

WALK 2 GUIDE --- 7 km (4.5 miles) or 9 km (6 miles) with extension

This is a medium length route to the west and north west of the village on level ground mainly on public rights of way and some narrow country lanes often without pavements where extreme care should be taken. Horses may also be encountered on one footpath. The walk can be started at the Horseshoe Inn, the General Elliot or the Plough Inn.

- 1a. From the Horseshoe Inn car park turn right and then left on to Smithy Brow
- OR**
- 1b. From the General Elliot car park, turn right along Lord Street until you reach the Horseshoe Inn on your left.
2. Proceed along Smithy Brow for 0.5 km and take the footpath (signposted) to the right in front of Cockshot Farm.
3. Continue straight ahead for about 1 km, avoiding the footpath on the right after about 300m.
4. The path then turns left, then right and left and right again where it runs alongside a tall hedge to Stone Pitt Lane.
5. Turn right along the lane and then immediate left on to the footpath.
6. Follow this path around the edge of the field until you reach a small pond on your left.

The route can be joined from the Plough Inn here

- A. Turn right out of the car park and walk to Kenyon Pumping Station .
- B. Turn left on to the footpath just past the pumping station
- C. After 150m. turn right (Point 6 on main route).
- D. To return to the Plough Inn, leave the route at point 13 and take the track to Heath Lane and turn right

7. Turn left beyond the pond and follow the path initially alongside the hedge and then across the field, through a gap in the hedge on to the cobbled track of Main Lane.
8. Turn right and follow Main Lane until you reach Kenyon Lane
9. Turn left and after 300m, take the footpath on the right alongside a metal gate.
10. Walk straight ahead passing through a narrow gap in the hedge until you reach a crossing of footpaths .

****The walk can be extended here ****

- i. At the crossing of footpaths, turn left and take the path for 400m and enter Culcheth Linear Park via a number of steps. (The park forms the Boundary between the parishes of Croft and Culcheth).
- ii. Turn right and walk through the park to its exit at Wigshaw Lane just passed the Rangers cabin and turn right on to Wigshaw Lane.
- iii. After 250m turn right into Robins Lane

- iv. As you leave Robins Lane, carry on ahead along the footpath, keeping the ditch to your left.
- v. At the end of the field turn right on to the track leading to Blakeley Farm.
- vi. Turn left on to a footpath opposite the paddock in front of the farmhouse.
- vii. When entering the field follow the path alongside the ditch to your left.
- viii. Turn left as you leave this field and re-join the route between Points 13 and 14 below.

- 11. Carry on straight ahead across the field to the hedge and over the stile.
- 12. Follow the path alongside the hedge on your left, through 2 kissing gates dividing the field into a series of paddocks towards Hill Top Farm. (Caution - Horses may be found grazing in this field.)
- 13. Cross the 2 stiles and walk along the edge of the field to the corner. (If returning to the Plough, turn right after crossing the 2nd stile and follow D above)
- 14. Turn right towards a gap in the hedge at the next corner.
- 15. Follow the signposted path through the Christmas tree plantation until you come to Mustard Lane.
- 16. Turn right and proceed to the village center either to the General Elliot or the Horseshoe Inn.

