

Grendon Village Walks

Walks in and Around Grendon

A Circular Walk - White Mills - Great Doddington - Wollaston - 10½ Miles

Introduction

All walks start from the Information Panel near the entrance to the school in Main Road.

The route for the walk is described from point to point on the attached map. It is also recommended that a more detailed map (OS Explorer 225) is used to follow the route.

There are 10 stiles and 7 ploughed fields on this walk.

Refreshments available at the Boathouse - White Mills Marina and Aubrey's Tea Room at Wollaston.

MAIN ROUTE— 10½ Miles

1) Facing away from the information panel turn LEFT towards the church. At the church turn LEFT into **Church Way** walk past the church on the right and take the next RIGHT turn following the church perimeter wall on the right. At the end of the wall go up the steps into the church yard - At the gap between two houses turn LEFT into the new churchyard - At the bottom left hand corner of the churchyard proceed down some steps and continue downhill to a fence on the left hand side - Continue downhill to the right hand corner of the paddock into a field - Walk

through the field keeping close to the hedge on the right past Grendon Hall on the right to a bridge over Grendon Brook at point 2.

2) Proceed over the bridge and across the next field keeping to the left of the pylon to a track - Turn LEFT and walk on the track past a footpath on the right on to a bridge Over Grendon Brook to a track - Cross over the track bearing slightly left to a gate in a high fence - Walk between two lakes to another gate - Continue in the same direction to a bridge over a ditch into a field - Head across the field go under the pylon to a bridge over a large ditch and a metal gate on the right. **(If you wish to walk around pastures farm SSI follow the route outlined below)** - Continue on the path which follows the edge of the field with the reed beds of Pastures Farm SSI on the RIGHT - Walk into the next field and on to a raised entrance to the SSI on the RIGHT.

3) Ignore the entrance to the SSI and continue along the edge of the field to a fence - Turn LEFT at the fence and then RIGHT through a kiss gate to a quarry track - Cross the track and go on through another Kiss Gate to a metal bridge over a conveyer belt - Follow the path to **Station Road** - Turn RIGHT and walk past the entrance to the quarry on the right - Walk with care to a left hand bend in the road - Continue SLIGHTLY LEFT into a car parking area and walk to the end of the car park at point 4.

4) Walk through the car park to the **River Nene** - Turn right walk through a gap onto a track - Take the track with the river on your left and the quarry on your right - On through a kiss gate to

Earls Barton Lock - Continue on the riverside path for 1 mile with the river on your left to **Hardwater Mill** and a road. (3½ Miles)

5) Turn left and cross the bridge - Take a waymarked footpath on the right which joins an access road on the left soon after walking through a gap branch off left from the access road and follow the path to a kiss gate - Go through the gate and walk up the hill into **Great Doddington** - Turn right into **Lower Street** - After a few metres turn left past the village shop - Cross the road and take a path opposite to the church - Turn right on to a footpath past the church to walk to a road - Turn right then almost immediately left onto another path - Go past the school and through the playing field on to a road - Turn right and go past **The Stag** pub - Go round a right hand bend to a footpath on the left. Take the path between some houses and on through a small field and then two larger ones- Drop down into the valley and make your way to **Wollaston Mill**. (5 Miles)

6) Turn right across the river and the mill race - Walk for 100 metres and cross another branch of the river - Turn left on to a footpath which goes between the river and a small lake - At the end of the lake turn right and head for a kiss gate keeping the end of the lake on your right - Go through the gate and across the old railway track to a grass path opposite - Follow the footpath around the lake until you reach a junction in the paths - Bear left and follow the path to a gap in the hedge in front of you - With follow the path between two lakes into an arable field - Keep to the left hand edge of the field - At the corner of the field go through a gap on the left into

another field - Keep to the left hand edge of the field until you reach a road - Turn left then right and walk on the road for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to a waymarked footpath on the left - Walk with a hedge on your left to a bridge over a ditch - Cross over the next field to the **A509** road - Cross the road into another field and continue to a road - Turn right and walk into **Wollaston**. ($7\frac{1}{4}$ Miles)

7) Walk on the road into Wollaston ignore **Rotton Row** on the left and continue on **London Road** to a waymarked footpath on the right - The path goes between some houses and through a small holding - Continue through a kiss gate and on between two fields to another kiss gate - Go down the hill in front of you to a bridge over a brook into **Wollaston Playing Field** - Turn right and walk to the **A509** road - Cross the road and drop down to a stile - Over into an arable field - Head half left across the field to kiss gate - Head across the next field in the same direction to another kiss gate - Drop down across a farm track and go diagonally across the field passing a small pond on the right - The path climbs to a track - Turn right and walk to where the track bears right. ($8\frac{3}{4}$ Miles)

8) Turn left and with a hedge on your left walk to a gap slightly to the right into the next field head slightly right across the arable field to a stile and a track (**Blackmile Lane**) - Turn right and walk to where the track turns into a road - Continue on the road to a waymarked path on the left - Cross the paddock to the far left hand corner - Cross a stile and turn right go through a kiss gate into an arable field - Go straight over the field to a bridge over **Grendon Brook** - Go over the bridge and head for a gate and a stile at

1 o'clock. Go over the stile across the field to another stile. Proceed straight ahead to another stile and into a fenced off path between a cottage and a converted garage to Chequers Lane at - Turn **RIGHT** into Chequers Lane and walk up the hill. At the T junction turn **LEFT** back to the start.

Additional route to visit Pastures Farm SSI

Go through a gap in the fence on the **RIGHT** (just past the gate) into Pastures Farm SSI - Walk on the grass track past some seats on the left and go on to a hard track - Turn **LEFT** and with a lake on your left follow the track around the lake - The track bends to the **LEFT** then reaches another metal gate - On the **LEFT** is a kiss gate - Go through and up on to a raised path - Follow the path to where it starts to drop down - Keep to the **LEFT** and walk to a wooden walkway over the marsh land - The walkway bends **RIGHT** then **LEFT** to emerge from the SSI into a field at point 3.

SAFE WALKING

Be prepared—always wear suitable clothing and sturdy footwear-Take care when crossing or walking on roads (walk facing the oncoming traffic) Follow the Country Code - Keep to the line of the paths - Leave gates as you find them - Respect the countryside —Leave wildlife, livestock , crops and machinery alone - Keep dogs under control - Take your litter home.

Trevor Higgs - Jan 2021

Recommended Map - Ordnance Survey Explorer 224

[Click Here to download the GPX file for the Main Route](#)

[Click Here to download the GPX file for the longer Alternative](#)

Trevor Higgs Jan 2021

