

# WALK 1 GUIDE --- 5 km (3 miles)

This is a short circular route to the west of the village on level ground mainly on public rights of way but with part on a narrow country lane without a pavement where extreme care should be taken. Parking is available either at the Horseshoe Inn or at the Croft Parish Council car park opposite. However, the walk can also be started and finished at the General Elliot or the Plough Inn.

1. Turn left out of the Horseshoe car park into Smithy Lane. Take care beyond New Lane as there is no footpath.
2. At the junction with Millhouse Lane and Dam Lane, take extra care when crossing to the track ahead. Continue straight ahead along the track over the motorway bridge.
3. Turn right in front of the hedge, then after 50m. turn left into the tunnel and go straight ahead to the stile.
4. Turn right and follow the permissive path alongside the motorway slip road to the wood in the corner of the field. *(You are now walking alongside Houghton Green Pool, a designated Local Wildlife Site originally achieving this status due to the presence of wildfowl)*

The walk can be extended slightly by turning left at point 5 below taking the unofficial but well used path around the field and rejoining the route at the wood.
5. Take the path through the wood, through the 2 kissing gates, then left towards Southworth Lane where you turn right and after 1km just beyond a tight left hand bend, turn left on to the public footpath (signposted 'Stone Pit Lane 1km')
6. Walk straight ahead alongside the ditch to the corner of the field.
7. Carry on straight ahead and after 15m, turn right and follow the field boundary leading to Wildings Old Lane.
8. Follow the track straight ahead for 50m alongside a tall hedge on the left until you reach Heath Lane.
9. Turn right and walk back to the village centre passing (or stopping at) the General Elliot and/or onward to the Horseshoe Inn.
10. Or turn left if you joined the walk at the Plough Inn.

