswold



# Ten Circular Walks Around Keyworth



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# Introduction

This booklet gives maps and guidance for 10 circular walks of between 1.5 and 8.75 miles in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. Five start from Keyworth, in the borough of Rushcliffe, and five are within easy reach of Keyworth by car or public transport. Some walks have longer and shorter options. We have included two fully accessible walks in Rushcliffe and Cotgrave Country Parks, on flat paths suitable for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs.

The booklet aims to encourage outdoor activity and enjoyment of the countryside. The routes are paths that have been surveyed and frequently walked by members of Keyworth and District Footpaths Association (KADFA) for over 40 years. We give OS Grid References and What3words for walk starting points. OS Explorer maps 260 and 246 cover the area of the walks. Please follow The Countryside Code: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code>

## Keyworth and District Footpaths Association

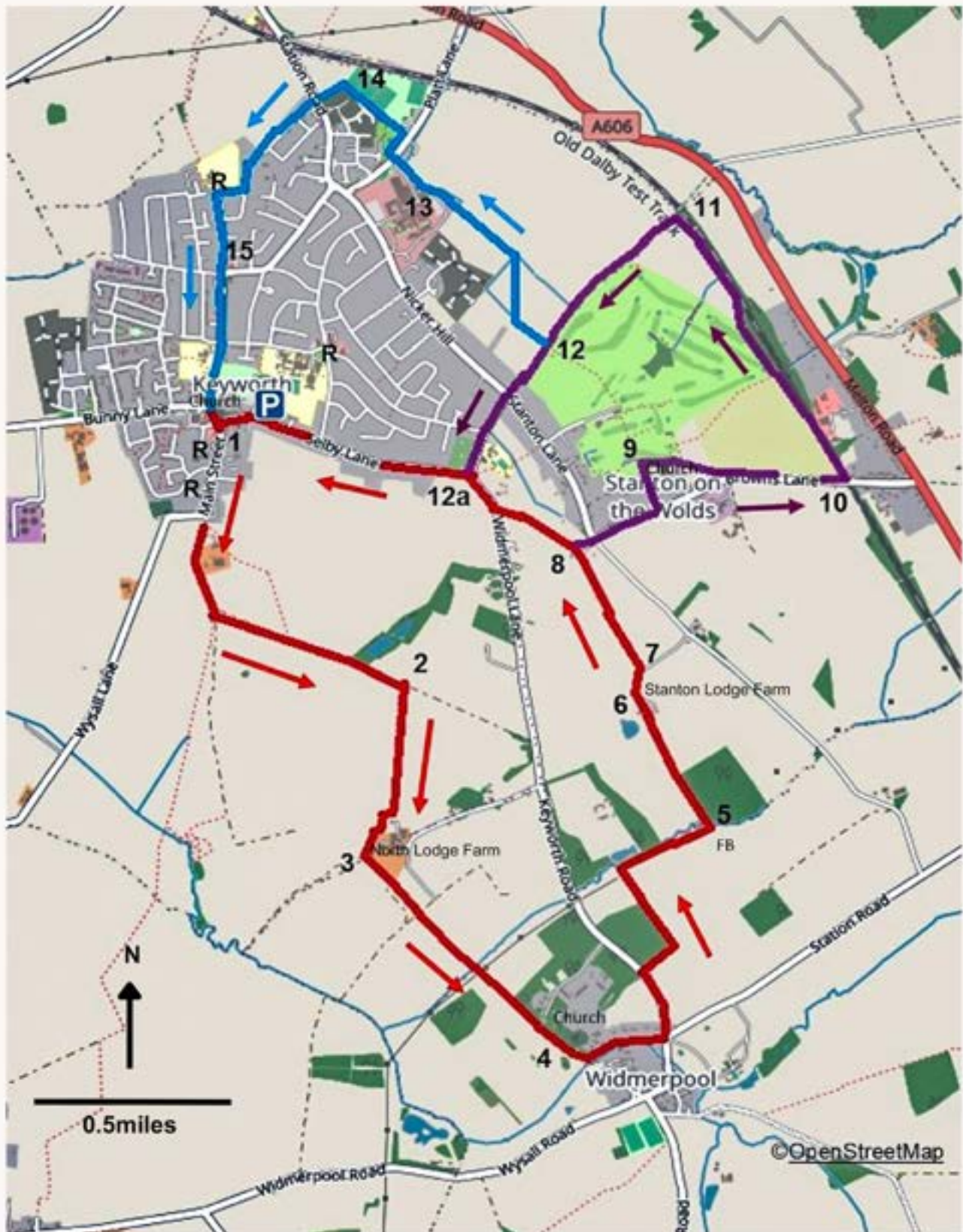
KADFA organises weekly walks of 7 to 10 miles on public rights of way particularly in Keyworth and more widely in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire. There are over 50 subscribing members and we welcome new members. We are associate members of The Ramblers Association.

You can find out more about KADFA and our weekly walks programme at [www.kadfa.co.uk](http://www.kadfa.co.uk) or email [secretary@kadfa.co.uk](mailto:secretary@kadfa.co.uk)





# Walk 1      Keyworth, Widmerpool, Stanton on the Wolds



R = Refreshments in Keyworth at Sophia's, The Keyworth Tavern, Alice's Tea Shop, The Windmill and The Salutation. Check their websites for opening times and addresses.



## Keyworth, Widmerpool, Stanton on the Wolds – three options

### Starting point

St Mary Magdalene Church, The Square, Keyworth NG12 5DG  
OS Grid Reference: SK 613 308 What3words: exchanges.spells.plantings

Regular buses from Nottingham Broadmarsh bus station to Keyworth Square.

Free parking at Keyworth Village Hall, NG12 5AN

OS Grid Reference: SK 614 309 What3words: dividers.instead.cookers

### Description of walks

Routes along tracks, footpaths and pavements, with a few stiles. Mostly easy terrain, but with short uphill sections and some stretches which may be muddy after heavy rain.

**Option 1. 5.5 miles** - leaving Keyworth via Lings Lane for Widmerpool and returning via Stanton Lodge Farm and Vineyard.

**Option 2. 7.5 miles in total** - an extended version of Option 1 including the footpath over the old Stanton railway tunnel and alongside the railway line now used as a test track.

**Option 3. 8.75 miles in total** - an extended version of Option 2 including the Mary Ward nature area at the back of the British Geological Survey.



St Mary Magdalene Church, Keyworth





### **Option 1. 5.5 miles - Keyworth to Widmerpool**

1. Walk south along Main Street and when the road bends to the right carry on straight ahead down Lings Lane. At the junction take the left hand track (Wolds Lane) and continue up this for about half a mile. Near the top of the hill on the right look out for a narrow wooden gate and footpath waymarks.
2. Go through the gate and along the path/track to just before some farm buildings, then follow the signposted route as it bends right and left around the farm. Take care not to miss the final left hand turn, indicated by a yellow post under a tree, onto a track heading south east (and NOT downhill). Soon take the path which forks left off this track, ignore the wooden gate on the left (possibly seeing llamas in the field) and continue to the kissing gate on your left.
3. Go through the kissing gate into a field (horses often in here) and continue slightly right across the field. Go through the kissing gate and follow the track downhill. Cross the stream and go uphill across a field, going through the gate (or over the stile) and continuing ahead up the enclosed path to a kissing gate on the left. Go through the kissing gate, turn right and follow the track downhill.
4. Go past Widmerpool Church on the left (there are seats in the churchyard), and continue to the junction with Keyworth Road. Turn left and shortly cross the road carefully to take the signposted path on the right across a plank bridge and into a field. Turn left up the field then right at the top to follow the path to the corner of the copse. Turn left and walk downhill with the copse on your left. Continue ahead down the path towards the pylon and at the bottom turn right. Follow the path with the brook on your left.
5. At the footbridge turn left to go over this bridge and then follow the path uphill through fields.
6. Walk up the narrow path in between fences and buildings and emerge to turn left onto a drive and then go right on the road. Follow the road round to the left, ignoring the drive to the right.
7. Shortly, where the road bends round to the right, turn left onto a signposted path across a large field. Follow this path as it goes through a vineyard.



8. You come to an open area with a stile to the left of a gate. Go over the stile and take the narrow path off to the left which goes between a hedge and an electric fence. This leads to a kissing gate at a road. Go through the gate and turn right, continuing on to the junction of Selby Lane and Willowbrook. Keep left to walk along Selby Lane back to St Mary Magdalene Church.

**Option 2. 7.5 miles in total - Keyworth, Widmerpool and Stanton on the Wolds**

Follow the guidance for Option 1. At 8 head up to the road (Thurlby Lane) and to the road junction immediately to the left. Turn right onto Browns Lane and go along this road until a narrow footpath goes off to the left immediately after Furlong House. Take this path and when it emerges into an open space at the golf course take the path off to the right.

9. This path leads past Stanton Churchyard. (There are seats here and by the war memorial at the far side of the church.) Keep on the path to the right and go across the fields back onto Browns Lane. Go left to walk up Browns Lane and then take the footpath off to the left after the 30mph signs.



All Saints Church,  
Stanton on the Wolds



Stanton Golf Course



Woods near Stanton  
Tunnel

10. This path goes up and over Stanton Tunnel. When you come down the steps after the tunnel turn left, then right and when the path emerges from the trees follow it alongside the railway line which is now used as a test track.

11. When you come to the second bridge on the right over the railway, turn left and follow this path up and down, then up again towards Keyworth.



12. Continue along this path to the road and walk ahead along Willowbrook to the T junction at the end.

12a. Turn right to walk along Selby Lane back to St Mary Magdalene Church.

**Option 3. 8.75 miles in total - Keyworth, Widmerpool, Stanton on the Wolds and Mary Ward nature area**

Follow the guidance for Options 1 and 2.

12. Take the path off to the right, which is opposite the path to the left leading onto the golf course. Follow the path along and then down to the stream at the bottom. Walk along with the stream on your right.

13. At the rear of the British Geological Survey your path goes through the Mary Ward nature area. When the path forks, take the right hand branch to emerge onto Platt Lane. Cross this road and go through the gap in the hedge on the other side to take the path which goes right and then left.



Behind the  
British  
Geological  
Survey



14. Pass playing fields on the right. Go through the kissing gate into a field. Turn left and walk around the edge of the field to a kissing gate and steps down to the road. Cross the road and turn left to walk up it to Park Road on the right. Walk up Park Road, which is quite steep, and at the top take the alleyway through to Brockdale Gardens. Turn right to go to Crossdale Drive, with the school at the end. Go left and walk along Crossdale Drive.

15. Where Crossdale Drive bends round to the left take the alleyway on your right which goes down past a pub on the left to the road. Carefully cross this road and walk up Nottingham Road, past a small supermarket on the left, to return past the recreation ground by the Village Hall car park to St Mary Magdalene Church.



## Walk 2 Keyworth, Wysall, Widmerpool



R = Refreshments in Keyworth at Sophia's, The Keyworth Tavern, Alice's Tea Shop, and The Salutation, and in Wysall at The Plough. Check their websites for opening times and addresses.



## Keyworth, Wysall, Widmerpool

### Starting point

St Mary Magdalene Church, The Square, Keyworth NG12 5DG

OS Grid Reference: SK 613 308 What3words: exchanges.spells.plantings

Regular buses from Nottingham Broadmarsh bus station to Keyworth Square.

Free parking at Keyworth Village Hall, NG12 5AN

OS Grid Reference: SK 614 309 What3words: dividers.instead.cookers

### Description of walk - 8 miles

Through fields and on tracks, taking in the villages of Wysall and Widmerpool.

Easy walking with a few stiles, but can be very muddy after rain and in winter.

1. From the church walk south along Main Street in the direction of Wysall and Wymeswold and when the road bends to the right carry on straight ahead down Lings Lane.

2. After the last house and before the Wolds Lane junction, turn right at a public footpath sign and go over a footbridge. Go through a kissing gate then bear left (with the pond on your right) to the next bridge and gate. Go past some barns on your left and follow the path down through several fields. With a ditch on your left, go over a double stile and then a plank bridge. Continue ahead just a few yards and then turn left across a land-bridge over the ditch. Turn right and head slightly diagonally to the left (south south west) across the field, towards the tree-lined field boundary, getting gradually further away from the hedge and ditch on your right. Look for a stile on the field boundary several yards up from the bottom corner. Go over the stile, continue right, down a slope towards a footbridge.

3. Go over the footbridge and stile over the brook. For over a mile continue to follow the yellow waymarked route. Look out for a plank bridge in a hedge on the left, and cross it and a second footbridge. Cross the field to the copse and go up the next field with the hedge on your left.



Holy Trinity Church, Wysall





4. The path ends in Tuckwood Court, a small group of houses. Turn right along Widmerpool Road and then cross it to soon take the public footpath, a tarmac drive between Rectory Cottage and Rectory Farm. Do not go through the gate at the end of the drive, but follow the fenced path right and left between new houses. After going around the edge of a large garden you come to a T junction of paths.

5. The route here takes the path to the left (but going right at this point leads through a small children's play area and a narrow passage to emerge opposite Holy Trinity Church where there are seats). Follow the well waymarked route.

6. After about a mile, and at the southern-most point of the route, turn left to go over a footbridge, joining the Notts Wolds Way path. Bear left but ignore the wooden bridge and go through the gap to the right of it, keeping the hedge and the ditch on your left.

7. Turn right by the side of the next hedge to walk up to a road, cross the road and head just to the left of the pylon.

8. On meeting the track at the top of the hill turn left and then later right at a T junction, following the waymarked path to Widmerpool. Go through the Rugby Club car park and out on to Willoughby Road.

9. Turn left and walk carefully along the road (no pavement) past the bus stop to the crossroads, then continue ahead along Church Lane. At the end of Church Lane bear left, following a path between hedges and go over a bridge. Continue ahead up a track passing Widmerpool Church on your right.



Fields near Widmerpool



George Martyn's Barn,  
Keyworth

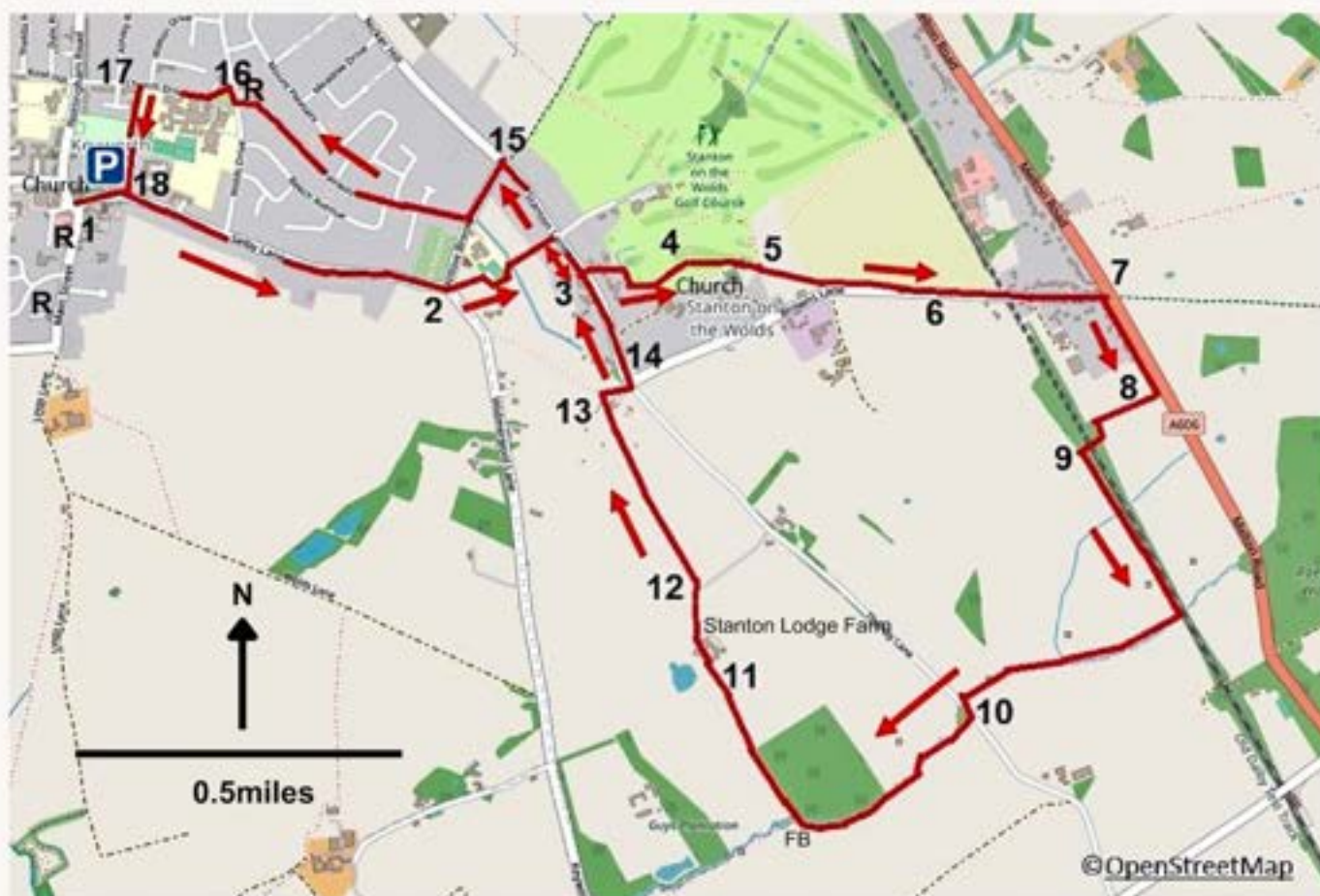
10. Go through a metal kissing gate on the left and ahead down a narrow track. Continue to follow the waymarked track for about two thirds of a mile, going downhill then uphill and crossing a lane.

11. Follow the path around North Lodge Farm and carry on to go through a gate onto Wolds Lane.

12. Turn left and continue until you meet Lings Lane. Turn right to walk back up Lings Lane to Main Street and St Mary Magdalene Church.



## Walk 3 Keyworth, Stanton on the Wolds, Roehoe Brook



R = Refreshments in Keyworth at Sophia's, The Keyworth Tavern, Alice's Tea Shop and The Salutation. Check their websites for opening times and addresses.



All Saints Church, Stanton on the Wolds



## Keyworth, Stanton on the Wolds, Roehoe Brook

### Starting point

St Mary Magdalene Church, The Square, Keyworth NG12 5DG

OS Grid Reference: SK 613 308 What3words: exchanges.spells.plantings

Regular buses from Nottingham Broadmarsh bus station to Keyworth Square.

Free parking at Keyworth Village Hall, NG12 5AN

OS Grid Reference: SK 614 309 What3words: dividers.instead.cookers

### Description of walk - 6 miles

Mostly on footpaths through fields and on pavements, with a few stiles. Fairly easy terrain but with one uphill section, some places which may be muddy after heavy rain and a short section on a slightly uneven verge alongside Melton Road (A606) which needs to be walked with care.

1. Walk along Selby Lane to the junction with Willowbrook. Turn left onto Willowbrook, cross the road and, still close to the junction, go over a stile to the right of a lamppost and left of an old telegraph pole and green box.
2. Follow the path across small fields, going through metal gates, and around the edge of the school fence. Go through another kissing gate and along a narrow path until you reach Stanton Lane. Turn right to walk along Stanton Lane until you see the sign for house no 42 on the left.
3. Cross Stanton Lane and take the narrow signposted footpath to the golf course. Turn right and keep to the edge of the golf course. Then turn right to go over an earth bridge across a drainage channel, then left to keep to the edge of the golf course.
4. Ignore the signposted footpath off to the right and go straight ahead through the gap in the trees to carry on past Stanton Church. Shortly after this go through a gap in the trees ahead to take the footpath off to the right.





5. Go over a plank bridge and through a kissing gate. Follow the path heading slightly right to walk through two fields to Browns Lane.

6. Cross to the pavement on the other side, then turn left and walk up Browns Lane to the junction with Melton Road (A606).

7. Turn right and walk along the pavement by the side of Melton Road to the end of the houses, then continue to walk another two hundred yards along the verge. Take care here as the ground is uneven in places and you are at the side of a busy A road. Walk past a gate which leads into a field and then turn right onto the signposted footpath.



Chimney over the test track tunnel

10. Turn left onto Thurlby Lane and then almost immediately right to continue along the footpath near to Roehoe Brook. Ignore the first footbridge over the brook. Turn right to go over the second footbridge and follow the signposted path uphill through fields, with a copse on your right.



All Saints Church, Stanton on the Wolds



8. Follow the footpath, with the hedge on your right, to the corner, then follow the path around to the left and shortly take the track off to the right. Although not obvious at this point, this track takes you across a bridge over a railway line now used as a test track.

9. Turn left to walk downhill with the railway cutting on your left. At the bottom of the hill follow the path around to the right with Roehoe Brook on your left. Follow the path along, crossing over to the other side of the stream before the pylon, until you come to Thurlby Lane.



11. Walk up the narrow path in between fences and buildings and emerge to turn left onto a drive and then go right on the road. Follow the road round to the left, ignoring the drive to the right.

12. Shortly, where the road bends round to the right, turn left onto a signposted path across a large field. Follow this path as it goes through a vineyard.

13. You come to a stile to the left of a gate. Go over the stile and head up to the road (Thurlby Lane) and to the road junction immediately to the left.

14. Keep left to walk along Stanton Lane to the junction with Willowbrook.



Near Stanton Tunnels

15. Turn left to walk down Willowbrook and then turn right to walk along Fairway to its end, where it meets Wolds Drive and where there is a pub and a number of shops and food outlets.

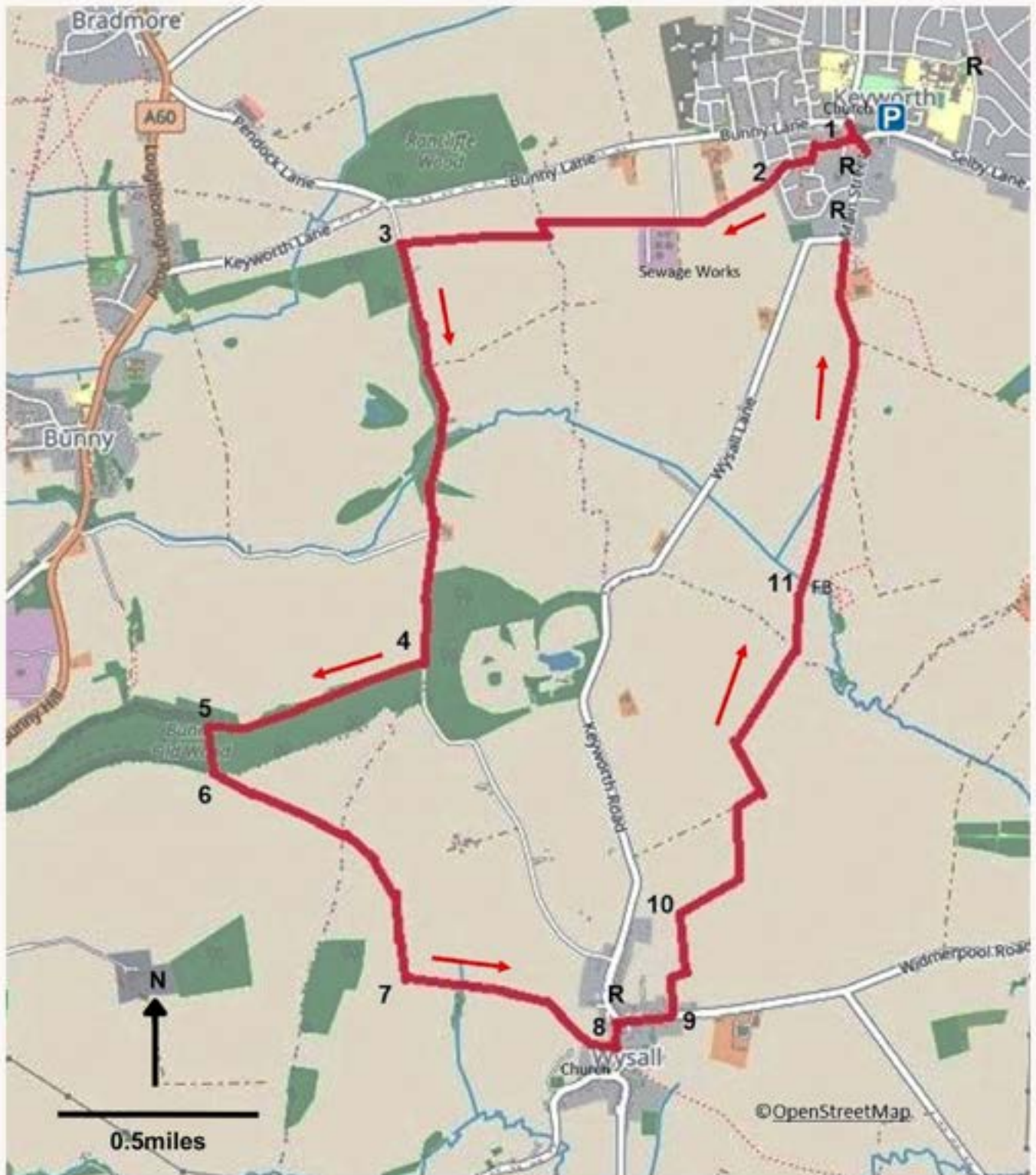
16. Cross Wolds Drive to walk up Church Drive, passing the leisure centre, library and school to a footpath on the left which goes up past the side of the school playing fields.

17. Walk up this footpath to the Village Hall and walk out of the car park at the top left hand corner.

18. Walk along Elm Avenue to the junction with Selby Lane and then turn right to walk back to St Mary Magdalene Church.



# Walk 4    Keyworth, Bunny Old Wood, Wysall



R = Refreshments in Keyworth at Sophia's, The Keyworth Tavern, Alice's Tea Shop and The Salutation and in Wysall at The Plough. Check their websites for opening times and addresses.



## Keyworth, Bunny Old Wood, Wysall

### Starting point

St Mary Magdalene Church, The Square, Keyworth NG12 5DG

OS Grid Reference: SK 613 308 What3words: exchanges.spells.plantings

Regular buses from Nottingham Broadmarsh bus station to Keyworth Square.

Free parking at Keyworth Village Hall, NG12 5AN

OS Grid Reference: SK 614 309 What3words: dividers.instead.cookers

### Description of walk - 7 miles

Across fields and on tracks, passing through the village of Wysall. There are several stiles and a steep climb in Bunny Old Wood, where there are bluebells in spring. Paths can be very muddy after rain and in winter.

1. From the church and The Square go past the Co-op and Medical Centre on the right, down the path at the edge of the carpark and continue through an alleyway in the left hand corner. Follow the path ahead, ignoring a cross path. At the bottom follow the path left. Take the next path on the right downhill, cross the road (Brookview Drive) and continue down another alleyway. Continue ahead at the cross path.

2. Go through a kissing gate into a field and continue ahead to the next kissing gate. Continue westwards passing by the side of the sewage works. Continue across a field, over the footbridge and down the left hand side of the next field.

3. Go through a kissing gate and a farm gate and turn left (south) onto Wysall Road. Continue for just over a mile.

4. Turn right into Bunny Old Wood at the bridleway sign and follow the lower path for about half a mile.



Home Farm, Keyworth



Holy Trinity Church, Wysall



Bunny Old Wood



5. Take the footpath on the left, signposted Notts Wolds Way, to join the upper path.

6. Turn left and immediately right, following the sign to Wysall. The narrow path goes steeply uphill. At the top go through a gate and cross a large field and then a smaller field diagonally towards the south east. Go through a hedge gap, following the waymarks straight over, and continue south with the hedge on your left.

7. Turn left and after a few yards right through a gap in the hedge, then left continuing eastwards for 3 fields. Go over the stile at the end of the second field and cross the field diagonally south eastwards towards the church and go down an alleyway to the road into Wysall.

8. Turn left into Main Street and then right onto Widmerpool Road. Follow the road until almost the end of the village.

9. Turn left into Tuckwood Court. Continue through houses and up a narrow grassy track to the top. Go over a stile and turn right, then shortly left with the hedge on your right.

10. At the bottom of the field go over a footbridge and through trees. Continue straight across the middle of the field. Go over a footbridge, and turn right. Go over a second footbridge immediately on the left, turn right down the edge of the field to a yellow post. Turn left, with the hedge on your left; at the top of the slope, turn right at the yellow post and go down the field. At the bottom of the field continue ahead and follow the waymarks across several small fields.

11. Go over the brook by the footbridge and stile, continuing up the slope to a hedge. Go over a stile on the left, cross the next large field diagonally left aiming for the furthest gap in the hedge; go almost to the corner, where you cross a land-bridge. Turn right and go over a plank bridge. Go over a double stile, continuing ahead with a ditch on your right. Cross several fields following the waymarked route until you reach a field with a pond; go over to the hedge on the right and through a metal kissing gate. Cross the footbridge onto the lane, turn left and follow Lings Lane to the junction. Continue along Main Street back to St Mary Magdalene Church.



# Walk 5    Keyworth, Clipston, Tollerton, Plumtree



R = Refreshments in Keyworth at Sophia's, The Keyworth Tavern, Alice's Tea Shop, The Windmill and The Salutation, in Normanton at The Plough and in Plumtree at The Griffin. Check their websites for opening times and addresses.



## **Keyworth, Clipston, Tollerton, Plumtree**

### **Starting point**

St Mary Magdalene Church, The Square, Keyworth NG12 5DG

OS Grid Reference: SK 613 308    What3words: exchanges.spells.plantings

Regular buses from Nottingham Broadmarsh bus station to Keyworth Square.

Free parking at Keyworth Village Hall, NG12 5AN

OS Grid Reference: SK 614 309    What3words: dividers.instead.cookers

### **Description of walk - 8.5 miles**

Mostly through fields and on tracks, taking in the villages of Normanton and Clipston on the Wolds, Tollerton and Plumtree. Moderately easy walking with some stiles. Can be muddy in winter and after heavy rain.

1. From St Mary Magdalene Church walk north down Nottingham Road to the junction at the bottom. Cross the road and walk up the alleyway on the left of the pub. At the top turn left and walk along Crossdale Drive almost to the primary school at the end.
2. Take the road off to the right (Brockwood Crescent), then turn left down Brockdale Gardens. At the end walk along an alleyway, turn right and walk along Park Road to the T junction with Station Road. Cross the road and turn left to walk along Station Road and go under the railway bridge.
3. Almost immediately turn right to walk up the driveway to Perkins Bar and Bistro (the old Plumtree train station). Near the top of the driveway, take the path down on the left, marked by a yellow post behind the fence, and go through the kissing gate on the right at the bottom of the steps. Walk down the left hand side of the field and straight ahead across the next field to reach Melton Road, A606.
4. Carefully cross this busy A road, and go over the stile opposite into the field. Cross the field on the footpath, heading for the yellow waymark post slightly to the left. Go through the gap and shortly over a footbridge and along an alleyway to reach a T junction with Old Melton Road at Normanton on the Wolds. Turn right to walk along this road to a footpath on the left just opposite Normanton Manor.



5. Go through two gates and follow this footpath. Go down some steps, over a stile to a footbridge, through a copse and up through fields. Follow the waymarked path, crossing a farm lane until you reach the road to Clipston after about two thirds of a mile.

6. Turn right to walk along the road to Clipston. In the village, follow the road round to the left on Gilliver Lane and then, when it bends round to the right, turn sharp left to go through a gap at the side of a gate and down a track. Shortly turn right to walk down the side of fields. Cross Cotgrave Road and continue on the path ahead until you see a path going across just after the field dips down.

7. Turn left and follow the path across a large field. Go over a plank bridge, and continue across the next field, then go through a gap into the next field, following the footpath sign, with the hedge on your left. Follow the path round the edge of the field, then bear left over a bridge to join a track and continue along this to the road.

8. Turn left to walk for about three quarters of a mile along Tollerton Lane, passing Chestnut Mews, the end of Cotgrave Lane and Tollerton Church. Eventually, after the pavement has crossed to the other side of the road, take the footpath on the left just in front of a 20 mph sign.

9. Take the path down the field and at the bottom follow the path around a bend. Ignore a footbridge on your left and follow the path around several bends with the stream on your left. Cross a stile and follow yellow waymarks across two fields, aiming for a gap in the hedge, to emerge at the side of Melton Road, A606, by a public footpath sign.



Clipston







View over Cotgrave

10. Carefully cross this busy A road and take the path ahead over a footbridge. Walk across the field to the hedge, bear left to find another footbridge and stile and continue through the next field to the yellow waymark post.

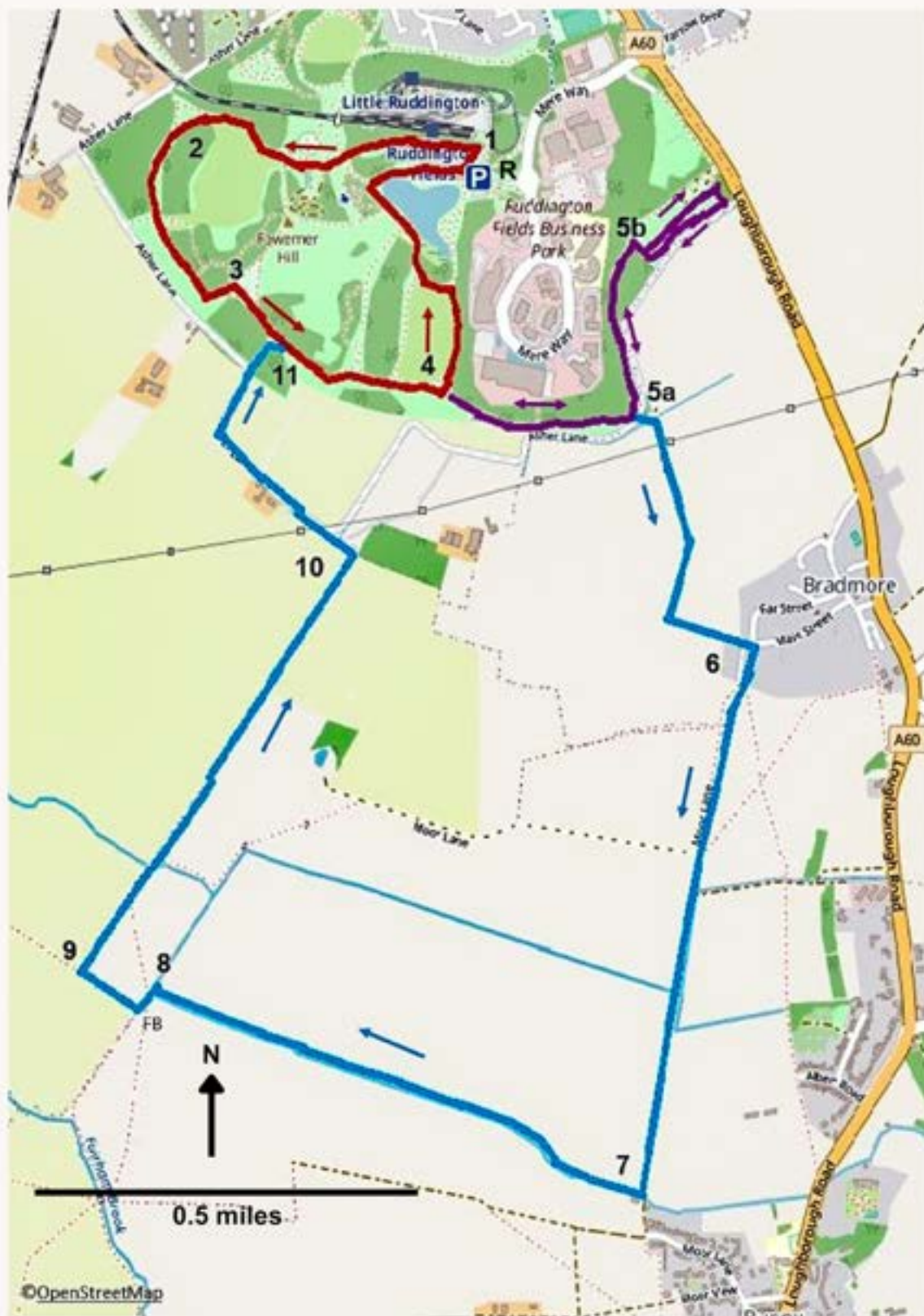
11. Turn left at the second yellow post and walk along the footpath to go through a gate. Follow the footpath across two small fields until you reach steps, which you go down. Take care here as you emerge suddenly onto a road near a blind corner. Cross the road to Plumtree Church and walk through the churchyard. Go out through the gate on the left just after the church and turn right, then shortly go over a stile on the right. Cross the fields on footpaths keeping right to reach the road at the far right hand corner of the final field.

12. Turn left to walk up the road for a little over a hundred yards to a path on the right. Take this path which goes under the railway line and pylons, then across fields. The path turns left over a footbridge to go uphill and reach Keyworth by the school at the end of Crossdale Drive. Retrace your steps from 2. Walk along Crossdale Drive until it bends round to the left. Take the alleyway off to the right which goes down past the pub on your left. Cross the road and walk back up Nottingham Road to St Mary Magdalene Church.





# Walk 6 Rushcliffe Country Park



R = Refreshments at Coffee and Cake by the Lake. Check Rushcliffe Country Park website for opening times.



## Rushcliffe Country Park – three options

### Starting point

Rushcliffe Country Park, Mere Way, Nottingham, NG11 6JS  
OS Grid Reference: SK585 363 What3words: drums.noting.torch

Bus from Nottingham Station stops at Rushcliffe Country Park.

Car park, open 8am to 6pm (small charge), and some parking on Mere Way, the approach road to the park from A60.

<https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/rushcliffe-country-park>

### Description of walks

The park includes fields, woodland and a lake and has many play areas. Options 1 and 2 are fully accessible and suitable for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs. The third walk is across farm land on grassy paths and tracks. It can be muddy in winter.

**Option 1. 1.5 miles** - a short circuit of part of the country park

**Option 2. 3.25 miles in total** - an extended version of Option 1 in the park

**Option 3. 5.75 miles in total** - through part of the country park, then across fields, skirting Bradmore and Bunny and back into the park



NKS RADAR key opens several gates around the park for wheelchair users



Children's play area

### Option 1. 1.5 miles - fully accessible paths in Rushcliffe Country Park

1. Leave the car park through the accessible metal gate at the end of the car park furthest from the visitor centre. Follow the wide path past the playground on your right and skate park on your left. Bear right up the hill.

2. Keep left on the main path, through a grassy area.



3. After seats on the left, follow the path as it bends round to the left, then turn right, keeping the dog agility training area on your left. Continue past the wooden sign, Smiff's Corner, on the right of the path.

4. Turn left at the sign to the car park and visitor centre. At the fence, turn sharp left on a wide path until you reach the lake. Keep the lake on your right until you reach the visitor centre, toilets and café. Take the path between buildings and back into the car park through the accessible gate.

**Option 2. 3 miles in total - fully accessible paths in Rushcliffe Country Park, including grassy and less smooth paths around the orchard.**

Follow guidance for Option 1. At 4 continue along the path for a quarter of a mile (do not take the path to the car park and lake).

5a. Continue on the path as it turns to the left through trees.

5b. In quarter of a mile, at a bench, turn right off the main path onto a grassy path towards the apple orchard. Follow the path on the left through an avenue of young trees around the outside of the fenced off orchard. Keep the orchard on your right. Take the grassy path back to the main path and retrace your route back to 4.

4. Turn right at the sign to the car park and visitor centre. At the fence, turn sharp left on a wide path until you reach the lake. Keep the lake on your right until you reach the visitor centre, toilets and café. Take the path between buildings and back into the car park through the accessible gate.

**Option 3. 5.75 miles in total - within and outside Rushcliffe Country Park towards Bradmore and Bunny. Paths are not accessible for wheel chairs, mobility scooters or pushchairs.**

Follow guidance for Option 1.

At 4. continue along the path for about half a mile (do not take the path to the car park and lake).

5a. Exit the park at the Bradmore Gate (not accessible), which is just behind a bench before the path turns to the left. Cross the road to the middle field. Follow the path to the right under the overhead wires. Keep to the edge of the field, with the hedge on your right. The path turns sharp left and up a slight incline at the end of the field.



6. Go through the gate and turn immediately left on to Littlemoor Lane. Take the second turning on the right, signposted as a public bridleway. Follow this downhill as it becomes a grassy track. After about half a mile, continue straight, past Syd's bench, following the yellow waymark (do not turn right).

7. After a similar distance, before you reach Bunny village, turn right in front of a barn onto a public bridleway, with a brook on your left.

8. After three quarters of a mile, turn left over a footbridge, following the yellow waymark. After a few yards, turn right, again following the yellow waymark.

9. After 200-300yards, turn right, following the yellow waymark. Go straight over at the cross roads and keep on the wide farm track. The path goes slightly to the left of the hedge to avoid a private road. Keep straight to the end of the field, with the hedge on your right.



Rushcliffe Country Park lake

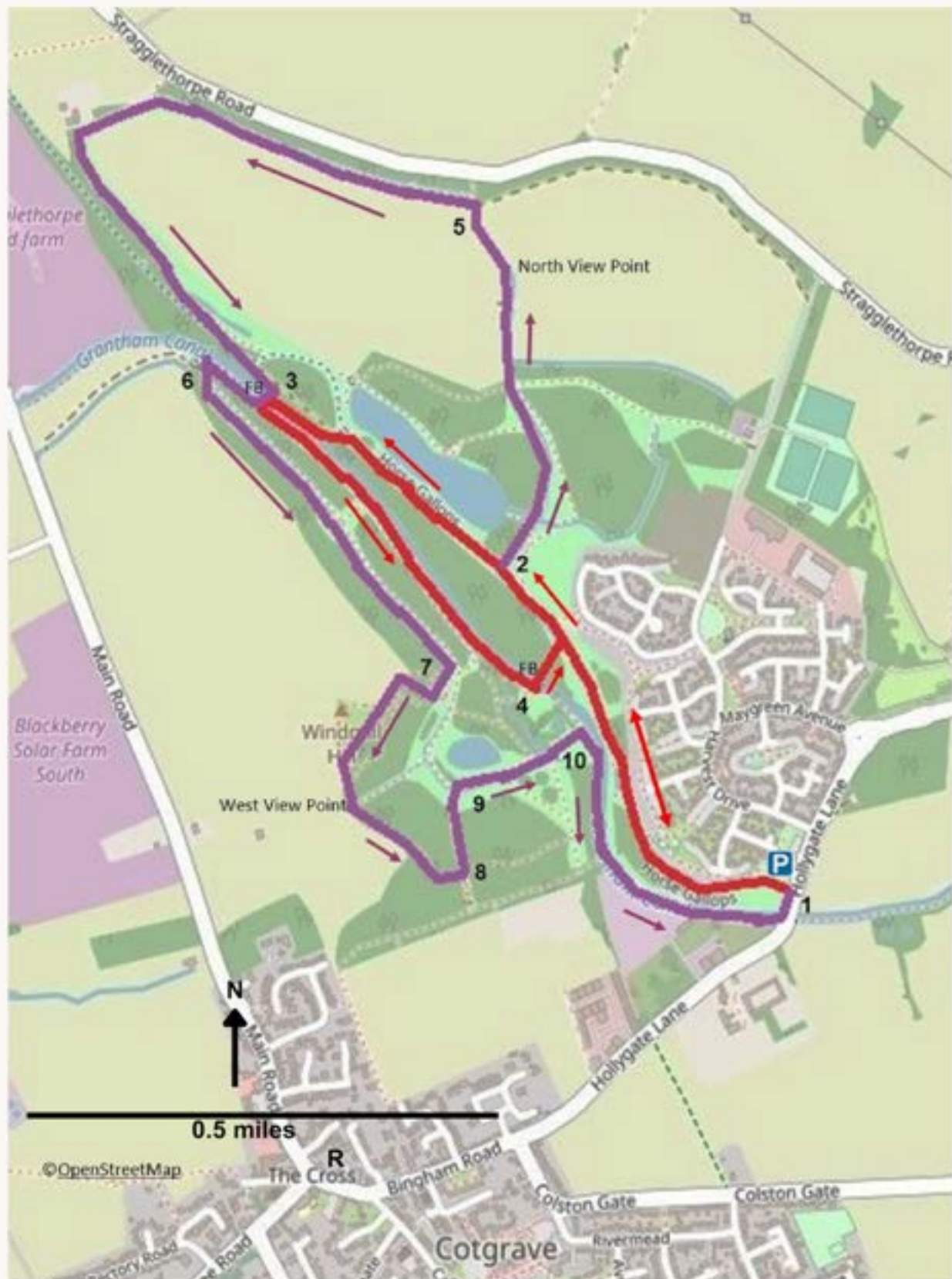
10. The path turns to the left at the end of the field and soon joins a road. Turn left onto the road. After a few hundred yards, you will go under the overhead wires. Very soon, and before you reach Moor Farm, a waymark post indicates a path on the right through the hedge onto the road. Take this and turn left. Follow the road around a sharp right-hand bend.

11. On the next bend you will see the entrance back into Rushcliffe Country Park. Leave the road and re-enter the park. After a short grassy path, turn right onto the main path in the park.

4. Turn left at the sign to the car park and visitor centre. At the fence, turn sharp left on a wide path until you reach the lake. Keep the lake on your right until you reach the visitor centre, toilets and café. Take the path between buildings and back into the car park through the accessible gate.



# Walk 7 Cotgrave Country Park



R = Refreshments at The Pig and Pudding in Cotgrave. Check online for opening times.



## Cotgrave Country Park – two options

### Starting point

Cotgrave Country Park, Hollygate Lane, Nottingham, NG12 3HE  
OS Grid Reference: SK653 360 What3words: cubed.boards.wired

Buses stop nearby from Nottingham, West Bridgford, Gamston and surrounding villages. Car park on Hollygate Lane. <https://www.cotgravecountrypark.co.uk>

### Description of walks

The park has a variety of attractive habitats and includes lakes, ponds and woodlands. It was developed around Cotgrave Colliery, which closed in the 1990s. One walk is fully accessible. The second option includes low hills and rougher paths within the country park.

**Option 1. 1.8 miles** - a short walk beside Heron Lake and the Grantham Canal

**Option 2. 3.5 miles in total** - a longer walk with stunning views to the north and west

### Option 1. 1.8 miles on fully accessible paths (following yellow markers) in Cotgrave Country Park

1. Leave the car park by the exit furthest from the road. Enter the country park and follow the main path, signed for Heron Lake.



Heron Lake

2. Continue on main path for about one third of a mile.

3. Towards the end of the lake, turn left, following signs for Grantham Canal and onto the towpath. Cross over the bridge at the lock and then turn left. Carry on along the towpath for about half a mile until you reach the footbridge.



Footbridge over the Grantham Canal

4. Cross over it following signs for Heron Lake, and go through the trees. Then turn right onto the main path to return to the car park.



**Option 2. 3.5 miles on accessible paths in Cotgrave Country Park, but with some low hills and rough surfaces**



View towards Nottingham

Follow guidance for Option 1. At 2, turn right up an incline, following the sign for North View Point. When the path forks to the right (to Stragglethorpe Road) carry straight on towards the two gateposts. North View Point is not marked but a large gap in the hedge offers panoramic views of Nottingham. Carry on down the hill.

5. At the bottom of Collier's Mount turn left and stay on this path for about one mile; there are red marker posts at intervals along the path. The path bends round sharply to the left. You will pass Dragonfly Lake and a Cotgrave Country Park noticeboard on your left. At 3, turn right at the sign for High Trail/Grantham Canal, which brings you onto the towpath. Cross over the canal and turn right.
6. Pass through a metal barrier and turn immediately left, signed for High Trail and West View Point. Stay on this path, going slightly uphill, for about half a mile.
7. Turn right signed for West View Point. The path winds right and left before reaching the summit at West View Point. There are benches here with wonderful views. Carry on along this path, downhill, until the fork.
8. To the right are steep wooden steps - to avoid these, turn left along the path until you see the sign for Heron Lake and Dog Pool.
9. Turn right here and follow the path for around 500 yards.
10. Back on the canal towpath, turn right (signed for car park). Exit the country park onto Hollygate Lane and turn left for the car park.



# Walk 8      Sutton Bonington, Kingston on Soar, West Leake



R = Refreshments at The Star, West Leake. Check their website for opening times.



Beside the  
River Soar



## Sutton Bonington, Kingston on Soar, West Leake

### Starting point

Pasture Lane, Sutton Bonington, LE12 5PL Grid Reference: SK 505 249

What3words: pockets.princes.tastings

Car parking on Pasture Lane.

### Description of walk - 7 miles

This walk follows the banks of the River Soar as far as Kegworth and then takes you to Kingston on Soar, where you can visit the church of St Winifred, home of the remarkable Babington Chantry Chapel, dated c.1540. The return to Sutton Bonington goes to the village of West Leake and then through fields and pleasant countryside. It is mostly flat, with a few stiles.

1. The gate to the footpath on Pasture Lane is on the right a few steps beyond the start of the trees and shrubs after the end of the houses. Follow a clear footpath between fences bordering several small paddocks till you come to a plank bridge by a gate into the next field. The path bends right bordering the brook and leads to the low flood wall by the river which you can easily climb over onto the river path.
2. Turn right and follow the river path for two miles. You will pass Kegworth new lock and may see barges going through the lock gates. There are some steps down the grassy bank. When you get to Kegworth ignore the big gate to the road and follow the path which climbs up to the right to join the road by the bridge. Cross over Station Road and continue forward on Kingston Road towards the visible footpath sign on the right. The path is opposite a small car park on the other side of the road.



St Winifred's Church,  
Kingston on Soar



Babington Chantry Chapel



3. Take this path across a couple fields to a stile leading to a railway tunnel. Go through the short tunnel and continue on the clear path through two footpath gates till you reach Kingston on Soar. The church and village green are on your left.

4. Exiting the footpath cross the road to the signed footpath. This fenced path follows the road left before curving right to follow the brook. Kingston Hall is visible across the brook to the left. Some way along this clear path as it reaches a field gate, turn left over a footbridge before turning right and continuing to follow the brook on the other side. The water is now on your right. At the next stile climb out of the field onto a farm track.

5. Turn left towards Scotland Farm. At the farm turn right at the fork before the farm buildings. Turn right before the paddock gate and head for a grove of trees. With the paddock on your left aim for its far corner and follow the clear track to West Leake where you emerge onto the road by some houses.



Kegworth canal bridge

The Star, West Leake



6. Turn right onto the road and follow it to the T junction with Melton Lane. Pass in front of The Star pub and immediately cross the road to a footpath to the right of a field gate. Follow the fenced path round a field over a stile and diagonally left over a footbridge.

7. On the clear path with the hedge on your right, ignore the first footpath sign but take the second into the field and cross it diagonally towards a copse of trees on the horizon. Skirt the copse on a fenced path climbing a stile into parkland passing in front of St Anne's Manor. Go through two footpath gates over two driveways and head for the top right corner of the next field where you cross a railway bridge.

8. Continue on the path past St Anne's Church on your right and then on the lane to the junction with the main road through Sutton Bonington. Turn right and continue until you meet Pasture Lane on the left.



# Walk 9      Old Dalby, Hickling Standard, Upper Broughton



R = Refreshments at The Crown Inn, Old Dalby and The Tap and Run, Upper Broughton. Check their websites for opening hours.



## Old Dalby, Hickling Standard, Upper Broughton



### Starting point

Chapel Lane, Old Dalby, LE14 3LA Grid Reference: SK672 237

What3words: struck.tickling.drifting

Centrebus 23 runs Monday to Saturday about four times a day between Melton Mowbray and The Green, Old Dalby.

Car parking by The Green on Chapel Lane.

### Description of walk - 8.5 miles

The walk has fine views over the Vale of Belvoir. It has a short steep hill at the start, then rolling countryside with several gates and stiles. Hickling Standard is the hill overlooking the Vale of Belvoir to both the north and south. Its name is thought to derive from Royalists raising a standard there during the Civil War.

1. Take the alleyway north off Chapel Lane, between the signs The Green and Chapel Lane. This leads to The Crown Inn at the end of the path on your right. Turn left up the steep lane, Debdale Hill, and go through the metal 5 bar gate; continue along the road at the top of the hill bearing right. Go through another metal gate and you will reach a minor road. Cross this and continue northwards on the public footpath/bridleway along the ridge on Longcliff Hill above the valley. At first the hedge is on your left; after about half a mile it will be on your right. After less than 1.5 miles you will reach Station Road.

2. Go left and take the footpath/bridleway through the gate almost immediately opposite. Follow the footpath for about half a mile north westwards. Before you get to Wolds Farm there is a hedge on the right and an old gatepost on the left.

3. After 60 yards there is a crossroad of paths; turn right on the path which goes across the middle of the field. There is no footpath sign here to help you, so ignore the footpaths to the left and straight ahead. Once across the field go through the metal gate, over the cattle grid and continue along the road to the bridge over the railway line (now a test track) and continue along Folly Hall Lane past Folly Hall on your left and Quorn House on your right, until you reach the busy Melton Road, A606. Turn left, crossing the road and walk for about 120 yds until you reach the footpath on the right.



4. Take this path up along the ridge. After about 500 yards go over a stile on the right (this is easy to miss), turn left across the field, then over a stile, through the copse and continue north eastwards with the hedge on your right. Go through two metal gates and, if you want to get views to the northeast over the Vale of Belvoir and there are no cows to worry about, go up the hill to the left, temporarily leaving the footpath to the view point of Hickling Standard. Return to the public footpath in order to pass through the gate. The field boundary will now be to your left. Continue until you get to a gate, pausing to enjoy the views over the valley to the south. Cross the field, go over another stile, go to your right and immediately cross the stile into a field where you have a choice of paths.

5. To avoid what can be a very muddy path, turn left on the path that leads down to Hickling, keeping close to the hedge on your left, over a stile with a copse on your right and then down a footpath, which then merges with a lane, for less than half a mile.

6. Turn right at the road for another half a mile.

7. Turn right again at Green Lane. Walk along the road until you get to another road, Hickling Lane.



St Luke's Church, Upper Broughton

8. Turn left here, going south towards Upper Broughton. Stay on the road for about a mile. Ignore the footpath on the left, keeping the main farm buildings on your left.

9. Take the footpath straight ahead over the field and to a gate. Go through this gate and head towards the large white house up the hill. When you get to the houses on the edge of Upper Broughton, go through two metal gates, turn left down Church Lane, and arrive at the church by an alleyway. You may like to visit St Luke's, a Grade I listed church, built in the 12th century and restored in the 19th. Alternatively, The Tap and Run pub is just around the corner on the main road (A606).



10. Walk around the front of the pub to the bus shelter and then cross the A606, turning right into Bottom Green. You will shortly see a footpath to the left next to a house called The Cottage. Go over the stiles into a field, walk parallel to the vehicle track; go through the metal gate across this track and then cross a double stile. Turn left along a rough path – beware tree roots and other trip hazards. The path turns sharp right around two fields; keep the wooden fence on your left as you approach a stream. Cross the stream and turn immediately left along the field boundary.

11. Another double stile will take you into a field which you cross diagonally to a metal gate. Through this gate, head towards the copse, crossing the footbridge over the stream which marks the Nottinghamshire/Leicestershire boundary. Walk through the copse and through another gate; continue with the stream on your left. You reach a footpath sign pointing left – ignore this and continue for about 80 yards to a second footpath. Cross the stile here and turn right along the hedge until you reach the railway tunnel.

12. Go through this and turn immediately left. Follow the footpath for about half a mile as it turns right to Old Dalby, past two more fields as far as a yellow post.

13. At the yellow post, turn left and head towards the new housing estate. The footpath goes down the side of a bungalow and around the estate. When you reach the road, turn right and follow this road, Hedgerow Close, until it reaches Longcliff Hill.

14. Turn right up the hill, then left into Debdale Hill, towards The Crown Inn, returning by the alleyway to The Green or diverting to the pub garden by its back gate.



View south from Hickling Standard

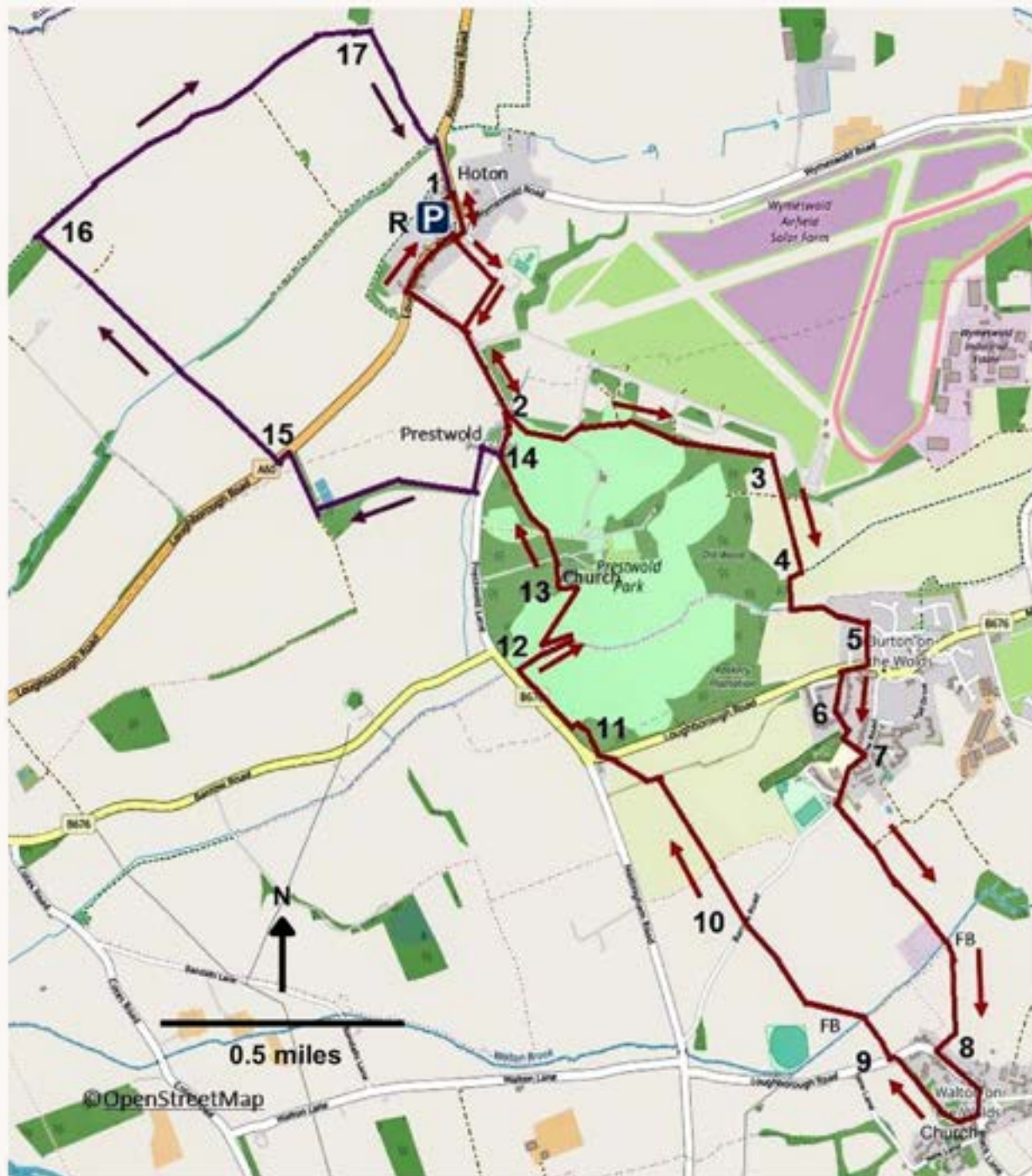


View north from Hickling Standard



# Walk 10

## Hoton, Prestwold, Walton on the Wolds



R = Refreshments at The Packe Arms, Hoton. Check their website for opening times.





## Hoton, Prestwold, Walton on the Wolds – three options

### Starting point

The Packe Arms, Rempstone Road, Hoton, Loughborough LE12 5SJ  
Grid Reference: SK573 225 What3words: irrigated.emblem.arranged

Kinch Bus 9 from Nottingham/Loughborough stops at The Packe Arms.  
There is a car park, but you should ask permission at The Packe Arms before leaving your car.

### Description of walks

Well-marked paths across Prestwold Park and surrounding villages, with an easy ascent to Hoton Ridge. Prestwold churchyard is particularly pretty in spring, with snowdrops, celandines, daffodils, cowslips and primroses. Paths can be muddy in winter.

**Option 1. 5.5 miles** – Hoton, Prestwold, Burton and Walton on the Wolds, Prestwold Church

**Option 2. 7.8 miles in total** – an extension of Option 1, taking in the Hoton Hills, before returning to The Packe Arms

**Option 2a. 3 miles** – A short version of Option 2, through Hoton, Prestwold and the Hoton Hills

**Option 1. 5.5 miles - Hoton, Prestwold, Burton and Walton on the Wolds, Prestwold Church**

1. Exit the pub car park and turn right. At the sharp right-hand bend, cross the road carefully and follow the signed footpath between some houses. Keep the hedge on your left. At the minor road turn right, then left when you reach the main road. Continue along this road for a quarter of a mile into Prestwold and take the first track on your left over the cattle grid into Prestwold Park.



Hoton - The Packe Arms



2. At the fork in the track, keep left and then before the gateway bear right onto the footpath across the grass, heading for the yellow waymark post. Follow further yellow waymarks for about half a mile, eventually going through some woods and over a brook.

3. After the brook, take the waymarked footpath on your left through more woods. Emerging from the woods, walk ahead across open fields for about a quarter of a mile.

4. At a T junction of paths, turn right, then follow the path left alongside the woods. Soon after, at another T junction, turn left with the hedge on your left towards the houses of Burton on the Wolds. The path becomes a quiet residential street.

5. Take the first right into Mundy Close, a cul-de-sac. At the top, an alley leads to the main road. Turn right, cross over and at a small housing estate with trees and grass, turn left into Springfield Close.



6. After two hundred yards, you will see a green footpath sign on the left. Take this path between houses, and at a fork turn left alongside the school to Barrow Road.

7. Turn right along the road for about two hundred yards, then cross the road and take the footpath. Follow this path for about a mile, across a brook and diagonally right across a field until you reach the road through Walton on the Wolds.

8. Turn left, past The Anchor Inn. Keep right at The Green onto Black Lane and then turn right up School Hill. Just before the end of the road, two footpaths are signposted. You may wish to detour to the Grade II listed St Mary's Church by taking the path through the gateway to the left across the lawn. Retrace your steps to School Hill and take the second signed footpath leading ahead alongside the garden fence of the last house; follow this through a strip of woodland for about a quarter of a mile down to the road.



9. Cross the road, turn left and immediately right on the footpath. Keep the hedge on your left, then in the second field after a footbridge, head diagonally left across the fields for half a mile until you meet Barrow Road.

10. Cross straight over onto the footpath, which continues for another half mile. Ignore a path crossing yours and continue to the last field, where you turn left following the hedge line, then right down to the Loughborough Road.

11. Cross the road, turn left and take the marked footpath through the woods of the Prestwold estate for a few hundred yards. Follow the path beside the road to the entrance to the parkland.

12. Turn right onto this path and follow the stream until you reach a bridge, cross the bridge and then head back on yourself to a stile next to a gate. Cross the stile and immediately turn sharp right towards the church with the wire fence on your right. Follow the path left at the waymark post and a few yards further on, go through the gate into the churchyard.

13. With the church on your right, follow the path ahead across the drive and through the woods eventually emerging on the road opposite the old school house.

14. Turn right and follow the road for half a mile back to Hoton. Cross the A60 and turn right back to The Packe Arms which will be on your left.

### **Option 2. 7.8 miles - an extension of Option 1, including the Hoton Hills**

Follow guidance for Option 1 to 14 where the routes diverge.

14. Turn left on exiting the woods, cross the road and take the marked footpath down the side of the old school house, passing a driveway. At the field edge turn left, and after about 150 yards bear right up the tree line. After half a mile, at the track at the top, turn right and reach the A60.

15. Cross the main road, turn left and soon take a waymarked farm track on your right. Continue uphill through a farmyard. After three quarters of a mile, emerge onto Hoton Ridge.

16. Turn right along the ridge path for about a mile, with views of Stanford Hall.



17. The path turns sharply to the right and descends through a wooded area which can often be muddy. The path becomes a concrete track, turns left and comes out onto the A60. Turn right and it is a short walk back to The Packe Arms.



St Andrew's Church, Prestwold



Prestwold Hall

### **Option 2a. 3 miles - Hoton, Prestwold and the Hoton Hills**

1. Exit the pub car park and turn right. At the sharp right-hand bend, cross the road carefully and follow the signed footpath between some houses. Keep the hedge on your left. At the minor road turn right, then left when you reach the main road. Continue along this road for a quarter of a mile into Prestwold. Go past the track into Prestwold Park on your left and continue along the main road as far as the old school house on your right.

14. Take the marked footpath down the side of the school house, passing a driveway. Cross the stile and turn left, then quickly right up the tree line. After half a mile, at the track at the top turn right and reach the A60.

15. Cross the main road, turn left and soon take a waymarked farm track on your right. Continue uphill through a farmyard. After three quarters of a mile, emerge onto Hoton Ridge.

16. Turn right along the ridge path for about a mile, with views of Stanford Hall.

17. The path turns sharply to the right and descends through a wooded area which can often be muddy. The path becomes a concrete track, turns left and comes out onto the A60. Turn right and it is a short walk back to The Packe Arms.





Rushcliffe Country Park

Please follow The Countryside Code

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code>

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<https://www.rambleworldwide.co.uk>

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<http://www.kadfa.co.uk>

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