

The Coffin Walk

Street (visit town centre for refreshment stop) and continue to footpath sign. Turn right at the sign and right to proceed through the housing estate taking the second turning on the left just as the Queen's Court sign comes into view. Follow road round to right and take left into Lime Grove. Walk on past open space to jitty on bend. Follow jitty to stile and continue straight on to cross the field and follow path through woodland.



Cross stream over bridge with Bankfield Farm on right and bear to right of clump of willows to a stile. Cross over and continue straight on over three fields to Nooning Lane keeping fence and hedge on left. At lane turn right to main road. Turn left for about 10 metres and cross the road at the bollards. Turn right and then take path off on left which is a multi user trail. This path runs along the line of former Derby Canal towards Fields Farm.

The Derby Canal was 14½ miles long and opening in 1795. Built by Benjamin Outram the canal carried coal, corn and stone as well as rails which, ironically, were eventually to contribute to its decline in the 1950s. Abandoned in 1964, much of the canal has been filled in. However due to the work of local enthusiasts in recent years much work has been carried out along the canal, the aim being to restore the whole canal for all to enjoy.

6 On reaching Hopwell Road (**Beware of Traffic**), cross over to continue on wide multi-user trail proceeding straight ahead alongside tree plantations. After approximately one mile turn right onto a path 10 metres after crossing Cottage Farm access track. Where this joins the access track turn left and at the road turn left again to reach a triangle of roads (church spire is ahead). Cross road opposite footpath and follow the path to walk through the park back to start.



WALK TYPE:
Undulating countryside with gentle climbs and several stiles.

DISTANCE:
5 miles

TIME:
Allow 2½-3 hours

BUSES:
Traveline 0870 608 2 608

RECOMMENDED OS MAP:
Explorer 260 Nottingham (1:25 000)

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE



- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people



Country Walks In and around Erewash

For further information and comments please contact

Groundwork Derby & Derbyshire
(01773) 535232
www.gdd.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 701484

Erewash Borough Council
(0845) 907 2244
www.erewash.gov.uk



Start: The centre of Breaston (The Green), where the shops are.

Note public car park is only 2 hours duration. There is limited private car parking available at the Bull's Head Public House, but please ensure you contact the landlord directly on 01332 872 118 to ensure you have permission to park to avoid parking tickets. There is a regular bus service to Breaston.

- 1 From The Green, with shops (opposite church), cross Main Street via pedestrian crossing and turn right.

St Michael's Church dates from the early 13th century. Originally, only mass was said in the church and all weddings, baptisms and funerals had to take place at St Chad's, Wilne to the south. Coffins were taken across the fields to Wilne and the route became known as the "Coffin Walk".

- 2 Then turn left to walk down Church View to stile. Cross over stile and turn right. Keeping fence on right follow direction of signpost. Cross a double stile then continue to a second stile with fence on right. Cross next field in diagonal direction to stile. Follow garden hedge round to right and continue straight on to follow bridleyway (used by horseriders and cyclists) over the brook and cross railway line (**Beware of Trains!**)

Over to the right is a splendid example of the medieval ridge and furrow open field system. To the left of the path are the Coffin Stones used to rest the coffins on the walk to Wilne Church

- 3 Follow bridleyway to Wilne Cross on Sawley Road. (**Beware of Traffic**) Cross over to bridleyway ahead (Orchid Wood is on the left)



and continue for about 450 metres to reach stile on right. (There is an option here of visiting Church Wilne and St Chad's Water a little further to the south then rejoining the walk – see map).

Climb stile and follow path along top of floodbank, and proceed along floodbank to road.

The Draycott skyline to the north is dominated by the Victoria Mills factory with its green capped ornamental clock tower. Built over the period 1888 to 1907 as a four storey tenement lace factory it was later used by J H Parry (electrical component manufacturers) but is now more than 100 apartment dwellings.

- 4 Cross road and turn right to follow the path on top of the flood bank which passes to the left of the painted cottages.

Derbyshire owes much of its beauty to the River Derwent. Rising on Ronksley Moor in the Bleaklow Ridge it wends its way for 60 miles through grit and limestone to join the Trent between Wilne and Sawley.

- 5 Turn right behind the cottages and down between tall hedges into Draycott. Turn left into Derwent