

# STEPPING OUT: DUNSTON VILLAGE CIRCULAR



Easy Terrain



**A 3 mile (4.5km) circular, easy-access walk from the village of Dunston in Lincolnshire.**

The walking route is a beautifully simple circuit, exploring the surrounding countryside with rich hedgerows, flower-filled woodlands and the wide-open spaces of the peaceful fields. This walk is part of the Stepping Out network, published through a collaboration with North Kesteven District Council to inspire more people to enjoy the district's landscapes, ancient woodland, historic buildings and charming villages.

If you are looking for refreshments, the walk starts and finishes directly outside The Red Lion pub within the village of Dunston.

## Getting there

Dunston is located about 7 miles south-east of Lincoln, and just to the east of the B1188 Lincoln Road. The walk starts and finishes outside The Red Lion pub on Middle Street. If you are coming by car, the pub has a car park for use by patrons or there is roadside parking along nearby Fen Lane for non-patrons.

Approximate post code **LN4 2HB**.

For information on bus transport, call Traveline on 0871 2002233 or visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/busrailtravel](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/busrailtravel).

## Walk Sections



### Start to Burton Plantation



Standing on the roadside pavement of Middle Street, facing The Red Lion, turn left along Middle Street. Take



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## Access Notes



1. The walk is relatively flat, with only very gentle gradients. The route follows a mixture of tarmac paths, tarmac access tracks, unmade tracks and grass tracks, the latter of which are uneven surfaces and can get muddy.
2. You will not be sharing any of the paths with livestock and there are no stiles, gates or steps on route. You will only need to negotiate a couple of wooden footbridges (which have only a 6cm step up to them), meaning the walking route would be suitable for rugged pushchairs or disability buggies when the ground is dry.
3. Please remember the Countryside Code. Some paths are provided by kind permission of the landowner, please only use the waymarked paths. Where young stock may be present, please make sure your dog is under firm control in these areas.
4. OS Map Explorer 272.





the first side road on the right, called Back Lane (although there is no sign), and follow this road as it swings left to pass the village school on your right. Immediately after the school, turn right onto the signed public bridleway, a tarmac path leading you between dense hedgerows.

Follow this path directly ahead for a stretch and bearing left for a further stretch of 300m, then carefully cross over the tarmac farm roadway ahead (taking care of any vehicles). Just five paces ahead, turn right to follow the signed public footpath, a grass track with a hedgerow running on your left and the farm roadway running across to your right.

Within the field to your left, you will notice the distinctly undulating surface, a fine example of historic ridge and furrow cultivation. Behind this field, you will be able to see the cricket pitch and church spire in nearby Nocton village. The grass track leads you directly into a small woodland, Burton Plantation.

## 1 → 2 Burton Plantation to Green Lane



Follow the obvious woodland path which swings left, with the steep banks and metal railings of a reservoir up to your right. You will emerge out to a T-junction with a tarmac track. Turn right to join this, passing through Burton Plantation, which is home to many spring flowers.

Part way along, ignore the footpath signed off to the left, instead keep ahead on the main tarmac track. Further along, the track merges with another tarmac roadway (coming in from the right). Simply keep ahead on the main tarmac roadway (taking care of any farm traffic), passing the pretty round stone gateposts for the estate office on your right.

Continue past the estate buildings (which are across to your right) and then a small, pretty plantation (which is surrounded by a beautiful woven hedge) also on your right. Immediately after this small plantation, you will see a fingerpost on your right. Turn right here to join the restricted byway known as Green Lane.

## 2 → 3 Green Lane to Crossroads

Follow this unmade track ahead to reach the next fingerpost. Ignore the bridleway signed to the left, instead continue ahead on the restricted byway, passing the beginning of Nocton Wood on your left. Continue until you reach the next fingerpost (which is located where the tall hedgerow on your right ends).

Turn right here to join the signed public footpath, a wide grass track which leads you between large open fields. About halfway along this grass track, you will come to a crossroads with a sandy vehicle track.



## 3 → 4 Crossroads to End



Cross over the sandy track and go straight ahead to continue on the grass track between fields. Now simply keep ahead, crossing two wooden footbridges along the way. Immediately after the second footbridge, you will come to a T-junction with another grass track. Turn left and you will emerge to the end of Willow Lane, a residential lane within Dunston village.

Turn right to walk along the length of Willow Lane. At the end, you will come to a T-junction with Back Lane (which you should recognise from the outward leg). Turn left and then left again at the next junction onto Middle Street. This leads you directly back to the Red Lion on your left where the walk began.

### Disclaimer

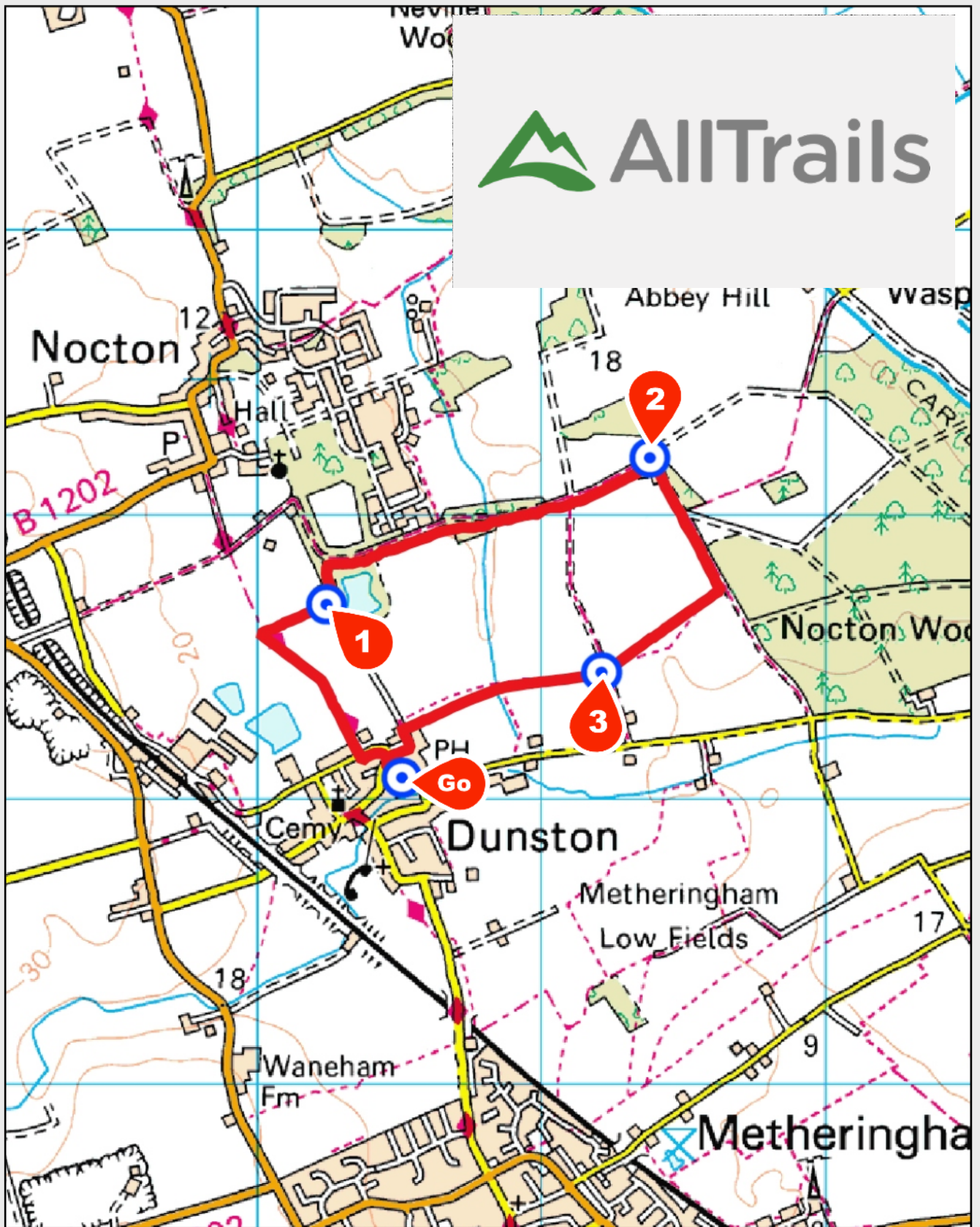
This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

### Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and a map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.







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