



Leicestershire
County Council

Burton on the Wolds and Prestwold

This leaflet is one of a series produced to promote circular walking throughout the county. You can obtain others in the series by visiting your local library or Tourist Information Centre. You can also order them by phone or from our website.



Burton on the Wolds and Prestwold

4 circular walks

- ① 1½kms/1 mile
- ② 2¾kms/1¾ miles
- ③ 4¼kms/2¾ miles
- ④ 4¾kms/3 miles



Your Parish or Local Community Group may wish to produce a walking leaflet, please contact the Access Officer at County Hall for more information.

It is advisable to wear suitable footwear when walking. Stout shoes or walking boots are recommended.

Some stretches of the route follow minor country roads. Beware of traffic approaching from both directions. If possible stay on the verge, if not walk in single file on the right hand side of the road.

Enjoy the walks, whilst observing the Countryside Code.

contact details:

Access Officer, Community Services Department, County Hall.

Telephone: 0116 305 8160 · Fax: 0116 305 7965

Minicom: 0116 305 7334

email: footpaths@leics.gov.uk Website: www.leics.gov.uk/paths

The information in this leaflet is available in other formats on request.



Burton on the Wolds is a small village 3 miles to the east of Loughborough and is easily reached by car via the B676.

P All four walks start from the Village Hall in the village centre, on the corner of Seymour Road and Loughborough Road.

The Village Hall was built in 1909 by Algernon St Maur 15th Duke of Somerset.

walk 1: 1½km (1mile), allow 20 minutes, easy and flat, with two stiles.

From the Village Hall turn down Seymour Road, passing the “Owl” sculpture on the left, *which is centrepiece of the Millennium Garden and was commissioned by the Parish Council to commemorate the year 2000.*

Follow the road around into Brook Street and towards the road end take the footpath left.

A When the path emerges into open fields turn right, follow the field edge until a stile takes you out to Wymeswold Lane. Turn right and right again to return to the village.

On your way back into the village look out for:

The burial ground on the right where a section contains graves and memorials of Royal Air Force and Royal Canadian Air Force who served at RAF Wymeswold.

On the left just before the village centre, the Lion's Mouth Fountain, constructed around 1820 by Charles Godfrey Mundy of Burton Hall. This was a source of village drinking water until after the Second World War.

walk 2: 2¾km (1¾miles), allow 40 minutes, easy and relatively flat

As a continuation of Walk 1 from the stile at Wymeswold Lane this route provides an alternative to returning to the village.

B Turn left along the lane until a bridleway on the left takes you beside a dyke.

C At the bottom corner of the field the path swings left, with woodland alongside to the right. Cross a narrow paddock via two gates and turn left back towards Burton with a brook to your left. This path takes you to Seymour Road and back to the village centre.

walk 3: 4¼km (2¾miles), allow 1½ hours, relatively flat and easy.

From the Village Hall, follow Seymour Road to its end and take the path continuing straight ahead into the field. Walk through the spinney. *Look out for the Parish Boundary Stone – this footpath follows the route of the old highway running from Six Hills via Burton and Prestwold to the river crossing at Cotes.*

Once through the spinney, you get the first view of St Andrew's Church and Prestwold Hall with its fine landscaped grounds.



The Hall dates from the mid-C18th and is home to the Packe-Drury-Lowe family. The west tower and chancel of the Church are medieval but the nave was restored in 1743 and rebuilt in 1890.

1 As you draw level with the church, cross the dyke by a short bridge and continue along the opposite bank until the path doubles back sharp right to cross the field towards the church. Keeping the church on your right, pass through the churchyard and follow the path ahead. Cross the driveway and enter a wooded area to then emerge at Prestwold Lane.

2 Turn right and as the road sweeps left, re-enter the Estate by a stile alongside a cattle grid. Walk up the track and as it bends left continue straight on to the footpath. Continue along the field edge with a fence to your left and views of the former airfield beyond.

RAF Wymeswold was used for aircrew training between 1942-1957, though commercial use continued until 1968.

3 The path narrows through woodland, crosses a sleeper bridge in the corner of a field and then re-enters woodland for a short section before emerging at a high point with probably the finest view of Burton village.

Head straight across this field, through a gap over a sleeper bridge, then turn right following the edge of the field through two gates then left, retracing your steps to Seymour Road.

walk 4: approx. 4¾km (3miles), allow 1½ hours, slightly hill in places.

From the Village Hall walk up Barrow Road past the Primary School and, just before the last house, cross the road, climb the stile and follow a tarmac road downhill. *There are splendid views to the South and East.*

i When the roadway turns to the right continue straight ahead. Cross Walton Brook (this brook is the southern boundary of Burton on the Wolds Parish) and turn right to walk alongside the brook. Re-cross it in the corner of the second field.

ii Cross the next field at 45 degrees, aiming for the waymarker post to the right of the electric wires. Cross the next field – don't follow the hedge – but aim towards the base of the gentle slope. A yellow waymarker comes into view, cross Barrow Road and again go upwards across the field to a waymarker where another path crosses.

Take time to look back at more wonderful views towards Walton on the Wolds.

iii Cross the field bearing slightly to the right of the right hand waymarker post. On reaching the field boundary walk left for 60m to another waymarker post, then cross the boundary heading for the field corner near the Old School House.

The Packe family built this forerunner of the current Burton Primary School in the C19. You have just retraced the steps of school children from Walton who would walk this path daily, though back in 1911 they had to clamber over ten stiles on their way to school!

iv Cross the busy Loughborough Road and go left. On the corner, enter Rookery Plantation to the right and go through it to a field edge where there are breathtaking views of Prestwold Hall and St Andrews Church. Follow the left hand field edge to the brook and go right.

v Keeping the dyke always to your left, admire the ever-changing views, best in the afternoon and evening with the sun behind you. The path enters a spinney (sometimes muddy) before opening out to views of the former farmhouse at the end of Seymour Road and the houses of Brickwood Place. Follow Seymour Road back to the village.

Other Parish Walks nearby:

Barrow upon Soar, Hathern and Thorpe Acre.

The routes are clearly marked with bold, yellow topped waymarker posts and waymarker discs with the Parish Walks symbol.



Walking - Be fit and well

Walking is a form of exercise that is suitable and enjoyable for all ages. It's a free and fun way for families and friends to get fit together. Just 30 minutes of brisk walking on a daily basis can benefit your health and quality of life.

useful information:

Buses: Service 8 Loughborough to Grantham (Mon-Sat). Please confirm with Traveline (0870 608 2 608) before you travel

Refreshments: public house and fuelling station in the village.

