

LINCS WOLD WAY

Day 1 – Louth to South Ormsby

Total walking time is 5 hours and 20 minutes. (short route)

Total distance is 21 km or 13 m

Section 1 – Louth to Legbourne

Walking time is 1 hour, 30 mins

Distance is 5.2 km or 3.2 m

The walk starts at the head of the Louth canal, at the Navigation Warehouse, (A) which not only gives walkers the opportunity of learning about the Louth

canal, and the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service but also minimises the length of town walk before reaching open countryside.



Fig. 1.1 Start of walk at the Navigation Warehouse
Before you leave the warehouse take a look at the information board on the landing stage which will tell you about the Louth Canal.

Standing with your back to the warehouse doorway, turn right towards the road and then bear left along Riverhead Road with the canal end of your left. At the cross roads continue straight over into St. Bernard's Avenue until you reach a mini roundabout where you turn left into Monks Dyke Road. Just after the traffic calming signs take the footpath sign on the right (B) and continue along this path until you reach an open field. The footpath takes you across the field to a corner marked by trees on a bend in the boundary, so depending on the time of year walkers may wish to use the

field boundary where it appears local dog walkers seems to have created a path. Continue to follow the field boundaries or the cross field path (if marked) until you come to a footpath between two small holdings of sheep and ponies – follow this to the road (C).

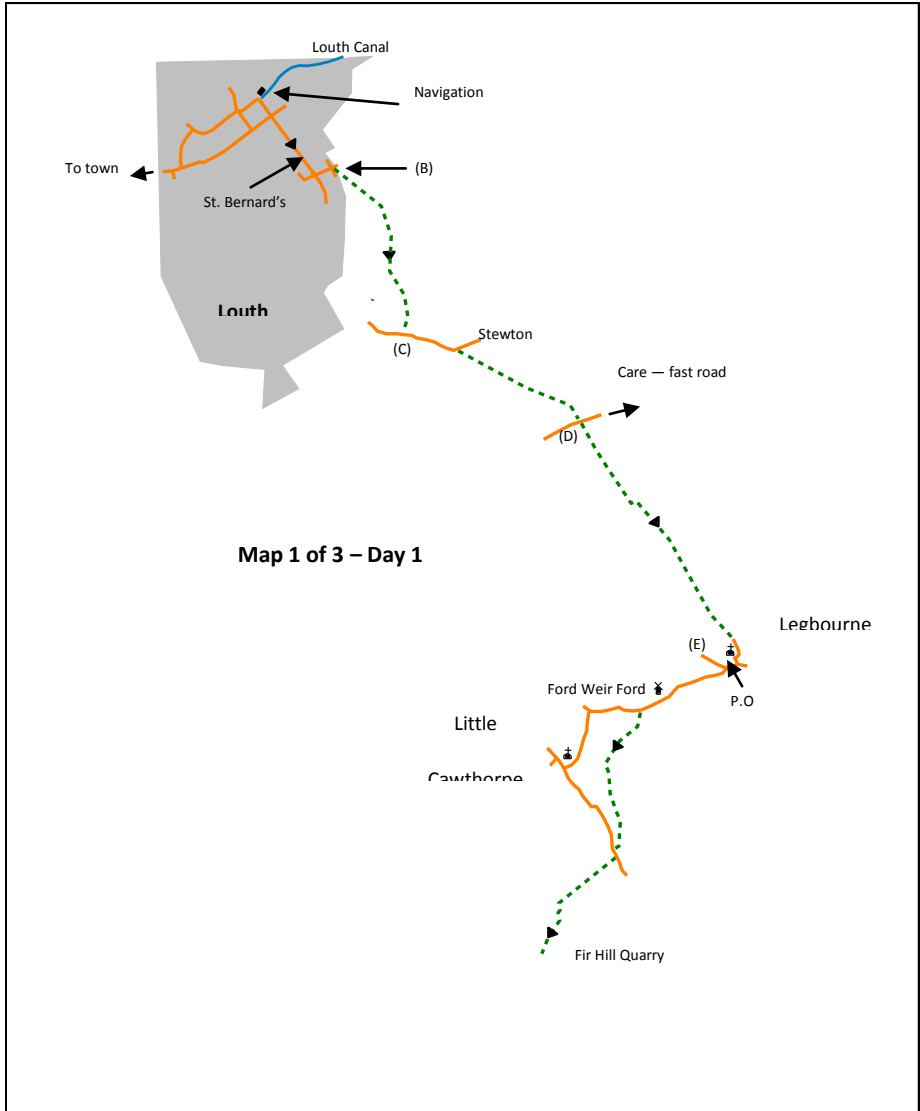
Bear left along the road for 300m and where the road bears slightly left go straight ahead along a footpath. After some 200m you go through a gate and see Rose Farm on your left. Continue ahead through a meadow until you reach the track leading to the farm where you bear right along the track to the road (D). The B1200 can be a busy road so take care when crossing.



The footpath you require is straight ahead but head slightly to the left of the small group of trees so that you are walking along a footpath with the stream on the right. Apart from the small left and right bends this path continues straight ahead for nearly 2 km. Views of the lower slopes of the Wolds can now be seen to your right. The path takes you to the village of Legbourne which is reached via a small lane which leads to All Saints Church (E).

Fig. 1.2 Fountain & church at Legbourne

The church is open during daylight hours for anyone who enjoys a peaceful moment in a traditional church. It's a grade one listed building, extensively rebuilt by the Victorians but with some much older stained glass and stonework.



Section 2 – Legbourne to Burwell (longer route via Lt. Cawthorpe)

Walking time is 1 hour, 30 mins

Distance is 6.6 km or 4.1 m



Fig. 1.3 River & path at the 'Splash'

After a well-earned rest, head to the road and turn right to the Post Office and village stores. This is the best place to carefully cross the road and continue in the same direction. You will shortly come to Mill Lane on your left, take the lane and go over the hump that was the old railway line and past the disused windmill on your right.



Fig. 1.4 Lt. Cawthorpe Church

Also take the opportunity of looking at St. Helen's Church in Little Cawthorpe. Built in red brick, with contrasting bands of black brick, St Helen's stands on a mound near the centre of this attractive village. This charming Victorian church with its contrasting bricks, vibrant stained glass and elegant spire is in the style of the early 14th-century. It was considered to be a model for parishes of modest means.

Shortly after leaving the houses there is a footpath on your left. (F) This is the shorter route, but this slightly longer route take walkers to visit the church at Lt. Cawthorpe and the *Splash* which is the name used by the locals for the *Royal Oak* a well-known pub and restaurant. (G). You will

realise why it's earned that name when you see it. To achieve these two destinations walkers should continue along the road, bearing left a fork in the road and left again at the fork by the church continuing along the road for some 700m until reaching a footpath on the right (now miss out next paragraph).

Section 2 – Legbourne to Burwell (shorter route)

Walking time is 1 hour, 15 mins

Distance is 6.2 km or 3.9 m

For walkers wishing to take the shorter route follow the longer route to (E) then take the footpath on the left and passing through two fields. At the far side go over a stile bearing right as directed and then after 10m bear left and across a field, finally taking a short right turn prior to making the road where you should turn left and then right on to a footpath. (H).

Combined Route. Now back together again walkers start the gentle uphill walk into the Wolds. After 300m the path turns left and then bears right towards Haugham wood. Now follow the edge of the wood for 500m until you descend into a small dip in the land. Cross the field heading up again and round the edge of the wood. The path then heads out into open countryside across richly cultivated fields planted mainly of wheat and barley, bear right after 700m which leads walkers onto a farmer's surfaced road. (I). Follow this until you see a fingerpost on your left. Just after this bear right at waymarker (J) and head across field & then downhill to Burwell. (K).

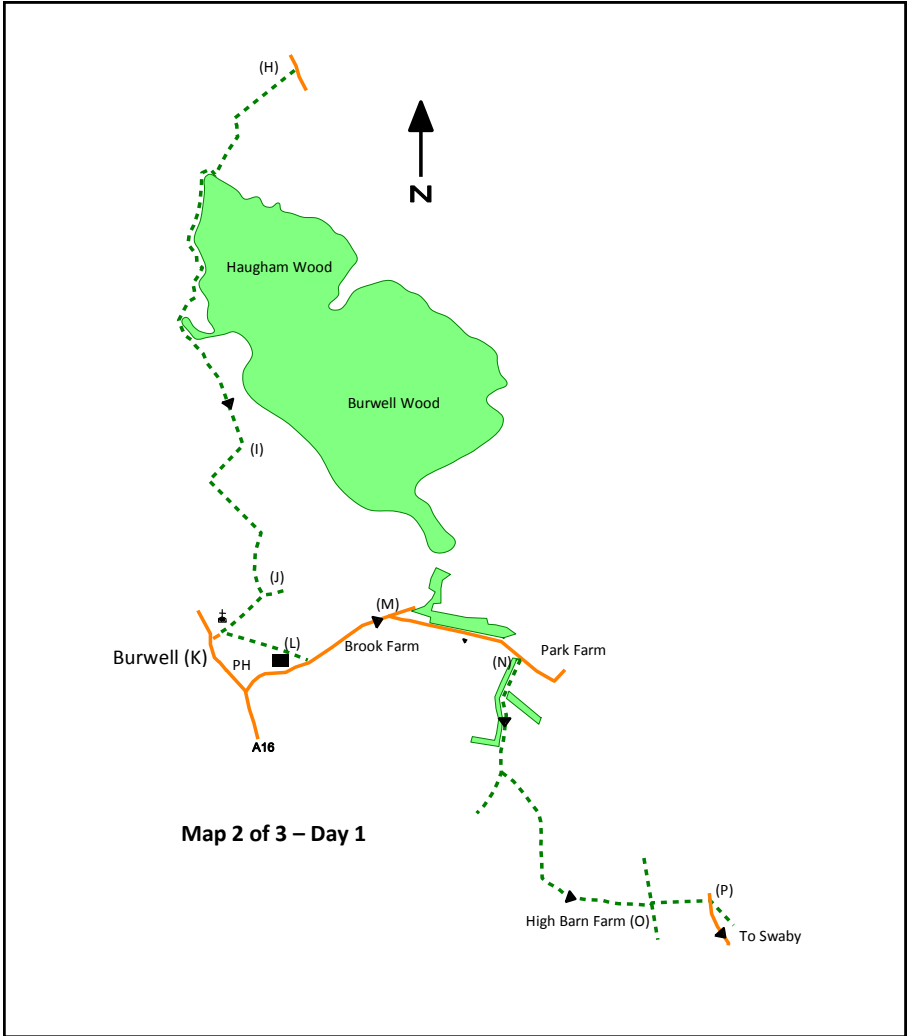
If you wish to miss out the church at Burwell and head on your way, bear left at the waymarking post on the downhill path. The path is across a field and is unclear so head for the rear of farm buildings (L) some 300 m ahead and you will pick up the path again. If you do go down to the road to visit the church hall or pub, then continue your journey by retreating your steps

back up the path to the junction near the top of the rise where you bear right at the waymarking sign.



Fig. 1.5 The unusual Church Hall at Burwell

The brick-and-greensand church tower of St Michael's can be seen behind trees on your right as you walk down the hill to Burwell. The walls show clear signs of alterations over the centuries: there was once a south aisle and the near windowless north wall may have been adjacent to monastic buildings. Inside the exquisite Norman chancel arch with carved capitals above it sits prominently and a medieval wall painting depicts a crowned head. There is also a 17th-century pulpit and some interesting monuments.



Section 3 – Burwell to Swaby

Walking time is 1 hour, 10 mins

Distance is 5.3 km or 3.3 m

For walkers who venture to the church hall or pub either take the track behind the church hall to join the road or head back up the track and take the footpath to the right that heads behind Priory Farm, across a farm road then across another field to the road. Bear left and continue for 500m to a fork on the road at which take the right turning. (M).



Fig. 1.6 Poppies amongst the crops

Continue for another 700m along this quiet road until you see a line of trees and a bridleway sign on your left. (N). Climb the bridleway gradually and bear slightly left at the top. A little further on the hedges give way to show fabulous panoramic views to the east and south. Follow the broad bridleway until you come to High Barn (O). and go straight ahead,

rather than follow the track to the right. Your footpath takes you downhill to a minor road. (P). Go straight across taking the footpath that bears right to Rossville Farm passing through the farm yard to the minor road. Continue ahead and follow the road right, down to the cross roads at the small village of Swaby. There is a most welcome bench at the cross roads.

Section 4 – Swaby to South Ormsby

Walking time: short route – 1 hour, 10 mins, long route – 1 hour 30 mins

Distance: short route - 4.3 km or 2.7 m, long route - 6.3 km or 3.9 m

Go left (south) at the junction (Q) and after 100m bear slightly left on a footpath heading diagonally across a hilly meadow. The footpath is unclear so walkers are advised to follow the line of the electricity cables and posts. Go through a kissing gate and down onto a track and then straight ahead through another gate. Continue heading straight ahead across open fields until finally reaching the A16 (R). The way ahead is almost directly across

but look slightly to the left to see the footpath sign which continues in the same southerly direction taking walkers to a wooded section. As walkers leave the wood the remains of Calceby castle (S), a medieval village, can be seen. Closer inspection is recommended later in the walk. The path on the other side can be damp under foot and walkers need to head diagonally to the right across this field to a gate at the corner of the woods. Continue straight ahead through gate until you reach Grange Farm (T) and the road where you can decide to take the long or short route to the finishing point

If you have the time and energy to do the longer route you will not be disappointed as this has more character in terms of sights and terrain.

Short route – Turn right at the road until you pass a gate on your left and then a footpath sign heading diagonally across a field. Ignore this and go on another 20m until you come to another footpath sign on your left also heading diagonally across a field. Take this second path and continue ahead across three cultivated fields until you reach a field boundary with a hedge and a wooden bridge. Go across this and aim for the left hand edge of the farm buildings ahead. Pass through the farm gate and then head diagonally uphill across the field to the far corner where you take a right over a stile. The path then takes you around the right hand side of a property (U), across a meadow to a stile and the road. St. Leonard’s Church is straight ahead along a footpath if you wish to visit. However, the route finishes by taking a right turn along the road to the Massingberd Arms (V) at the cross roads in South Ormsby.

Long route – Turn left at the road for 500m, and at the junction bear left for 100m until you come to an information board on your left (W) which will tell you all about the deserted medieval village of Calceby and the ruins of St. Michael’s Church. Retrace your footsteps back to the junction and bear left over a stile and then immediately go diagonally up and across the field a short way until you come to another sign bearing right along the field

boundary. Keep ahead along this, past a disused pit (a hole in ground) where shortly after the path moves to the left hand side of the hedge. Continue ahead to the small wooden copse, over a small wooden bridge and the copse of your left, over another stile and then across a meadow to the hamlet of Driby (X). It is worth taking some time to look at the church which is now no longer used by the parish so has been tastefully converted to apartments. Retrace your footsteps to where you originally made the road at the footpath sign and keep straight ahead towards the pumping station. Just before this, after the houses, bear left and follow the field straight ahead keeping the hedge on your right. Pass over a stile and then ahead across a field towards Furze Closes (a wood). Continue ahead through the wood and on emerging continue ahead ignoring footpath signs to the left and the right. At the far corner of the field you will go through a gate and then head diagonally across the field heading to a large tree where you will find the stile to take you out of the field. Continue straight ahead towards a gate. Pass through and head diagonally uphill using the wooden electricity pole as a guide. In the far corner is a stile - take this bearing to the right hand side of a property (U), across a meadow to a stile and the road. St. Leonard's Church is straight ahead along a footpath if you wish to visit but the route finishes by taking a right turn along the road to the end of your day 1 walk at the Massingberd Arms (V) on the junction of roads in South Ormsby.



Fig. 1.6 Massingberd Arms at South Ormsby

