

# STEPPING OUT: AROUND KIRKBY GREEN



Easy Terrain

2 Miles  
Circular  
1 hour

260618



## Access Notes



1. The walk is relatively flat and follows a mixture of field edge grass tracks and roadside pavements.
2. There are no kissing gates, stiles or steps and the only obstacle on-route is a fixed-width gap in a stone wall, which is about one metre wide.
3. You will not be sharing any of the paths with livestock, although sometimes the adjacent fields can be holding sheep within electric fencing so take care with dogs.
4. Some sections can get muddy after rain and are uneven in parts, but in dry periods the surfaces should be suitable for rugged disability buggies or rugged pushchairs.
5. The final 200 metres follows a road without pavements, so take care of traffic on this stretch.
6. 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.
7. OS Map Explorer 272.

## A 2 mile (3km) circular easy-access walk from the village of Kirkby Green in Lincolnshire.

The walk explores the arable farmland to the north of the village, with big skies and plenty of history and wildlife to enjoy along the way. This walk is part of the Stepping Out network, published through a collaboration between iFootpath and 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 Royal Oak is located in neighbouring Scopwick village or The Penny Farthing Inn is located in nearby Timberland.

## Getting there

The village of Kirkby Green is located just to the east of Scopwick village, on the B1191 and about 12 miles north of Sleaford. The walk starts and finishes just on the edge of the village where there is a lay-by on the main road, just to the east of the village.

The postcode **LN4 3PE** will take you to the village centre, from here head east out of the village, following the main road as it bends left and then right. On this right-hand bend you will see a layby on your left. Please park sensibly and legally without causing obstructions to other road users.

## Walk Sections

Go  **1** Start to Acre Lane



Standing in the middle of the parking lay-by with your back to the road, walk diagonally left to reach the metal fingerpost and then turn immediately right to join the grass path with a crop field on your left and a hedgerow and

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farm track running parallel to your right. At the end of the field, cross the wooden footbridge ahead to reach a second crop field.

Standing with your back to the footbridge, look diagonally left and you will see a wide hedge gap within the left-hand hedgerow. This is your exit point from the field. The official footpath turns left and follows the field boundary to reach this exit, however you may be able to use a farm vehicle grass track which takes a more direct route. When you reach the hedge gap, pass through it to enter a third field and follow the path directly ahead with a hedgerow on your left.

At the end of the field, you will emerge to a T-junction with a tarmac farm track known as Acre Lane. Take a moment here to enjoy the peaceful surroundings. The beautiful hedgerows and quiet fields attract a wide range of birds. In spring you may be lucky enough to enjoy the calls and flying displays of ground nesting birds such as lapwings (black and white crested plovers which call with a piercing peee-witt sound, giving rise to their alternative name of peewit). It is thanks to the former Squire of Blankney Hall that this area retains its peaceful demeanour. Original proposals for the Sleaford to Lincoln railway in 1882, suggested a route which ran just to the west of Acre Lane. However, the Squire insisted that the line was moved to run sufficiently far away from Blankney Hall so as not to disturb his brood mares.

## 1 → 2 Acre Lane to Main Street



Turn right along the tarmac track for around 90 metres to reach a fingerpost on your right. Turn left here, passing through a hedge gap to join a field-edge path with a hedgerow running on your left. Keep ahead on this path, crossing a footbridge into a second field and following the line of the hedgerow on your left. About half way along this second field, where the boundary bears right, keep ahead on the path leading you through a dense tunnel of trees.

As you emerge from the trees into a rough meadow, keep directly ahead staying alongside the hedgerow on your right. In the meadow corner, follow the boundary path as it turns left and you will emerge via a gap in the stone wall to reach the pavement alongside the B1191, Main Street.

## 2 → 3 Main Street to End

If you glance to your right at this point, you will notice you are currently on the edge of the adjacent village, Scopwick. Turn left along the pavement, heading away from Scopwick and back towards Kirkby Green.

These two village names give an interesting nod to the past.



Scopwick means Sheep Farm in old English and Kirby Green, which translates as Village with a Church, has the 'by' suffix denoting Viking origin. These names show that just over 1000 years ago, Danes and Saxons lived closely under the Danelaw, an area where the laws of the Danes held sway. The Danelaw existed as a political force from the middle of the 9th Century, though Viking raiders had probably been settling in Lincolnshire for far longer. The five boroughs that comprised the Danelaw south of the Humber were Stamford, Lincoln, Leicester, Nottingham and Derby.

The B1191 which connects the two villages was once an important Drove Road. It connected the wool trading centre at Kirkstead Abbey directly to Welbourn on the Lincoln Cliff, traversing the isolated heath and linking its Templar Granges with medieval Boston. Boston was a thriving Hanseatic port, second only to London.

Follow the pavement which takes you back into and through the village of Kirkby Green. At the far end, the pavement ends so you will need to take extra care of traffic for this final short stretch. Using the right-hand grass verge, follow the road around the left-hand bend. Beyond the bend, swap back over to the left-hand verge with care and you will reach the parking lay-by on your left where the walk began.

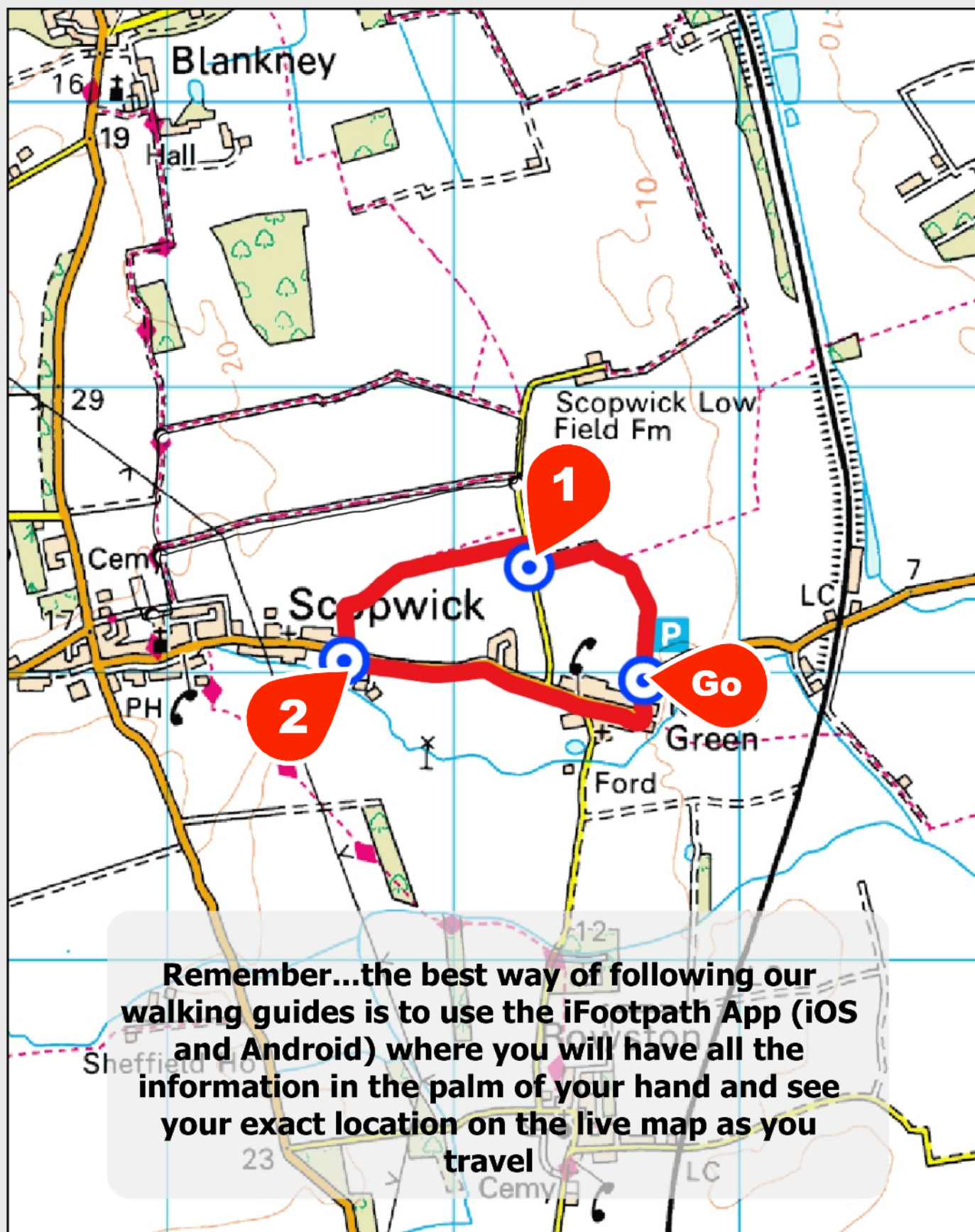
### Disclaimer

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 an Ordnance Survey 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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