

Strolls on your Doorstep

SHORT WALKS AROUND LOUGHBOROUGH



Thorpe Acre Circuit

A small nature reserve and a hedge lined track



1

At the junction with **Mount Grace Road**, on **Lindisfarne Drive** start from the information noticeboard and follow the stoned path down into the **Stonebow Washlands nature reserve**. Follow the path along the left hand side of the reserve past the ponds and cross over a boardwalk. After exiting through a squeeze barrier, turn left and follow the hedged path down to a kissing gate. Turn left again and follow the track alongside an old wall to the gate that leads onto **Coe Avenue**. Follow this to its junction with **Althorpe Drive**, turn left and then left again into **Buckingham Drive**. Follow this as far as the **Black Brook**. Immediately after the road bridge turn left and follow the brook to the next bridge, which is on **Mount Grace Road**. Turn left and return to your start point.



LOUGHBOROUGH

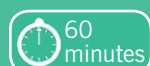
2.3km | 1.4mile
3300 steps

mostly flat
stoned paths



Dishley and the Black Brook

A riverside and lakeside walk with plenty of wildlife



2



Start on **Barsby Drive**, where it bridges the **Black Brook**, and follow the riverside path north under the **A6 Derby Road** bridge then left to the sports pitches. At the access road turn right, and then right again where the access road bridges over the brook. Immediately after this, take the path left to follow the right hand bank of the brook. There are yellow topped waymark posts to show the way; these are used on public Rights of Way throughout Leicestershire. Continue in the same direction with the lake on your right and then continue straight on to where the brook joins the **River Soar**. Turn left, over the bridge at the end of the brook, then left again to walk back down the other side of the brook towards **Dishley**. Cross the footbridge at the top corner of the playing fields and retrace your steps to **Dishley**.

LOUGHBOROUGH

2.7km | 1.7miles
3850 steps

flat can be
muddy in places



Hospital Round

Open spaces and a pleasant stroll around Loughborough Hospital



3



On **Cumberland Road**, opposite the junction with **Rosebery Street**, head down **Hospital Walk**, a tarmac path running alongside the playing fields. After reaching **Hospital Way**, on your right just before the **Epinal Way Care Centre**, turn right down an alley called **Bowler Way** towards **Burleigh Brook**, and follow the brook to reach **Epinal Way**. Turn left uphill along the main road, passing the hospital on your left. Then turn left again through a staggered barrier into another alley called **Rosebery Way**. Follow this to **Ashby Road**, turn left, then left again into **Cumberland Road** and back to your start point.

LOUGHBOROUGH

1.4km | 0.9miles
2000 steps

Tarmac paths, one
moderate slope



Queen's Park Ranger

An urban park full of interest - Carillon Bell Tower Memorial, ponds, aviary and Charnwood Museum



4

From the **Ward's End** park entrance gates follow the path straight ahead to the **Carillon Bell Tower War Memorial**. Go right, towards the band stand, then left to the aviaries. From there head towards the **Charnwood Museum and café**, which is worth a visit. With the front doors of the museum on your left, turn right over the bridge over the pond; a right turn, then a left will take you towards the bowling green. Turn right, between the bowling green and a narrow pond and make your way back to the start point. There is plenty to see and do in the park so why not try varying your route?



LOUGHBOROUGH

0.6km | 0.4miles
850 steps

Flat,
Tarmac



All Saints Loop

A short stroll around the historic heart of the town



5



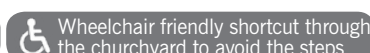
From the main iron churchyard gates on **Steeple Row** walk towards **Church Gate**. Turn left and then left again down **Fearon Jitty** (an alley), just before the **Windmill pub**, keeping Loughborough's historic parish church of **All Saints** on your left. Many of the buildings in this area are much older than their frontages suggest, some date back to the 16th Century. At the far corner of the churchyard go down the shallow steps and follow **Rectory Road** to the bottom. Turn left up **Toothill Road** and then left again into **Rectory Place** to get back to your start point.

Whilst on **Rectory Place**, you can make a short detour to the 13th Century **Old Rectory Museum and Community Garden**.

LOUGHBOROUGH

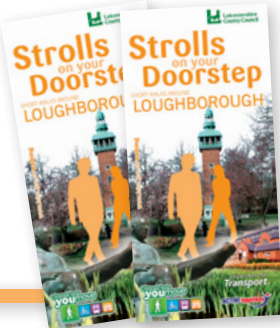
0.6km | 0.4miles
850 steps

Gentle slopes
on tarmac paths



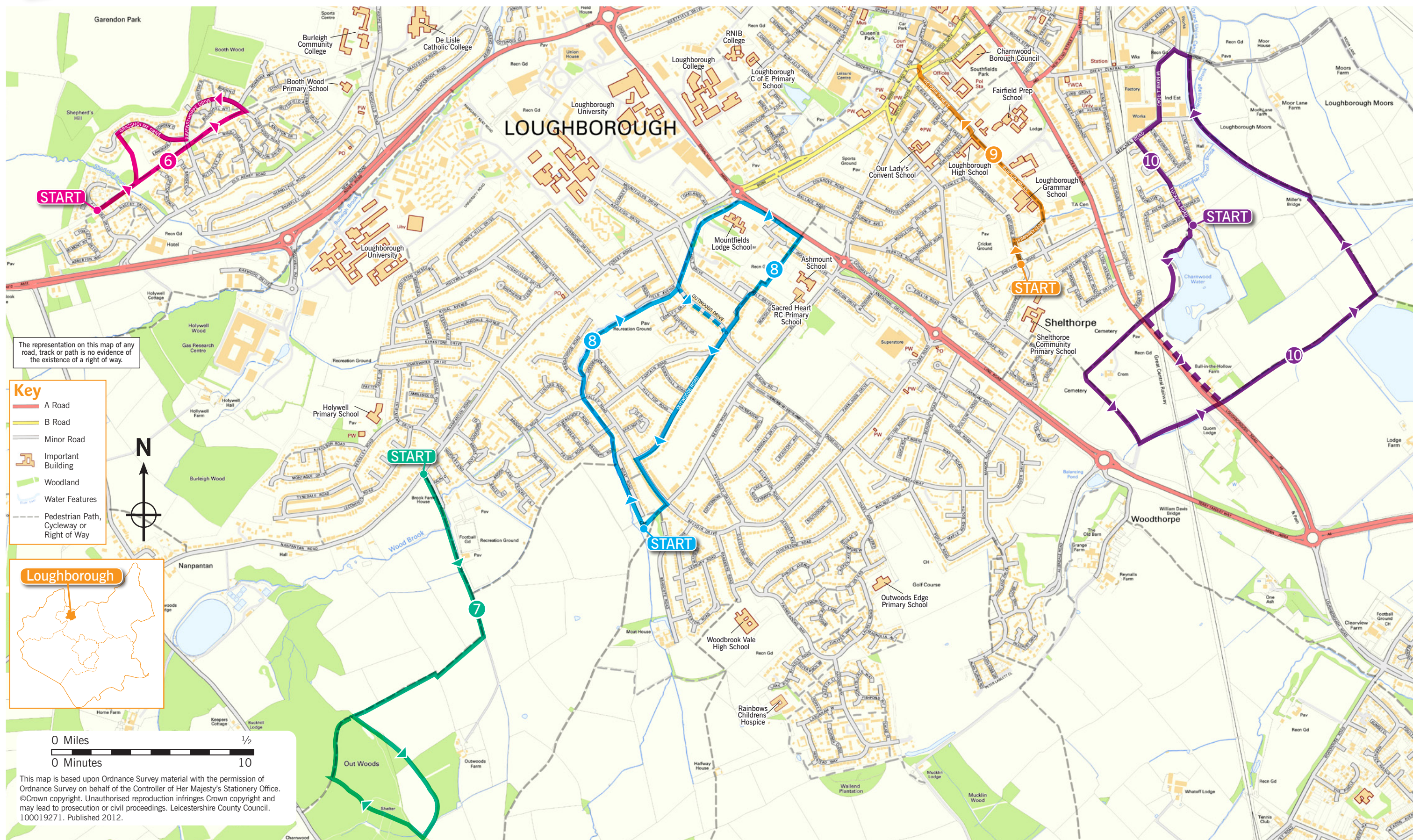
Key to symbols





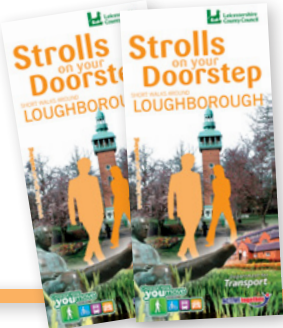
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The representation on this map of any road, track or path is no evidence of the existence of a right of way.

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Strolls on your Doorstep

SHORT WALKS AROUND LOUGHBOROUGH



An Old Branch Line

A tree lined stroll down the route of an old railway line



6



From **Pitsford Drive** take the old railway line on the right towards the town centre. This is part of the old **Charnwood Forest Railway** built in the early 1880s linking Loughborough and Coalville. It was closed to passengers in 1931. The route crosses

Ravensthorpe Drive and on reaching the next road, **Hurstwood Road**, either retrace your steps or return via the adjacent streets. To do this turn left and follow **Ravensthorpe Drive** as far as **Grassholme Drive** on your right. Turn into this, up the hill, and at the top take the tarmac path on the left between numbers 30 and 32 to reach a small park. Cross to the highest point of the park and then go downhill (taking extra care as it may be slippery), to the left of the play area, to rejoin the old railway. Turn right to return to your start point. The route can be extended towards the town centre if you are feeling energetic and wish to explore further.

1.4km | 0.9miles | 2000 steps there and back or
1.7km | 1mile | 2400 steps via estate roads and park

flat stone surfaced disused railway (some gradients and one steepish and unsurfaced path on longer route)

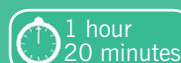


LOUGHBOROUGH



The Outwoods and views of Loughborough

A countryside walk to the woods above Loughborough offering fine views of the town



7

From the **Nanpantan Road**, just after **Watermead Lane**, take the tarmac track signposted as '**Footpath to the Outwoods**'. Follow the footpath where it turns right, off the track and becomes a path signposted uphill towards the woods. On reaching the trees go through the kissing gate and turn immediately left following the path inside the wood that parallels the boundary fence. Just before reaching the charcoal kilns turn sharp right, almost back on yourself, over a small footbridge and past a shelter. Ignore any paths branching off on either side until the path comes to a 'T' junction at a fence ahead of you. Turn right and follow the path back to the kissing gate where you entered the woods, then retrace your route back to the start.

4km | 2.5miles
5700 steps



LOUGHBOROUGH



Mountfields Lodge and Views of the Outwoods

A walk following the Wood Brook with views of the Outwoods on the way back



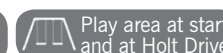
8



LOUGHBOROUGH

Start from the car park at the far end of **Moat Road** and head back along the road. Where the road widens and curves uphill to the right, take the path from the corner which follows **Wood Brook**. Cross **Priory Road** and continue until you reach **Valley Road**. Cross over with care, and take **Woodbrook Road** opposite. Just after **Sandalwood Road**, take the cycleway on the left, sign posted to the **University Colleges**. Continue on this path, along the brook, crossing **Outwoods Drive**. (If you want a shorter route, turn right here and go on to **Outwoods Road**). Cross **Holt Drive** and carry on as far as the roundabout. Turn right along **Epinal Way**. Look out for a path named '**Outwoods Way**' on the right. Follow this path, keeping in a straight line whilst it briefly joins **Holt Drive**, goes into a cul-de-sac between between numbers 58 and 60, and leads into **Outwoods Avenue**. At a small roundabout keep straight on along **Outwoods Road**. There are good views of the Outwoods as you reach the top of the hill before going downhill. At the end of the road turn left onto **Valley Road** and follow as far as a signpost on the right which says '**Bridleway to the Outwoods**'. Follow this through the bollards and turn right across the grass to the start of the walk.

3.4km | 2.1miles | 4800 steps
(with shortcut 2.4km | 1.5miles)



Walk the Burton Walks

A walk to the town centre avoiding the busy main roads



9



From **Shelthorpe Road** head up **Castledine Street Extension** then right into **Humphrey Close**. Take the signed tarmac footpath branching off to the left following the brook. Turn left at the bridge by the large stump and head left up **Burton Walks**, passing the buildings of the **Loughborough Grammar and High Schools**, eventually joining **Victoria Street** which takes you to **Bedford Square** on the edge of the town centre. Retrace your steps or why not take the bus one way and walk the other?

2km | 1.25miles | 1600 steps
(or 1km | 0.6miles one way)



LOUGHBOROUGH



Charnwood Water and the Canal

Industrial history and wildlife - Loughborough's past comes to life

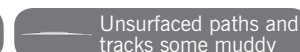


10

From the **Charnwood Water** car park, off **Tuckers Road**, go to the right of the toilet block and follow the waterside path. Take the path branching off to the right up over the bridge crossing the **Great Central Railway**. At the **A6 Leicester Road**, cross with care over to the cemetery. (A short cut can be taken at this point by going left along the A6). In the cemetery take the access road ahead then, after the crematorium buildings, turn left and follow the path down to a kissing gate. Continue straight on to reach the old lane to **Woodthorpe** then turn left. After re-crossing both the steam railway and the A6, take the footpath straight ahead down a track. After about 0.5 mile / 0.8 km, where two footpaths cross, turn left and head over a

field towards a metal hand-gate and yellow-topped waymark post. Continue on this path to the canal, then turn left along the towpath towards Loughborough. At the next canal bridge head up the steps onto **Moor Lane**. Turn left over the road bridge, then left into **Great Central Road** and left again into **Windmill Road**. Follow this round until you reach **Tuckers Road** on the left, and follow this back to **Charnwood Water**.

4.5km | 2.75miles
6400 steps



LOUGHBOROUGH

Key to symbols



Time



Difficulty



Distance



Surface / gradient



Barriers



Benches



Pushchair friendly



Wheelchair friendly



Boots required



Play area



Toilets



Public House