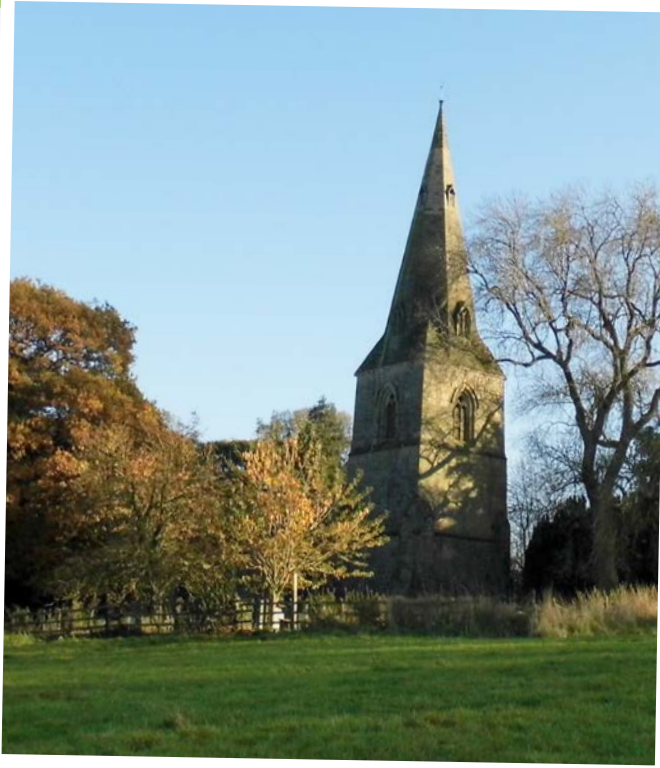
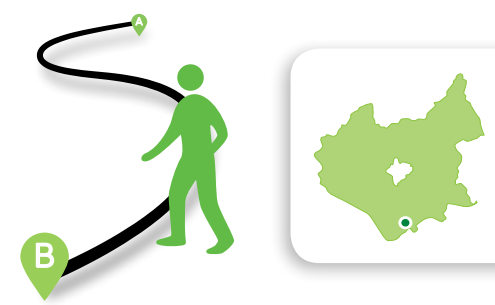


Local walks around Walcote



The Parish of Misterton with Walcote lies just to south east of Lutterworth. Misterton is less than a mile east of junction 20 on the M1.

It is now little more than a church and a hall but was once a considerable village. St Leonard's Church is a mainly 14th century building with good decorated window tracery. The site is an ancient one as the name, which means "minster" – tun, indicates. Apart from services, the Church is opened on Saturdays from Easter to September between 10am and 4pm, with tea being served from noon to about 2pm.

Here are details of two short walks that can be linked together, with two variations making use of permissive paths.

START: Misterton Way, Lutterworth

PARKING: Roadside parking is available in Walcote and on Misterton Way, Lutterworth or in the car park at the top of High Street, Lutterworth.

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.

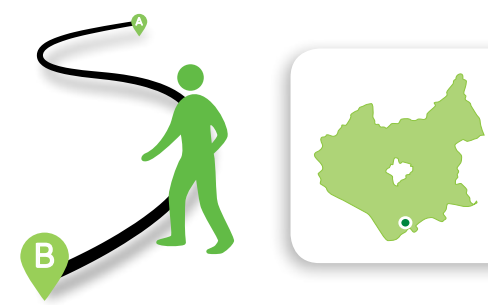
NOTES: Walcote is the larger village just to the east, lying on the road from Lutterworth to Market Harborough, and served by the no. 58 bus service (Monday to Saturday until early evening) running between the two towns.

Facilities in Walcote there is a small shop in the garage on the main road.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Special thanks go to Misterton with Walcote Parish Council and Vattenfall whose grant has paid for footpath improvements.

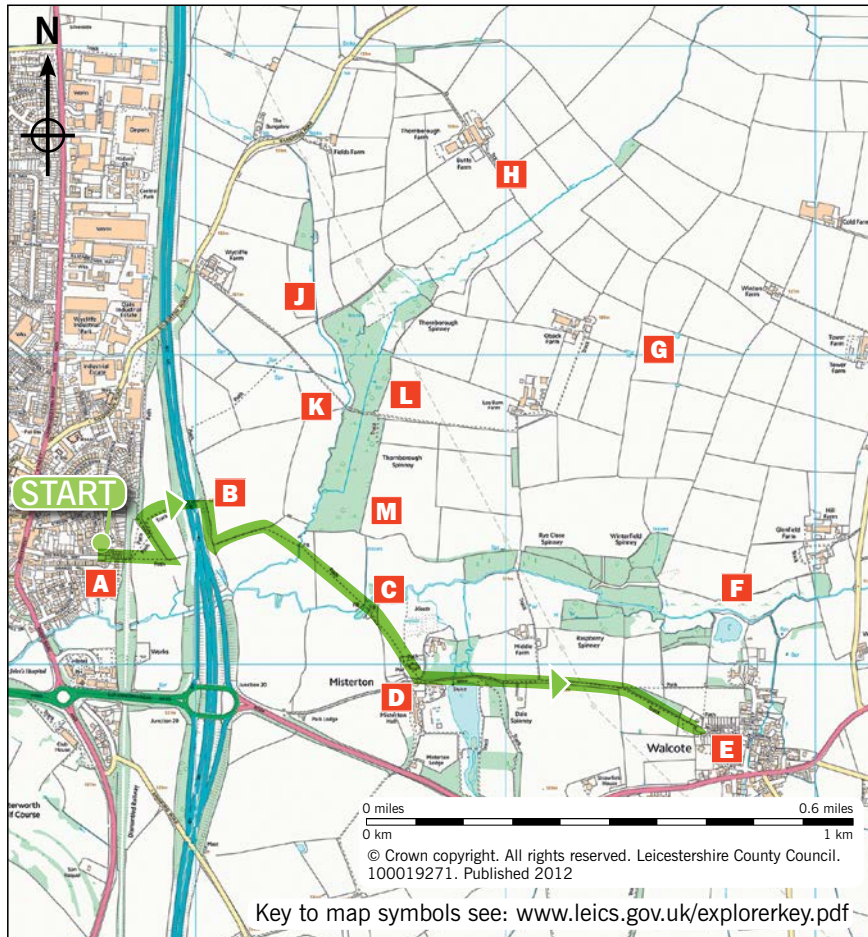
For more information and to report problems contact:
Tel **0116 305 0001**
Email footpaths@leics.gov.uk

Local walks around Walcote



Walk 1: A walk from Misterton Way, Lutterworth to St Leonard's Church, Misterton or Walcote.

START: The end of Misterton Way, Lutterworth



Easy walking, mostly on field paths and a quiet lane/tarmac path to Walcote. There are four stiles and about the same number of gates.

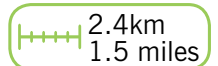
A. At the far end of Misterton Way (just off High Street, Lutterworth) – point A - follow the footpath straight up the grassy bank and under the old railway to a gate, then follow the path left round to another gate in the far corner of the field. Almost immediately turn right through a third gate, then follow the path, first along the left edge of the field and then right across it to a bridge over the motorway.

B. At this stage (B) it is joined from the left by Walk 2. Turn right, aiming for a stile in the fence line. Next bear left to a pair of gates in the hollow and a footbridge over the brook. Then climb another stile and continue in the same direction across the next field towards the wood and a gate (C).

C. Go through the gate and over two footbridges crossing the River Swift. Follow the narrow path to a stile into the next field and then uphill, aiming for the Church, and climb the stile into the churchyard.

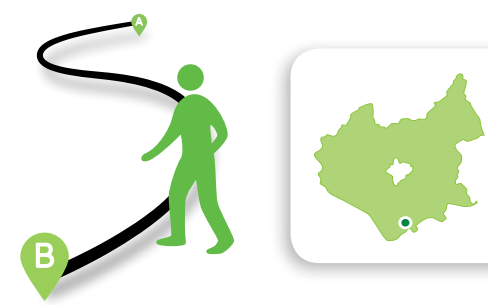
D. If you wish to carry on to Walcote turn left on the lane and follow it past the lake at Misterton Hall. Where the lane bears left, keep straight on past a large log along a hedge and tree lined tarmac path. Where it opens out into an arable field, ignore the path on the left and continue along the same tarmac path through the playground and into Chapel Lane, Walcote (E).

If you wish to venture further, carry on with Walk 2.



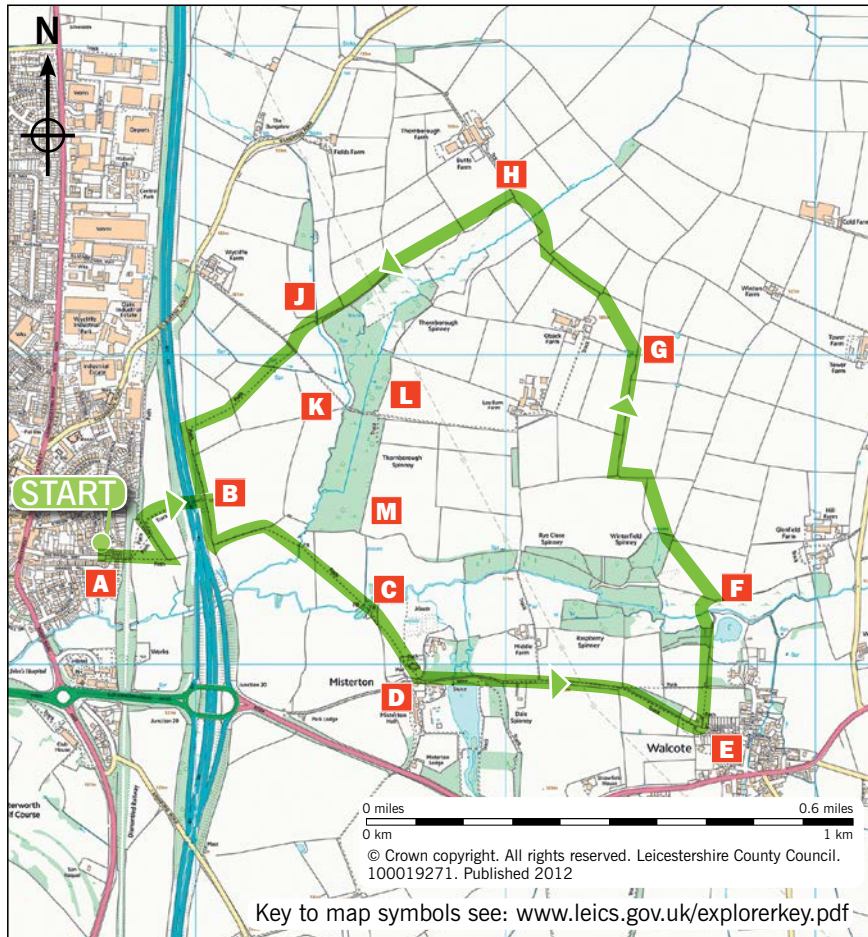
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Local walks around Walcote



Walk 2: A circular walk from Walcote, across the River Swift and countryside, along the edge of Misterton Marshes Nature Reserve.

START: Chapel Lane, Walcote



E. From Chapel Lane, Walcote, opposite no 13, (point E) take the narrow footpath to a kissing gate and across the next field, climbing two stiles in quick succession. Then take the footbridge over the River Swift to a gate.

F. As you continue over a short grassy field you will see the yellow post indicating the start of a permissive path (Variation 1 below) (F). For this walk however continue over a stile and through a gate, then diagonally across the next field aiming for a stile at the corner of the wood. Almost immediately climb the next stile on the left and then head diagonally across the field to a stile in the far corner. Go along the left field edge and after another stile, along the right hand edge of the next field. The path, recently diverted behind Oback Farm, now goes over a stile and through a gate (G), after which it angles left past a telegraph pole and through two pairs of gates.

G. Now head for a bridge over a brook and after about 100

yds look in the hedge on the left for the next pair of gates (H), then continue in a straight line over two stiles, entering the edge of the Misterton Marsh reserve (www.leics.gov.uk/mistertonmarshes).

H. About 20 yds after the path bears left, look to your right for a kissing gate and take the path out of the reserve into the next field (J). (See Variation 2 below). The route then heads roughly in a straight line through two more gates, over a footbridge across a ditch and a stile to the motorway. Turn left and walk alongside the motorway over another stile to meet the path from Lutterworth (B) coming across the bridge. Continue in a straight line as for Walk 1 and back over the Swift (C), via the Church (D) and left along the lane and track to Walcote to your start point (E).

This walk can be shortened by using either of the Variations or added to by a trip into Lutterworth.

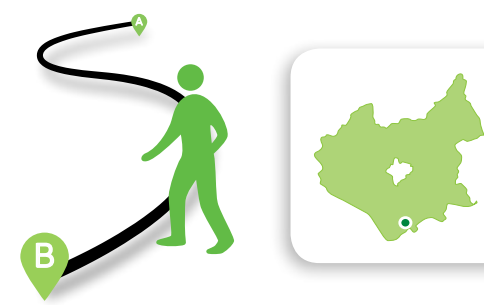
Easy

1 hour
45 minutes

5.5km
3.5 miles

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Local walks around Walcote



Variations

Walk 2 can be shortened by using either of these Variations or added to by a trip into Lutterworth.

Variation 1

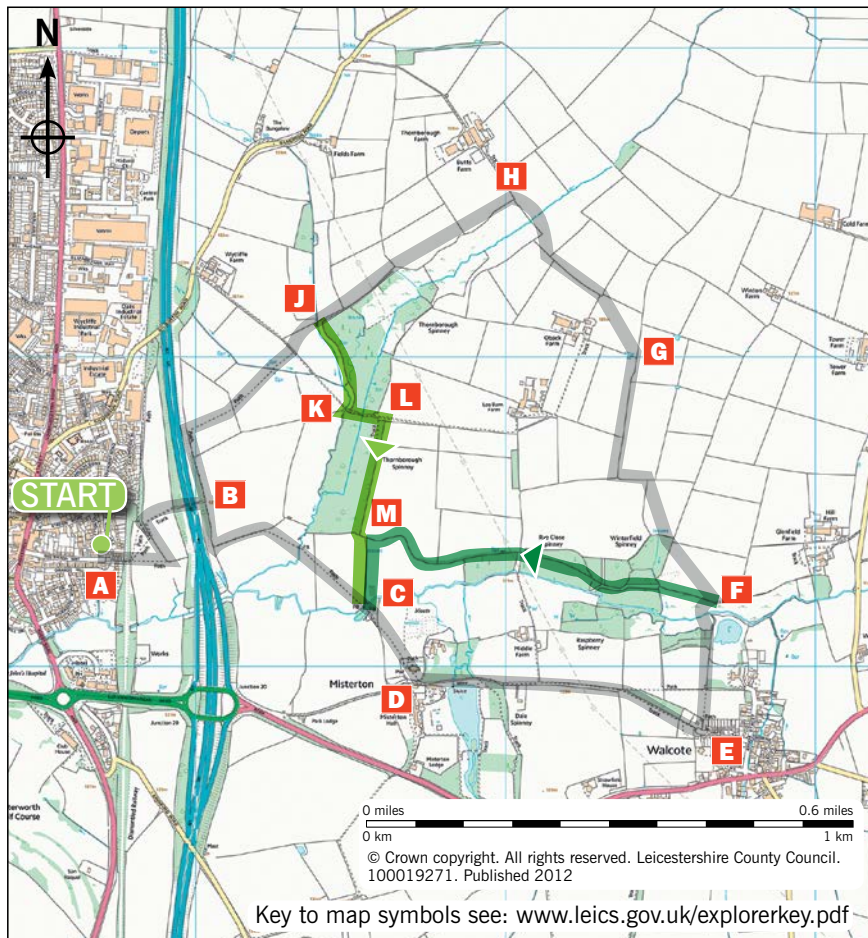
This uses a permissive path through Winterfield and Rye Close Spinneys taking you back via Misterton Church and the latter section of Walk 1. This circular walk is just under 2 miles long.

After crossing the River Swift in Walk 2 look for the yellow marker post **(F)** indicating the start of the permissive path and turn left. Climb a stile into the wood and follow the tack through the woodland. At the end of the first section you will come to a grassy track. Turn left and shortly afterwards right, to enter a further section of woodland. When you emerge bear right and continue along the right hand edge of the next field. Go through the gap at the end **(M)** and turn left to follow the left hand edge of that field. This will bring you to the gate **(C)** and the two footbridges over the River Swift described in Walk 1. Continue up to the Church **(D)** and along the lane and track to Walcote **(E)**.

Variation 2

This takes you a little further into Misterton Marshes Reserve and along its eastern boundary, before heading back via Misterton Church and the latter section of Walk 1. The circular walk is about 3 miles long.

Having followed the path in Walk 2 through the edge of the Reserve and turned left, instead of turning right through the gate **(J)**, carry on until you reach a kissing gate **(K)**. Turn left along the track and as you walk under a telegraph wire at the edge of the Reserve **(L)**, look in the fence on the right for a stile. Now continue along the right hand edge of the next field, with the Reserve on your right, climbing a further pair of stiles. When the Reserve ends, climb another stile **(M)** and continue along the left hand edge of the next field to the gate **(C)** and two footbridges over the River Swift described in Walk 1. Continue up to the Church **(D)** and along the lane and track to Walcote **(E)**.



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