

## The Long Ticknall Walk

Come into Ticknall passing under the archway, from the Derby direction. Just after, on your left, is a stile and a path sign. If you are not going to explore Ticknall Church further into Ticknall, turn here over the stile. If you are visiting the Church you can take another path which is further round the corner on the B5006 road and joins the other path in a little under half a mile. Those not going to the Church, having turned left over the stile, keep to the field edge on your left to the next stile.

For the next half a mile, keep the field edge on your right as you pass a small pond on your left. Ahead quarter of a mile, there is a stile on your left and a path across the field. This is where Church visitors regain the main route.

The pathway now leaves the field edge and crosses diagonally to the right to a stile, well to the right of Middle Lodge. The path is defined as you keep close to the woodland on your left, with Calke Park on the other side. You pass through four stiles/gates and through woodland to reach the last field. Up to now, the field boundary has been on your immediate left.

You now cross the field to a small gate and reach the Minor road near Standley's Barn. Turn left along the road for a quarter of a mile to its sharp right hand bend. Follow the footpath and leave the road keeping the field edge on your left as you cross four fields, all stiled and a footbridge before the last stile. Upon gaining the Minor road, turn left and you will soon pass the former Saracens Head Pub, and just after the entrance to Staunton Harold Hall and Church.

Turn right and walk along the close to the Church. Afterwards, continue on the road pass the lake on your right and ascend to Melbourne Lodge and the B587 road. There is a right of way opposite to Scotland farm, but it is extremely difficult to follow. Therefore, it is better to turn left and walk along the road for half a mile to Springwood Farm. Here, turn right and pass Scotland Farm on your right and half a mile later, just after a house on your left, there is a stile and footpath sign (a shoe shape). Turn left and follow the defined path down to a stile and more stiles at the bottom. Here, bear right keeping to the bottom of the dale, first with the field boundary on your immediate left. Just after passing a three-way path sign, the field boundary is on your right and the path is well defined as you approach Melbourne and the Pool. Keep ahead and walk round the right hand side of it to pass the Hall and the Church.

Walk along Penn Lane for about quarter of a mile. Opposite Melbourne Clinic, turn left following the sign posted footpath to the Wood houses. After a short distance, bear right to the path and ascend gently through the stiles to the B587 road. Turn left passing the Melbourne Arms Pub on your right. Just after, turn right and after a quarter mile opposite Shaun House, turn left up the signed grass track. This soon brings you near to the Old Windmill with Staunton Harold Reservoir car park on the other side of the fence. Continue along the defined path to a stile and keep to the field boundary on your immediate right for almost half a mile, passing several stiles to reach a minor road via a stile and path sign.

Cross the road to the metal gate and path sign. This path is not defined but you descend the field to your right to a footbridge over the stream. The path could be defined as you ascend the field to a stone wall. Turn right and keep the wall nearby on your left to the end of the field. Here you keep the Lodge on your right as you descend slightly to a wood and track. Follow the track to your left around the wood and keep on it through woodland to reach Ticknall after a quarter mile.

Continue through Ticknall village passing a Pub and the village Shop. Turn left into the A514 and visit the Staff Of Life. Sample the best food and drinks in the area.....

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*By kind permission from The Ticknall Preservation and Historical Society.*

**Don't forget to visit Ticknall's Country Inn, The Staff Of Life, genuine homemade food, real ales and ETB 4 Diamond Bed and Breakfast Accommodation - all at competitive prices.**

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