



Local Walks

AROUND CARLTON



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Carlton, a hamlet and small parish in rural western Leicestershire, is traversed by the Leicestershire Round, the Ashby Canal and the Battlefield Line preserved railway.

The name Carlton derives from the Old English Ceorl's tun which means "settlement of the freemen". The 'tun' ending is shared with a string of settlements sited along the spring line on fingers of higher ground which project westwards from a low escarpment.

The area is underlain by the Triassic Mercia Mudstone Group which is in turn covered by variable glacial deposits of Quaternary age. Carlton Stone, a durable

pale greyish limestone was once quarried locally and can be seen in many walls in the area.

The soils and climate suit mixed farming in a landscape of hedged and ditched fields, with woods and former game coverts on the stiffer clays. This intimate countryside is very attractive for walking, though some paths can become muddy and slippery.

START: Main Street, Carlton, CV13 0BZ.

PARKING: Please park where the street is wide, and do not obstruct farm gates or driveways. Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 397 051 – Explorer map 232 & 233.

GETTING THERE:

Plan your journey on foot, by bike, public transport or car by visiting www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk or calling Traveline on **0871 200 22 33** (charges apply) for the latest public transport information.

REFRESHMENTS AND TOILETS: The Gate Hangs Well sells filled rolls at lunchtime on Saturdays and Sundays.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Thanks to Carlton Parish Council and Carlton Footpath Group – see www.carltonpc.co.uk for local information.

For more information and to report problems contact:
Tel **0116 305 0001**
Email footpaths@leics.gov.uk



Local Walks

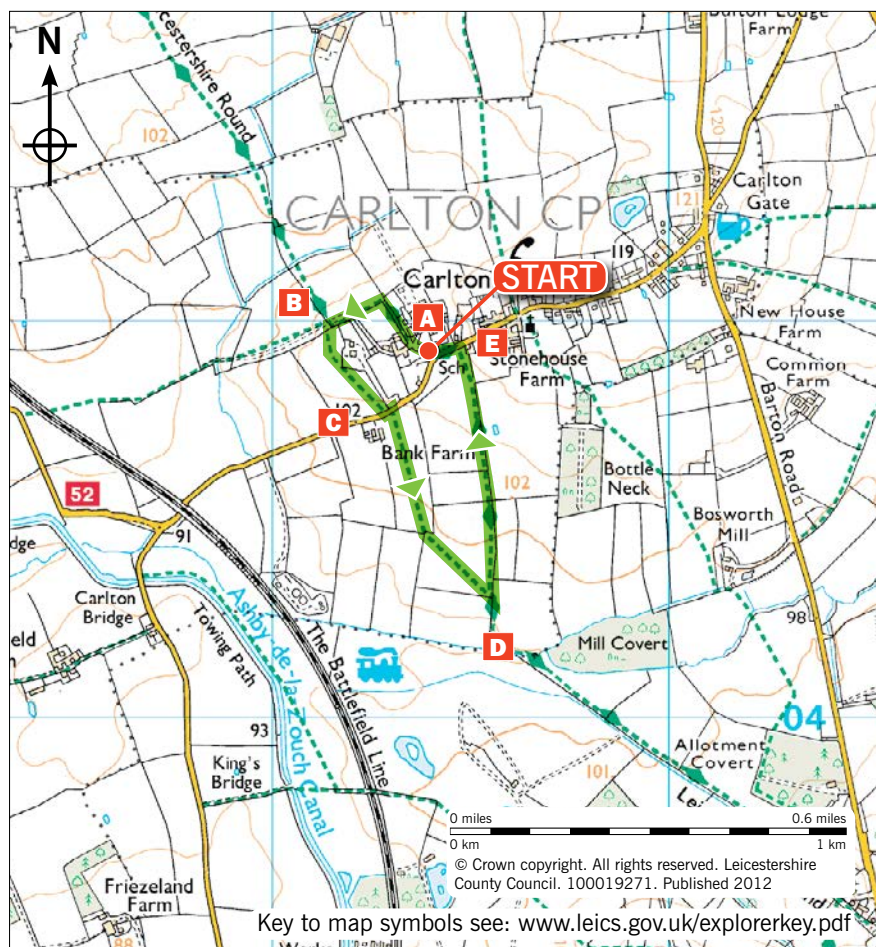
AROUND CARLTON



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Walk 1: A very easy stroll past the village green and across fields. There are no stiles on this walk, which can be combined with Walk 2.

START: Shackerstone Walk, at western end of Carlton village, CV13 0BY. Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 394 049 – Explorer map 232



A. Where Shackerstone Walk forks, walk straight on to the left of the gate to Glebe Farm along Little Lane. At the end of Little Lane, turn left between a hedge and farm buildings.

B. At the path junction turn left through a kissing gate.

C. Cross Congerstone Lane.

D. In the corner of the field, turn left along the field edge.

E. At Main Street turn left to return to the starting point.

NOTES

A stone plaque above the door of Old School Cottage (1 Main Street) reads:

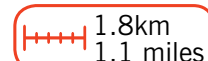
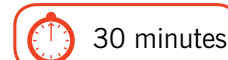
“CARLTON SCHOOL ERECTED AT THE COST OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF SIR WOLSTAN DIXIE OF MARKET BOSWORTH KNT. FOR THE EDUCATION OF POOR CHILDREN OF THE PARISH AD 1847”. The school closed in 1968.

Just after the First World War a school inspector commented on the lack of dedicated space for physical education, and was told firmly by the Governors that the children had their PE lessons on the adjacent village green, and if the grass was wet these lessons took place on the road outside the school. This explanation was accepted, and nothing more was heard of the matter.

The Croft in Shackerstone Walk was originally called Glebe Farm, and was associated with 43 acres and 36 poles of Glebe Land. In 1921 32.5 acres of this land were sold, and 9 acres and 28 perches, known as Hill Close were retained.

There is a village history board in Little Lane near Point A.

The footpath crosses former Glebe Land between Points B and C, with extensive views to the north and west. The Rectory was built on 2 acres of Glebe in 1872 by Rev William Townson, with the aid of Queen Anne's Bounty. It is now a private dwelling.



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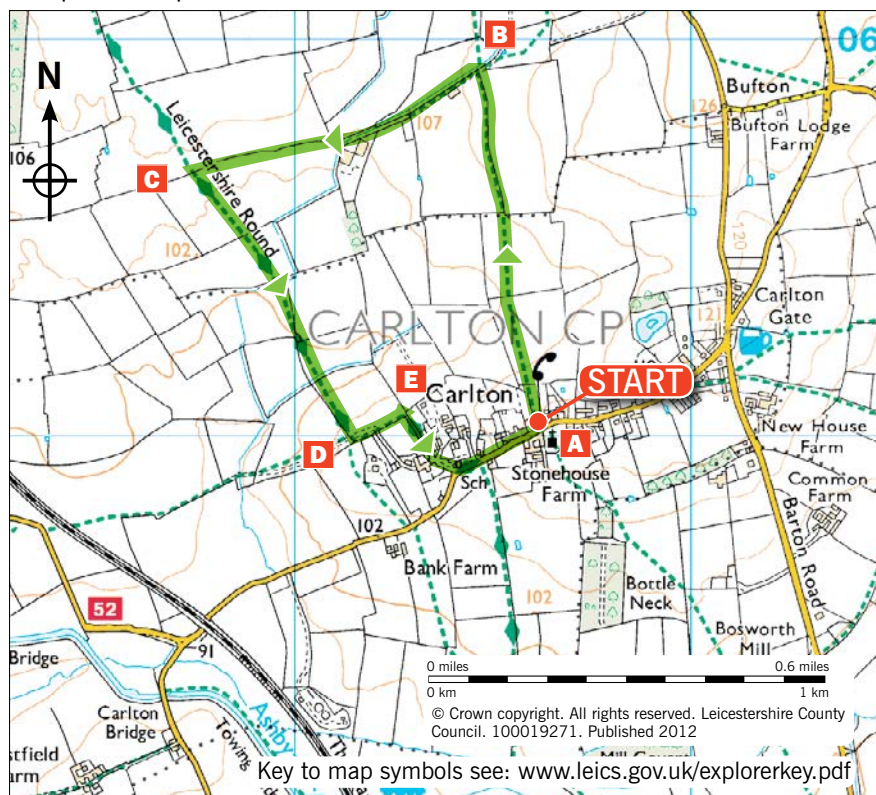
AROUND CARLTON



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Walk 2: A very easy stroll across fields with pleasant views, along a farm track and through the western part of the village. There is only one low stile on this walk, which can be combined with Walk 1.

START: Red telephone kiosk in front of St Andrew's Church, Main Street, Carlton, CV13 0BZ. Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 396 050 – Explorer map 232



A. Across the road from the kiosk, a narrow jitty soon opens out to a footpath across open countryside.

B. Turn left along the farm track, and keep right past farm buildings.

C. Turn left at the path junction to follow the Leicestershire Round.

D. Turn left along a track towards farm buildings at the path junction.

E. Turn right along Little Lane, and then follow the road straight ahead to Main Street, turning left to the starting point.

NOTES:

The letter box in the church wall was manufactured by Smith & Hawkes of Birmingham between 1871 and 1881. This model was the first to have an upward-pointing aperture and a collection plate in the door.

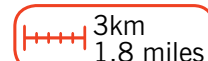
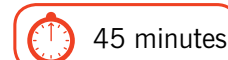
St Andrew's Church was gothicised by Goddard & Son of Leicester in 1867. At this time the windows were altered and the distinctive saddleback top

added to the tower. The previous building (1764), had a short square tower decorated with pinnacles, and was dedicated to St Michael. An earlier building burned down – the parish registers go back to 1574 but were only slightly charred and can be seen in the Leicestershire Record Office.

The church clock was presented to the village in 1937 by the Rector's daughter who raised the money herself by selling needlework from door to door. It was re-gilded in 2000 to celebrate the millennium.

The church contains a window by Theodora Salusbury, and houses the Carlton Millennium Tapestry which depicts every dwelling in the parish in the year 2000.

The first field after crossing a small stream between points C and D is called The Stone Pits. Carlton Stone was once quarried here, and can still be seen in many walls in the area such as The Stone House, 24 Main St.



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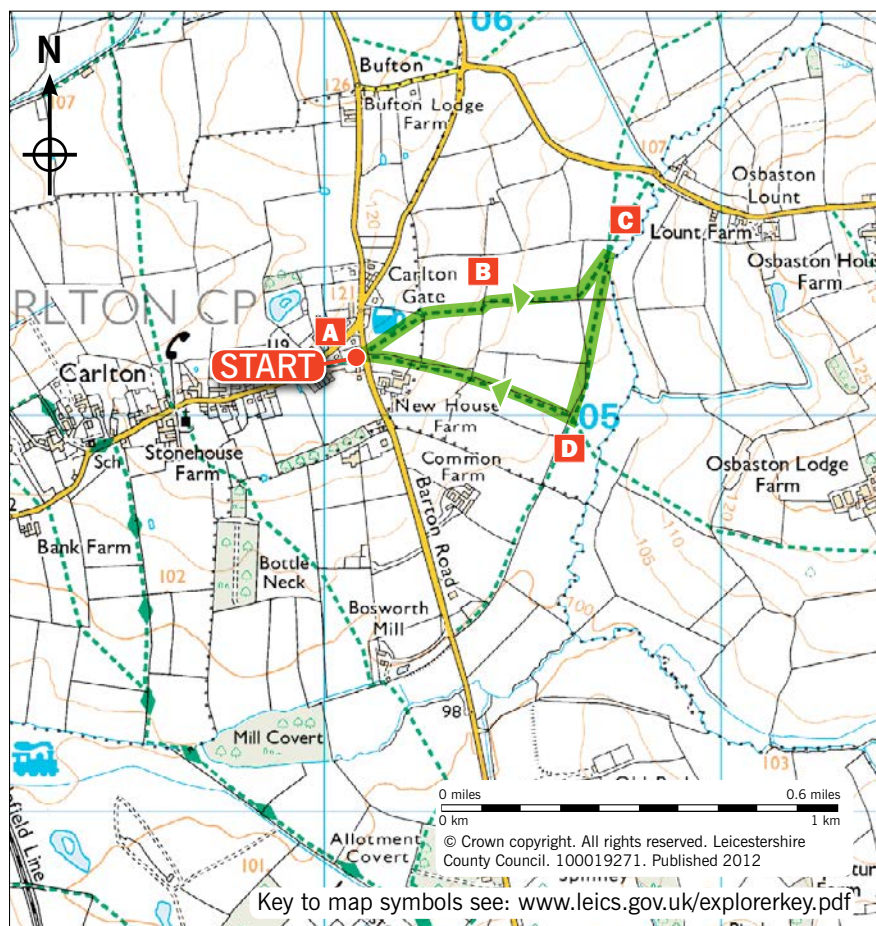
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Walk 3: A very easy short stroll through fields at the eastern end of Carlton. There is only one stile on this walk.

START: End of jitty on Bosworth Road.
Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 401 052 – Explorer map 232



A. There are two kissing gates on the eastern side of Bosworth Road. Go through the left gate – nearest the bus shelter – and head diagonally across the field.

B. Turn left along a farm track, and shortly afterwards turn right, keeping the hedge on your right.

C. Two footpaths cross at the bank of the brook. Turn back to your right, to a stile in the middle of a fence, then head towards the hedge on your right.

D. Turn right through a kissing gate, back to Point A.

NOTES

The Gate Hangs Well public house was built in about 1860, and takes its name from a toll gate which controlled the road at this place. The Bosworth – Barton road was a section of the Hinckley – Measham – Burton on Trent turnpike, first authorised by Act of Parliament in 1759-60.

The verse on the sign reads:

“THIS GATE HANGS WELL
AND HINDERS NONE.
REFRESH AND PAY
AND CARRY ON.
CALL AT THE GATE
AND DRINK OF THE TAP.
DRINK AND BE MERRY
AND KEEP OFF THE STRAP.”

The strap was originally an old leather strap hanging behind the bar, with a list of customers who owed money. Variants of this rhyme can be found at many other ‘Gate’ pubs.

A windmill once stood in the triangular field fronting Nailstone Road, to the north of the pond between points A and B. This was probably a post mill, as three brick pillars were found by the landowner when ploughing. Mill House in Nailstone Road faces this field.



Easy



30 minutes



1.5km
1 mile

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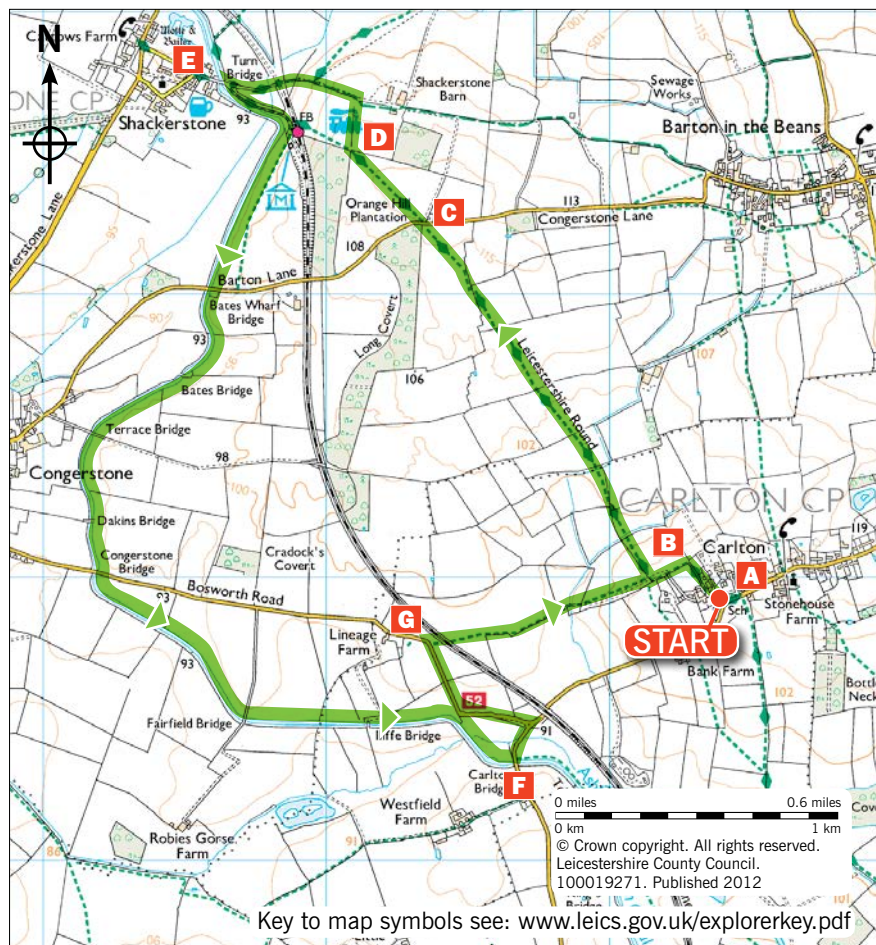


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Walk 4: A walk across fields to Shackerstone, and back along the Ashby Canal towpath.

START:

Shackerstone Walk, at western end of Carlton village, CV13 0BY.
Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 394 049 – Explorer map 232



A. Where Shackerstone Walk forks, walk straight on to the left of the gate to Glebe Farm along Little Lane. At the end of Little Lane, turn left between a hedge and farm buildings.

B. At the path junction turn right, keeping the hedge on your left.

C. Cross the road next to Keeper's Cottage, and head diagonally left across the field towards the end of a wood.

D. At the wood, cross the stile and bear right (keeping the fence on your left) to a concrete farm track. Turn left along the track, under a railway bridge, and keep right to Bridge 52 over the Ashby Canal.

E. Cross the canal bridge, turn right onto the towpath, and walk under the bridge.

F. At Bridge 44 leave the towpath, turn left along the road over the bridge and keep left at the road junction. (The road under the railway bridge offers a more direct route back to Point A).

G. Turn right through a kissing gate and cross the railway line.

At B head towards the farm buildings, and retrace your steps along Little Lane to Point A.

NOTES

The Ashby Canal opened in 1804 and follows the 300' contour. Mining subsidence caused the closure of the northern part of the canal, but work is in progress to restore it to Measham.

The variety of the emergent canalside vegetation should be obvious to the most casual walker, and the section from Bridge 44 to the winding hole after Bridge 61 at Snarestone has been designated an SSSI.

The Battlefield Line Railway was originally part of the Ashby and Nuneaton Joint Railway, built in 1873 and closed in 1970. There is a café and museum at Shackerstone Station.

Between 1840 and 1880 there were small brickworks in fields near the Ashby Canal between bridges 45 and 44. There was also a wharf in Congerstone Road, where the road and canal are closest together.



Easy



2 hours



8.9 km
5.5 miles

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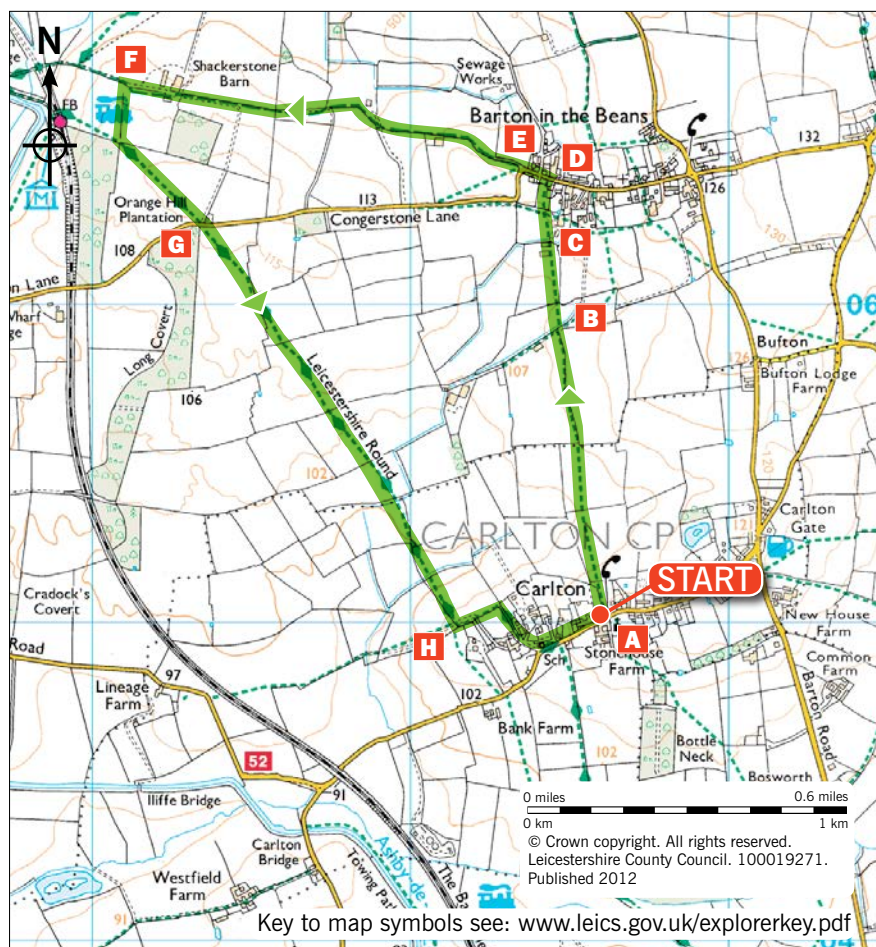
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Walk 5: A country walk across fields to Barton in the Beans and back.

START: Red telephone kiosk in front of St Andrew's Church, Main Street, CV13 0BZ. Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 396 050 – Explorer map 232



A. Opposite the kiosk, a narrow jitty between gardens soon opens out to a footpath across open countryside.

B. Cross a farm track, heading across a field to the right of a pair of cattle sheds.

C. Just past the pair of cattle sheds, bear left through a kissing gate into a field, and go through a kissing gate in the middle of the hedge in front of you. There is no right of way along the front of the barns.

D. Pass between houses and turn left along Main Street, Barton in the Beans.

E. At the corner, keep straight on along a bridleway (this can be very muddy in winter).

F. At Shackerstone Barn Farm the bridleway becomes a concrete farm road. 150 m after the farm, turn left along a permissive path to the corner of a wood, then head diagonally left across the next field to Keeper's Cottage.

G. Cross the road and head across fields towards the spire

of St Peter's Church, Market Bosworth which can eventually be seen on the horizon.

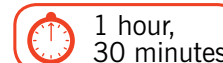
H. Turn left along a farm track, towards a group of agricultural buildings. Keep right past the buildings, then turn right up Little Lane to Shackerstone Walk and left along Main Street to Point A.

NOTES

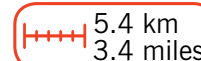
Keeper's Cottage originally housed one of the gamekeepers for the 580-acre Gopsall Estate, and the woods nearby were planted as game coverts. Gopsall Hall, 2 miles west of Shackerstone, was built around 1750 by Charles Jennens the son of a Birmingham industrialist who was a generous patron of the arts. Jennens contributed to the libretto for the Messiah, which was written while Handel was living at Gopsall Hall. The remains of a temple, in which some of the composition took place, have been conserved, and are open to visitors. The remaining buildings, farms and land are now part of the Crown Estate.



Easy



1 hour,
30 minutes



5.4 km
3.4 miles

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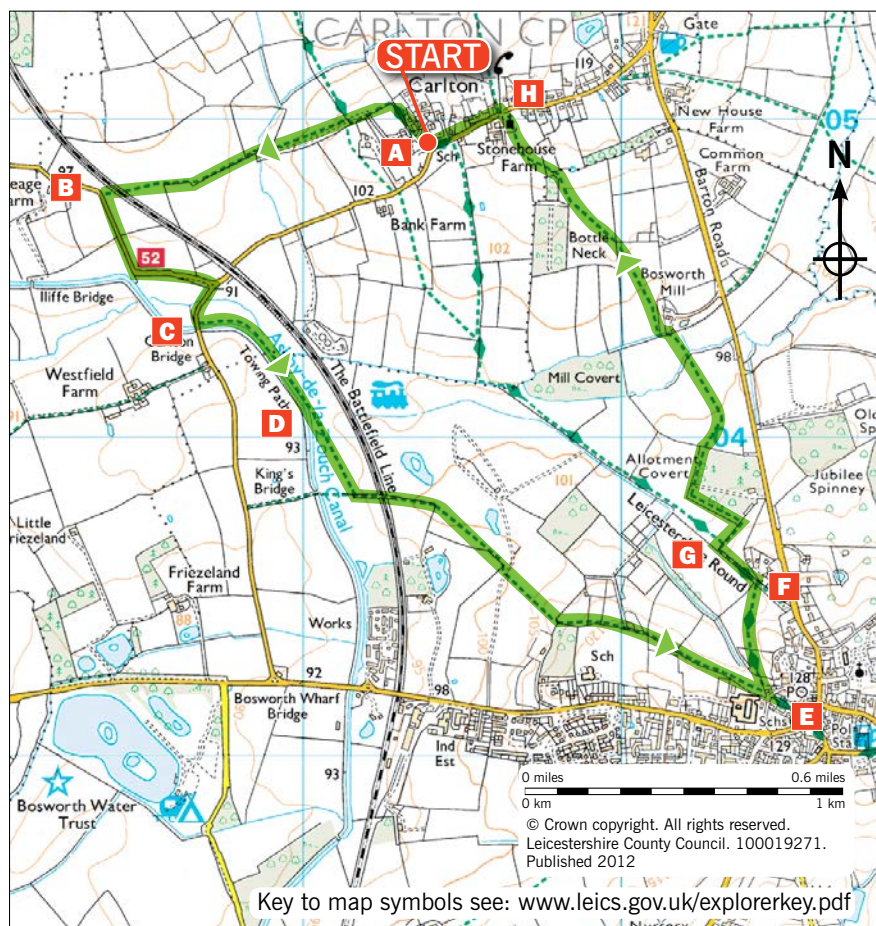
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Walk 6: An easy walk to Market Bosworth along field paths, with sections on farm tracks, along a canal bank and across a golf course.

START: Shackerstone Walk, at western end of Carlton village, CV13 0BY. Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 394 049 – Explorer map 232



A. Where Shackerstone Walk forks, walk straight on to the left of the gate to Glebe Farm along Little Lane. At the end of Little Lane, turn left between a hedge and farm buildings, then follow a farm track, then a path across a railway line.

B. At the road turn left, and at the junction turn right.

C. Do not cross the canal bridge, but at the nearest end of the parapet wall turn left through a crush stile and down a flight of steep steps. Walk along the canal bank, with the canal on your right. Do not go onto the canal towpath, which is on the other side of the canal.

D. Bear left across the field to a stile, and then turn left along a footpath, across a golf course and along a track.

E. At the road, next to the school gates, turn left down an overgrown track, then bear right around the foot of Silk Hill.

(It is a short walk from Point E to the Market Place in Market Bosworth – keep left with a high brick wall on your right, and follow the wall up Back Lane)

F. Turn left along the farm track.

G. Turn right on a fenced path between a garden orchard and a stable.

H. At the road, turn left to your starting point.

NOTES

There are old enclosure banks and ridge and furrow on the slopes of Silk Hill. To the right of the path is a spring, which feeds a watering place - the name may derive from the old English sioluc meaning a gully or drain.

Harcourt Mill is mentioned in the Domesday Book, and was worked until 1958. From the bridge over the Stony Brook, the embankment which held back the mill pond is clearly visible to the right of the 17thC mill house which is made of Carlton Stone.

The Bottle Neck Spinney is a classic game covert, planted by Charles and Lady Agnes Tollemache Scott in 1889. Beaters would drive the game birds through the wood into the narrow neck so that they would fly out of a small area.



Easy



2 hours



6.6km
4.1 miles

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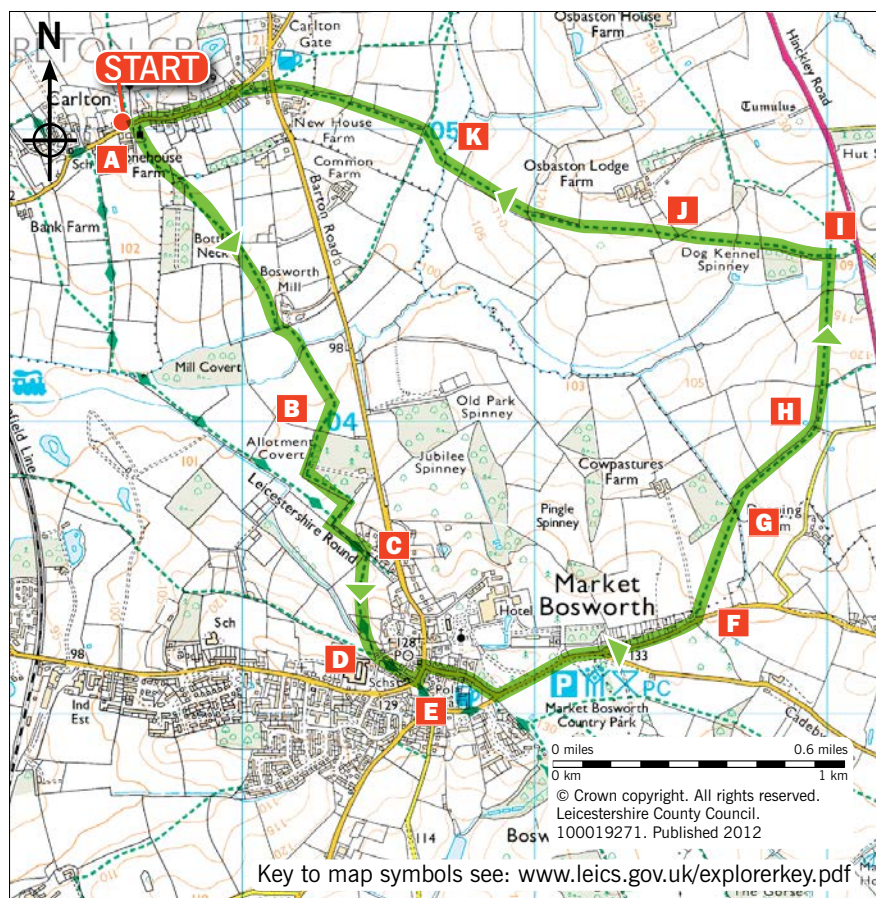
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Walk 7: A country walk across fields to Market Bosworth, and back with a fine view down the valley of the River Sence.

START: Red telephone kiosk in front of St Andrew's Church, Main Street, CV13 0BZ Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 396 050 – Explorer maps 232 & 233



Key to map symbols see: www.leics.gov.uk/explorerkey.pdf

A. Walk into St Andrew's Churchyard, and follow the tarmac path and then waymarks past Bottle Neck Spinney and then across fields, heading towards Bosworth Mill and then the spire of Market Bosworth church.

B. In the wood, keep right, around two sides, and then turn right along a fenced path, and then left along a farm track.

C. After 175 yards turn right off the track, and head towards school buildings across the bottom of Silk Hill.

D. Turn left and then keep right with a high blue brick wall on your right to Market Bosworth Market Place.

E. Turn left along Main Street, cross the road, and turn right into Park Street. At the end of Park Street turn left along the road called The Park.

F. At the end of The Park, after passing the pillars of the original park gates, turn left onto a path and head diagonally across the field.

G. Turn left across boggy ground, and then head right up hill keeping the hedge on your left.

H. Cross the farm track, keep the hedge on your left, and at the corner of the field keep left through a tall holly hedge. The path then runs straight ahead – first across a field to the middle of a line of trees in a valley, then across two bridges and boggy ground to a stile in the hedge opposite.

I. Cross the stile and footbridge and turn sharp left, passing Dog Kennel Spinney on your left. At the end of the wood continue straight ahead across two fields.

J. Cross a small paddock, then maintain the same line across a big field to an oak tree at the corner of a hedge. Keep the hedge on your right.

K. After crossing the Stony Brook, bear right and at the path junction keep straight on, heading towards houses. Cross the road into a jitty between houses, and then follow Main Street back to your starting point.

Moderate

2 hours

6.8km
4.2 miles

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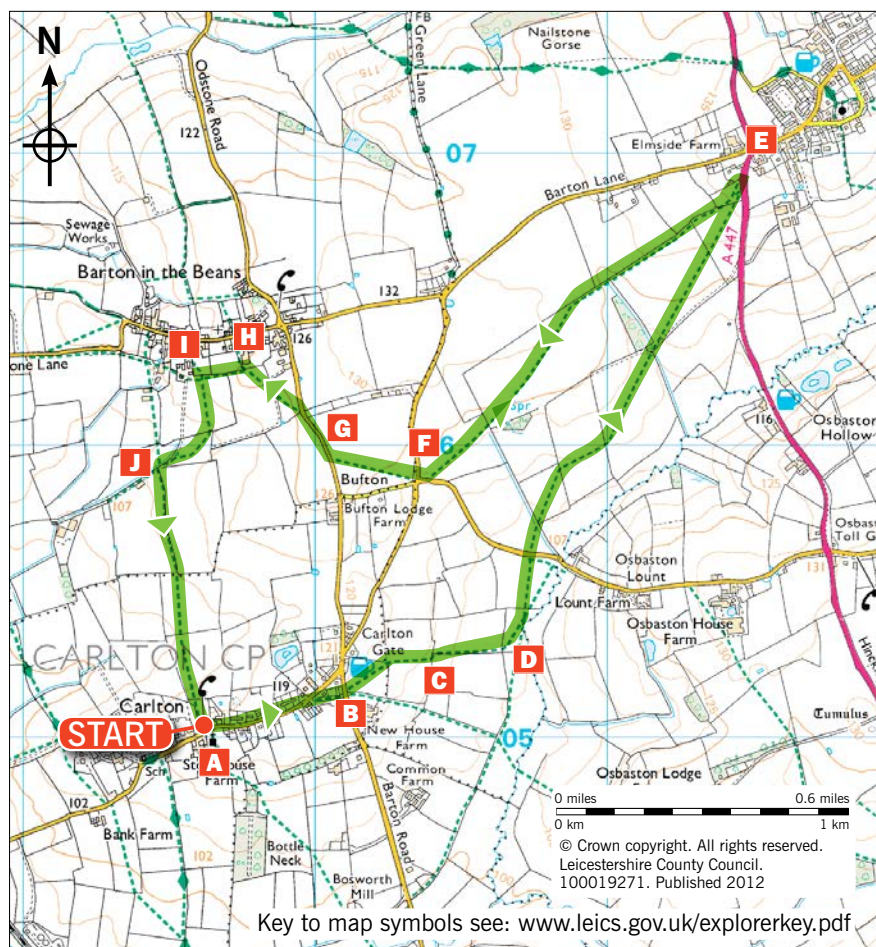


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Walk 8: A country walk across fields to Nailstone, Barton in the Beans and back.

START:

Church gate in front of St Andrew's Church, Main Street, CV13 0BZ.
Ordnance Survey: grid ref SK 396 050 – Explorer map 232



A. With your back to the gate, turn right (east) along Main St. Opposite Orton Close fork right along a narrow path between gardens.

B. Cross Bosworth Rd, taking the left kissing gate, and head diagonally across the field to a kissing gate. Continue across the next field and through the set of single gates.

C. Turn left along a farm track, and within 50 yds turn right, keeping the hedge on your right.

D. Through kissing gate, turn diagonally left towards stile in the middle of the fence, then through the next field to the road. Cross road, and continue through several small fields towards Nailstone church.

E. Just before white cottage turn hairpin left, keeping the hedge on your right, and continue through several fields

F. At crossroads cross into Buton Lane and turn immediately right over a stile and diagonally across the field.

G. At the road turn right, and after 200 yds turn left over a

stile and head diagonally right towards Barton in the Beans.

H. Cross a stile into the yard next to a small factory, then turn immediately left through a kissing gate and walk along the left side of a paddock. Leave the paddock by another kissing gate and continue in the same direction, this time with a fence on your right.

I. Turn left down a farm track.

J. Turn left where paths cross, and follow the hedge on your left. Then cross fields, heading towards Carlton church tower and Point A.

NOTES

Manor House Farm may occupy the site of the original Carlton Manor. Church Cottage, 38 Main Street, was originally the village bakehouse. 42-46 Main Street were originally part of Carlton Hall estate yard.

The cross roads at point F is known locally as Harry's Grave, and may be the site of a burial. In the 17th century it was customary to bury beggars or paupers on the parish boundary.

 Moderate

 2 hours

 6.7km
4.2 miles

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