



WALKERS ARE WELCOME

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Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk

Medium Walk: Wortley Circular from Cote Green

- Length - 5.8 or 6.2 miles
- Grade - Country lanes and fields with mostly well marked paths. However, some parts may be overgrown and/or muddy/wet. Gentle climbs.
- Start – Finkle Street Lane, opposite Plank Gate, near Wortley
- Grid Reference SK 299 994
- Maps – OL1 Dark Peak, OS Explorer 278
- Parking – Cote Green, Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) car park
- Refreshments – [Countess Tea Rooms](#), [Wortley Arms](#), [Wortley Club](#), [Wortley Hall](#) (all in Wortley). The Club was CAMRA National 'Club of the Year' in 2015
- Public Toilets – none on this route
- Public Transport – numbers 23 and 29 bus routes pass through Wortley. You could join this route at (3)



Description

Starting close to the former railway station, our route climbs up to Wortley village. From the village, we pass through farm land and woods. The route then swings round and drops to the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) which links to the start point.



View from Wortley towards the car park at Cote Green (3)

Route Instructions

1. Return in the direction of the road, Finkle Street Lane. About 20 m before the road, on your left, a stone stile leads to a footpath which heads off, to the left, across the fields towards Wortley at the top of the hill (1). The first part of the path is paved.



2. Follow the path all the way up to Wortley village (2)
3. When you reach the main road, Halifax Road, the A629, cross the road, turn right and take the left turn down Park Avenue, passing '[Wortley Village Stores](#)' on your right

The origins of [St. Leonards Church](#) go back to the mid-13th century. Since 1318, the church has held the patronage of the Wharnccliffe family. Between 1592 and 1746 the church was a "Chapel of Ease" whose curates were appointed by the Rector of Tankersley. The last major changes were made in 1753 and 1811 when the present roof was erected and the porch and entry door were added.

4. Take the right fork down The Flats (4). The left fork leads to Wortley Hall

You may wish to divert into the grounds of [Wortley Hall](#). This was the ancestral home of the Earls of Wharnccliffe, the Lords of the Manor of Wortley. The Hall fell into decay until the mid-18th.century when Edward Wortley commissioned rebuilding of the hall. Further repairs and extensions to the Hall were made mainly during the Victorian period. During the 1939-45 war, parts of the Hall were occupied by the Army. After 1945, the Hall once again began to fall into a state of disrepair until it was acquired in 1950 by the Labour and Co-operative movement who transformed it into a training college. It is now a hotel and conference centre.

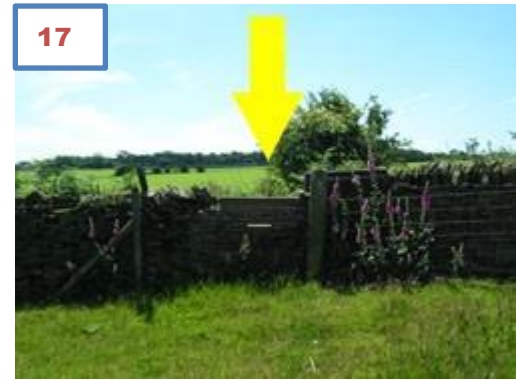
5. Follow The Flats. You will pass through an ornate wrought iron gate (5) as you progress into the Wharnccliffe Estate and open country.
6. Continue along the bridleway, passing through a metal gate. You will reach a second gateway by trees. There are footpath signs. Go through the gate, turn left (6) and follow the edge of the field.
7. When you reach the next field boundary, go to the stone stile (with waymarker) in the left corner of the field (7a). Cross the stile. The footpath cuts across this field (7b). This field may be ploughed making the path difficult, so keep to the left edge of the field until you reach a gateway in the wall on your left, adjacent to a signpost (sign missing) and a stone stile. Cross the stile.



8. The path leads down the lane through the woods to a bridge over a small stream. As soon as you have crossed the bridge go straight on crossing the track (DO NOT turn right). Go up the path about 100 m to the telegraph pole. Go to the right of the pole. There is a mesh enclosure on your right. About 15 m beyond the pole, a path to the right can be found to the left of the clearing on the same heading as the path up to the pole (NW) (8). This narrow path drops down to a wooden stile (about 100 m from the telegraph pole).
9. Cross the stile and continue. The path opens out onto the lower edge of a series of fields. Go ahead, following the line of trees on your left (9).
10. You will reach a rudimentary stile (which incorporates two pallets) that crosses the corner into the next field up and to the left (10). Cross this stile, or use the gateway slightly further up the field.
11. Keep the field boundary on your right as you climb towards Hermit Hill Farm (barn and silo). Cross the stile onto Hermit Hill and turn left.
12. After about 100 m there is a marked bridleway to the right, up the bank. Take the path through the gate, follow the path to the left, through a metal gate and into the field.
13. Cross the field heading for Cliffe Farm in the distance, keep the hedge to your right until you reach the ridge that runs across the field (13).
14. From the ridge you will see a substantial stile ahead of you (14). Cross the stile and take the steps down.
15. At the bottom of the steps, bear diagonally left, SW, across the field, passing to the left of the large solitary tree (15). There is no path.
16. You arrive at a gap in the tree line with access to the next field over the stream via a metal gate. Ignore this and go over the waymarked wooden stile on the left. Go through trees over the stream bed and up the other side to a second wooden stile. Cross into the field and take a straight line forward towards a tree near a stone wall (16).



17. Follow the wall and you will find a stone stile in the corner (17).



18. Cross the stile and bearing right, continue in the same direction up the hill along the remnants of a field boundary. There is no clear path at this point. Keep going (18) in this direction (SW). When you reach a wall, keep the wall on your left until you reach Cliffe Common Lane.



19. At Cliffe Common Lane, pass through the gate or climb the stile and turn right. After about 100 m take the marked path to the left, down steps to a wooden bridge over a stream.

20. Cross the stile and take the left hand track uphill and continue along the right hand field margin. The path drops down through the trees to re-cross the stream.

21. Keep left onto a narrow path through undergrowth to a wooden stile (21)



22. Continue across the next field towards a telegraph pole and trees at the right-hand edge (22). Immediately before the telegraph pole, the path goes through a gap into a large field. Keep to the right-hand hedge as the path continues round the field in a NW direction. Then exit the field on a narrow path into a sloping field looking towards Ayton Wood.

23. Turn sharp left and continue along the left hand margin then straight across the open field before crossing the field boundary below Crane Greave Farm.

24. Follow the grassy path between temporary fencing as it turns uphill with Crane Greave Farm buildings on the left. Cross the farm track and continue up the field boundary on your right hand side.



25. Continue up the hill (25). The path is clear and continues, in an approximate straight line, through a series of fields. Catch your breath at the top of the hill and admire the views. Bearing left, there is a lane that leads down from the field to Halifax Road, the A629.

Alternative route:

- ***in late Spring/early Summer the final field may be a big field of rape ... this is not a good space to negotiate as it may be over your head!!***

25b. Instead of continuing through the fields: when you reach the stile at the start of the penultimate field (25b), turn right.

25c. Follow the path, over a second stile, passing Clappers Farm on your right. You will reach Crane Moor Road (25c). Turn left.

25d. Take the unmarked path, into the woods on your immediate left (25d). Follow the path through the woods, keeping the road on your right. The path curves to the left, keeping the A629 on your right. You will pick up the lane which leads down to the A629. Walk past the first possible exit to the main road.

This is a busy road with a 60 mph limit – take care.

26. Cross the road and turn left. The path you need is after about 50 m, opposite a lay-by.

27. Cross the stile and take the path down into the field. There is no clear path across this field. Walk diagonally down to the right following the periodic marker posts (27). Aim slightly to the right of Thurgoland, the village across the valley.

28. When you reach the far corner of the field there is a small wooden stile (28) at the base of the railway embankment. Cross the stile and follow the path to the right. Take a left under the bridge then go round to the right and up the steps onto the TPT.

The [Trans Pennine Trail \(TPT\)](#), is a route for walkers, cyclists and horse riders linking the North and Irish seas, which passes through the Pennines, alongside rivers and canals and through historic towns and cities in the North of England.

29. Turn right and follow the trail back to the car park. This is off to your left, at the Cote Green Finkle Street sign (29), just before the old station buildings.





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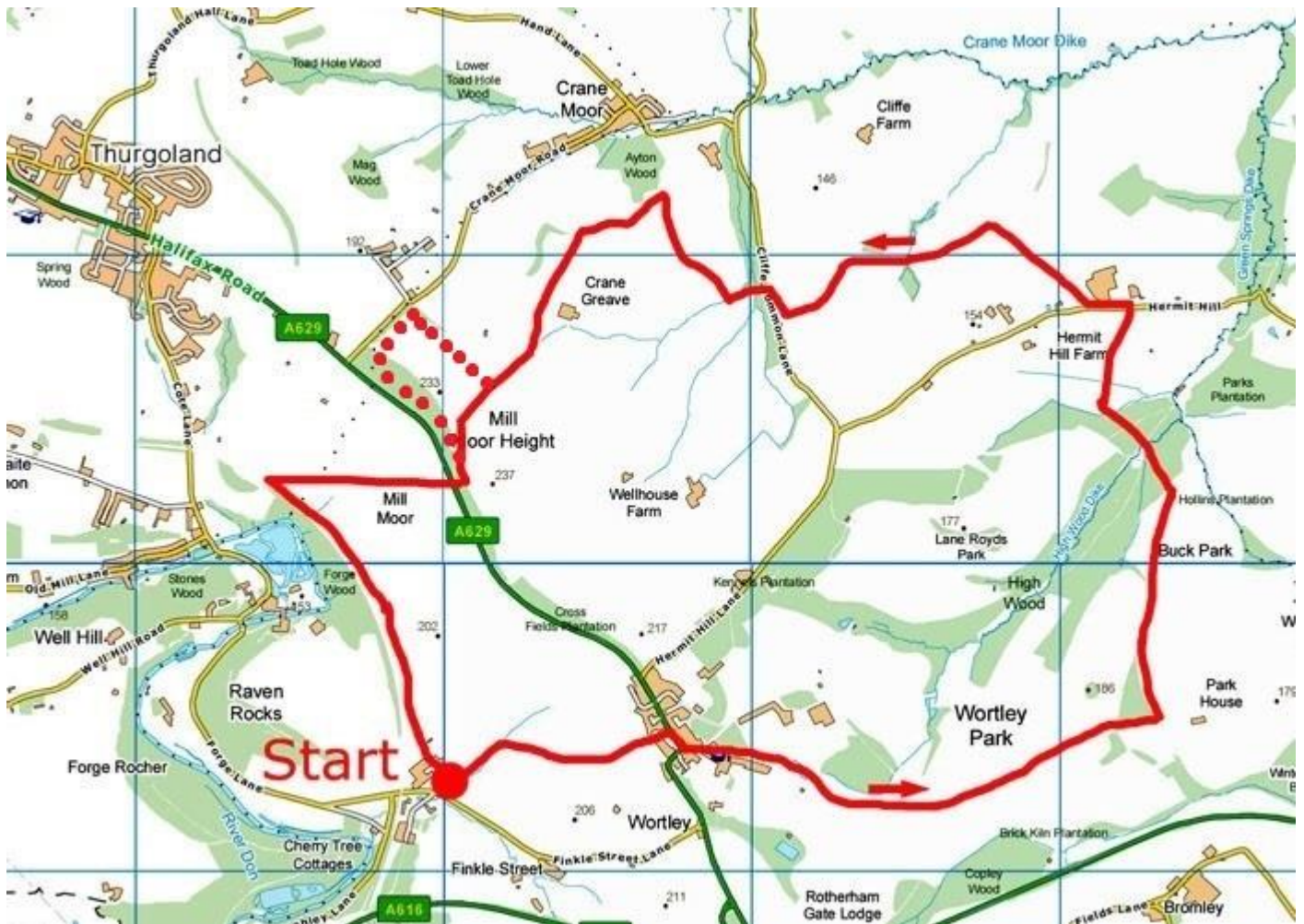
The station buildings include the insignia of the long-defunct, 'Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway' (M, S & L). This was formed, by amalgamation, in 1847. It changed its name to the Grand Central Railway and later became part of the London, Midland and Scottosh Railway.

Apparently shareholders referred to the M, S & L as 'money sunk and lost,' while passengers preferred 'mucky, slow and late.'

Just before the station buildings is one of 1000 mileposts which commemorate the creation of the [National Cycle Network](#).

This walk is sponsored by the Friendship Hotel, Stocksbridge





www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk



Historical information on the area is available from Stocksbridge and District History Society: <http://www.stocksbridgehs.co.uk/>

Please utilise the 'contact' link on our website if you wish to suggest any amendments to these instructions

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