

WALK 2

DURATION : ABOUT 1 HOUR

What will I see ? *Stunning views of Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire, as well as Derbyshire*

What should I sing ? *"On a Clear Day"*

Will I make it ? *There's only one fairly steep climb, but it'll do you good !*

Leave the Pub by the front door (the most difficult decision!) Cross the road and head up the road by the Church. Fork right at The Black Swan. Look for a kissing gate on your left just after the pub. The path climbs steadily up the field and then leads under a 19th Century road bridge. (The toffs didn't want to see common folk along a well-defined path and under another "tunnel").

After the second tunnel, some steps lead immediately onto a lane. Turn left, and then after a few paces right by a gate. The path leads steadily up the fields. Keep looking at the view – it's the best way to catch your breath! After you have climbed some ancient steps you have reached the top. If you turn right here you will see Fabrick Rock (Ashover Rock). It is worth the detour as there is a pointer map which identifies the names of places on the horizon. (It's not quite accurate – had the workmen been in The Poets' before they set the metal in the concrete ??)

You can now retrace your path to the top of the steps and then follow the path along the ridge. When the path meets the road turn left and then keep to the ridge by going straight ahead at the crossroads (Hilltop Road). There are great views down to the village all along this road, and you can choose any path or road that goes to your left to get back to the village.

The shortest but nicest way is to follow Hilltop Road until you get to Appletree Knoll Farm – what a place to live – and then look for the post on your left at the corner.

Go through the slit stile and follow the path through the gorse and down the slope to another stile. The path then leads to the right of the wood you can see, and then swings downhill round its side to a gate. From there, look diagonally down the field and the last gate is opposite the road that you can see going down the hill, (the part of the village called The Rattle).

Once you've gone through the stile from the field, turn left and follow the road down to the middle of the village where you will see the Post Office in front of you. Turn left and then look for the entrance to the Churchyard on your right. Follow though the Churchyard and you should then be ready for a drink !!