

Hoveringham - Trent Valley Walks

Start and end of route:

Free layby car park by the River Trent, opposite Ferry Farm park. NG14 7JP

OS Map: Explorer 260 Nottingham SK SK701461

Distance: 4.6 miles/7.4 km

Time: 1.5 - 2 hours

Suitability: This route is predominantly on bridlepaths. There is one small footpath section but a slight diversion in point 4 (don't turn left over the small footbridge but carry on straight) will bring you out onto the road further up in Hoveringham, meaning you could do it all by bike or on horseback.

Refreshments and toilets: When Ferry Farm Park is open there is a shop for refreshments. The Reindeer Inn, Hoveringham has a lovely outside area, looking onto the cricket pitch, to stop for a drink and a snack.

Brief description of route: A flat walk of just over 4.5 miles following the River Trent and then quiet field paths.

Route map:

https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/route/1001519/Hoveringham-Walk



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Directions:

1. Turn right along the road and walk to the first bend. Go through a gate onto a bridleway marked 'The Trent Valley Way'. At the end of the first field stands a memorial, commemorating the lives of the crews of two Lancaster Bombers which crashed here during WWII.

2. Keep going straight along this bridlepath, with the River Trent to your right and Hoveringham Sailing Lakes on your left. These lakes were formed from the vast amount of gravel extraction which has taken place in the area. Over the hill, on the other side of the river, is Syerston airfield; the location the Lancaster Bombers were attempting to return to.

3. Around 1.8 miles into your walk reach a bridlepath on your left. Take this path, around field edges, until you emerge onto a country lane at Gibsmere. Turn left down the lane and past Horspool Farm Luxury Retreat, until you join another bridlepath.

4. Follow this path until you come out onto another lane at 3.2 miles. Walk straight over and follow the field around until you come to a small footbridge on your left. Cross this bridge and turn immediately right, tracking around a small copse of trees.

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5. This path brings you out onto Main Street, Hoveringham, 3.6 miles into your journey. Turn left, along the road and stroll through the pretty village, past Hoveringham Hall and the Old Post Office. The village's only remaining pub, The Reindeer, may be a welcome sight at four miles.

6. Continue down Main Street, to its crossroads with Gonalston Lane and Boat Lane. Take a moment to admire St Michael's church to your right and the old telephone box, now used as a book exchange! Your route takes you left, down Boat Lane, so called because of its frequent flooding in the past.

7. Follow the road back to your car, passing a large building on the corner. This once housed the Elm Tree Pub, a popular waterside venue which was frequented by airmen from Syerston during WWII. A ferry used to cross the river here and the airmen would whistle it over to take them to the Saturday night dances.

8. Follow the road back to your car passing a large building on the corner. This once housed the Elm Tree Pub, a popular waterside venue which was frequented by airmen from Syerston during WWII. A ferry used to cross the river here and the airmen would whistle it over to take them to the Saturday night dances.

Activity

Optional – As you stroll along by the river spend two minutes silently listing all the growing and living things you can see; focus on the different colours and sounds they bring to your experience and consider how the river brings life to these living things.