

THIS LEAFLET IS PART OF A SERIES OF WALKS THAT LINK THE MILKING PARLOUR WITH MELBOURNE, TICKNALL, STAUNTON HAROLD AND ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH AND BEYOND...

PATH TYPES - PROW (Public Rights of Way) and Permissive

All the walks in this leaflet are on *Public Rights of Way* which means that the surface of them is owned by the County Council. You can walk them 24/7.

Many of the paths in Calke Park and around the Reservoir and Staunton Harold Hall are permissive paths. Permission to use them is at the behest of the landowner. They can be closed at any time as several useful paths were closed in Calke in 2020/2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

THE MILKING PARLOUR, TOLLGATE BREWERY TAP

Opened on 4 July 2020, The Milking Parlour is Tollgate Brewery's taproom, set inside a rustic, former dairy shed overlooking the brewery itself. Located within the stunning surroundings of the National Trust's Calke Abbey estate.



The Milking Parlour offers ample outdoor drinking space with views of fields and the historic outbuildings of Southwood House dairy farm. Guests can enjoy a wide range of Tollgate cask and keg beers, wood-fired pizzas made with locally sourced ingredients, and bottle off-sales available in the shop. In case of rain, several covered and heated areas ensure your pint stays dry. Dogs are welcome, and there's an outdoor children's play area. Visit tollgatebrewery.co.uk/pubs for current opening hours.

SMARTPHONE APPS & OS MAPS

There are many useful walking apps. Komoot is free and uses open-source mapping (OS mapping can be purchased). The routes in this leaflet can be downloaded from Komoot or the Melbourne Footpaths Group website.

For a more detailed map please use *OS Explorer 245 - The National Forest*.



ACCESS BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND THEN ON FOOT

The Arriva 2 bus from Derby to Swadlincote passes reasonably close to the brewery. From the Top Farm Ticknall bus stop, it is 1.1 miles walk along Staunton Lane. From Ticknall through Calke Park, along PROWs, it's 1.9 miles.

WALKS - THINGS TO CONSIDER...

WALKING GEAR — in a typical winter the footpaths can be rather muddy especially on the Ivanhoe Way and the path south of the junction of Heath Lane and Staunton Lane. You need proper footwear.

DISTANCE & TIMING

Expect to walk about 2.5 miles an hour.

CROSSING ROADS

Take great care at all road crossings. Some drivers are not expecting walkers!

Please follow...
The Countryside Code



RESPECT EVERYONE

Be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside.

Leave gates and property as you find them.

Do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking.

Be nice, say hello, share the space.

Follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available.

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Take your litter home — leave no trace of your visit.

Take care with BBQs and do not light fires.

Always keep dogs under control and in sight.

Dog poo — bag it and bin it — any public waste bin will do.

Care for nature — do not cause damage or disturbance.

ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

Check your route and local conditions.

Plan your adventure — know what to expect and what you can do.

Enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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MAPPING

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DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

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MILKING PARLOUR ROUTE #1

ASHBY CIRCULAR



POINTS OF INTEREST

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH

An ancient market town in North-West Leicestershire with castle ruins, a museum and a good range of shops. The name comes from the Anglo-Danish meaning *Ash tree farm/settlement*. The La Zouch family took possession of the town in 1160. Also home to another Tollgate pub, The Tap at no.76 on Market Street.

OLD PARKS

The name refers to an ancient deer park, part of the Donington Estate until about 1900. Several farms in this area contain this name.

DERBY - MELBOURNE - ASHBY RAILWAY

The line reached Ashby in 1874 and closed completely in 1982. Passenger services were withdrawn in 1929. The section from Melbourne to Ashby was used as a training railway during World War 2. Closure was hastened by the partial collapse of the tunnel near Western Old Parks Farm which was sealed up in the 1950s.

STAUNTON HAROLD

An 18th Century mansion on a much older site, once home of the Ferrers family who arrived from France with William the Conqueror and is now privately owned. The 17th Century church is well worth visiting (National Trust).

HEATH END

Formerly an industrial site with coal mining, this is now a tranquil spot with several attractive vernacular properties. Local drinkers still lament the closure of the Saracen's Head pub here in the first decade of this century.

SOUTHWOOD / SOUTH WOOD

Southwood Common was owned by Repton Priory until 1538 when it was sold to the Thacker family. By 1729 it had passed to the Burdetts at Foremarke and was involved in a land swap with the Harpur Crewes in the 1820s.

PISTERN HILLS

An escarpment rising to the highest point in South Derbyshire about 600 feet. In 1824 the Harpur Crewes acquired the land from the Burdetts of Foremarke, trees were planted to improve the view from Calke Abbey.

TO THE MILKING PARLOUR... FROM ASHBY TO SOUTHWOOD - 3.6 MILES

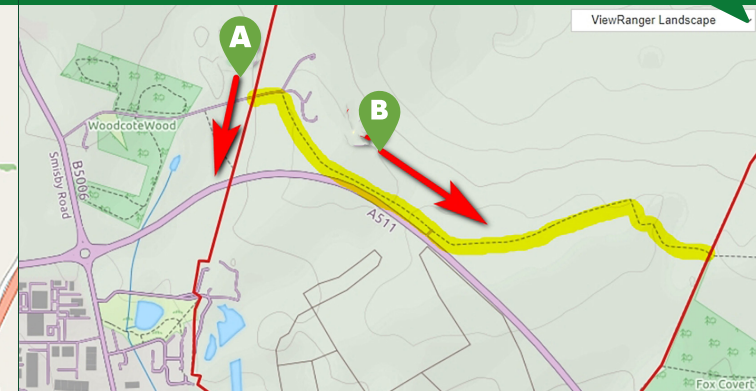
A circular walk from Ashby-de-la-Zouch to Southwood and back. Out via Old Parks and back over the Pistern Hills. Though, of course, you could reverse this.



- 1 Start at the Ashby Information Centre where there are car parking spaces (paid).
- 2 Pass Ivanhoe College and then follow the FP sign for the National Forest Way (NFW)/ Ivanhoe Way (IW). The route goes behind the back of houses and some open space.
- 3 Pass the back of the large Flagstaff 42 Trading Estate and Tesco supermarket.
- 4 Go under the bypass.
- 5 Follow the NFW/IW for 2 miles north, it is pretty well waymarked with yellow posts. You pass Alastair's Wood (RIGHT) and the track bed of the Derby to Ashby Railway, Old Parks Farm, Mosley's Plantation and (LEFT) Southwood Farm.
- 6 When the NFW/IW turns right at the end of woodland and towards a distant house (with a HAMA), go STRAIGHT AHEAD through a band of woodland (yellow post) and several fields.
- 7 At the junction of Staunton Lane and Heath Lane go straight over (busy road).
- 8 The Brewery and tap are on the left after half mile.

...AND BACK FROM SOUTHWOOD TO ASHBY - 3.6 MILES

Alternative routes after part 8.



- 1 Leave the brewery at back of Southwood House Farm to take FP that climbs the Pistern Hills.
- 2 Cross over the metallated Tramway path after a third of a mile.
- 3 Head uphill not missing a stile in the left-hand side hedge. The path crosses the access road to Heath Farm.
- 4 At the very top of the wooded hill turn left then straight ahead.
- 5 When level with the first Pisternhills farm (LEFT) make for the farmyard and pass through it (there's a gate in and a stile out). Note the FP sign with shot holes.
- 6 Cross Heath Lane and follow the track to the second Pisternhills Farm.
- 7 Go through a field gate, keep left around the field and head for an old footpath sign in the distance. Ignore the first stile on your left.
- 8 After several fields and stiles, you pass Old Parks Farm on your left in the distance.

At this point you have two choices. The quickest route (A) is to cross the Ashby bypass, this however can be very busy. If you don't fancy that, turn left when you reach the access road to Old Parks Farm. See (B).

- A Cross the access road and take the path to a flight of steps leading to the busy bypass.
- 9 Cross the bypass – TAKE GREAT CARE! – and take the steps down to a path.
- 10 Pass round the impressive Cliftonthorpe complex and the back of several new housing estates. The path runs alongside a brook before reaching Hood Park and the town centre.
- B Turn left and follow the bridleway until it meets the path you took outwards, close to the Flagstaff 42 Trading/Tesco complex. Take the path under the bypass and back to Ashby walking behind housing estates and through some open land.



VIEW FROM PISTERN HILLS OVER-LOOKING TOWARD BREEDON