

## About the route

A figure-of-eight walk with a watery theme taking in three different waterways: the controlled River Idle, the revitalised Chesterfield Canal and the mighty River Trent. The walk can be conveniently split into two shorter walks of 2.5 miles each. Easy walking on field paths and paths on floodbanks and a canal towpath.

### Walk Checklist:

#### Start point/parking

Roadside, junction Station Road and Soss Lane.

#### Distance

Main route approximately 5 miles (8 kms).  
Alternative route approximately 2.5 miles (4 kms).

#### Duration

2.5 - 3 hours + stops.

#### Stiles and gates

Stiles.

#### Refreshments

Public Houses in West Stockwith and Misterton.

#### Public Transport

By bus: Stagecoach No 97 Retford-Misterton-Gainsborough; NottsBus No 83/84 Worksop-Misterton-Gainsborough.

#### OS Grid Reference

Walk starts at **SK775947** – Map OS Explorer 280 and OS Landranger 112.



The dots show the start points of all our 20 walk routes. Visit our website for more info.



Trent Vale



Trent Vale

Walk Route

# Misterton and West Stockwith Circular



West Stockwith Canal Basin.

**Start Point:** Roadside, junction Station Road and Soss Lane

**Main Route Length:** Approximately 5 miles (8 kms)

**Alternative Route Length:** Approximately 2.5 miles (4 kms)

**Main Route Duration:** 2.5 - 3 hours + stops

**Route Type:** Easy walking on field paths floodbanks and a canal towpath



Trent Vale



LOTTERY FUNDED



For more information, visit:

[www.trentvale.co.uk](http://www.trentvale.co.uk)

# Misterton and West Stockwith Circular

**1 Start.** From the parking area take Soss Lane out of Misterton passing the former pumping stations (now private residences) on the right at Misterton Soss – soss being the Dutch for sluice. Soon after, turn left at a path junction for 70m, then right and over a bridge crossing the River Idle. The tall chimneys of the pumping stations look impressive from here.



The Old Pump House is a Grade II listed building. Originally built in 1828, there are two buildings built mainly of brick with stone lintel and sills for the windows. The two chimneys are 80ft high. There are two 12ft high flood gates with hand-operated winding gear to raise and lower them. All other machinery has been removed. There are pits and sockets which show that there would have been 2 large water wheels. The access bridge over the River Idle near the Old Pump House is itself a Grade II listed building.

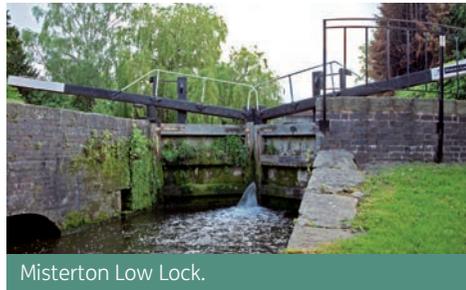
**2** Now turn right along the floodbank beside the river and follow it for 1.3 kms to West Stockwith. As you near the end go around the new pumping station; regain the floodbank followed by a fenced path passing close by and under the archway of a house leading onto Main Street.



West Stockwith is not in the Domesday Book and could be a slightly later settlement, although it does appear as Wessockiv in 1139. The name ‘Stockwith’ is derived from the Old English word ‘stoc’ meaning a village/ farmstead and the Old Norse ‘wath’ meaning a ford/river crossing. The Idle Bridge in West Stockwith is a single span metal bridge with stone supports, dating from the Victorian era.

**3** Turn right along Stockwith Road and over the Idle Bridge to gain the floodbank by the River Trent on the left. Continue on passing Stockwith Basin via a narrow bridge over the lock. Keep ahead on a bridleway to meet the Stockwith Road. Turn right along this crossing Basin Bridge then immediately left after the inn onto the towpath of the Chesterfield Canal – opened in 1777 and here jointly used as the Cuckoo Way and Trent Valley Way.

**4** Follow the canal passing under a railway bridge and on to Misterton Low Lock.

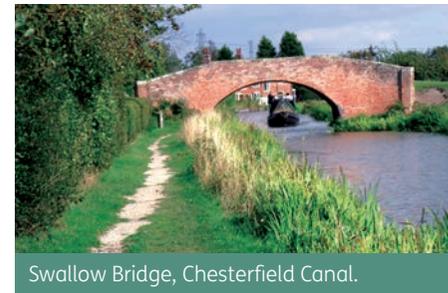


Misterton Low Lock.

**For the shorter walks:** Join or leave the canal at this point from or returning to the starting point.

**For the longer walk:** Continue on passing Misterton Top Lock, Swallow Bridge (82) and Wharf Bridge (81) then curving around the southern edge of Misterton to reach Cooper’s Bridge.

O.S. 1:50 000 Sheet 121 © Crown copyright and database rights, 2012, Ordnance Survey 100019843, Landmark 100022432. © Next Perspectives, 2012



Swallow Bridge, Chesterfield Canal.



The town of Misterton is mentioned several times in the Domesday Book of 1086 and has a church, meadow and woodland pasture. This implies it was already well established by this time. The name ‘Misterton’ means a farmstead or estate with a church. The current town church (All Saints) is a 13th century Grade I listed building although it has been subject to modification and rebuilding in subsequent centuries.

**5** At the bridge, go up the bank and onto the B1403 and turn right along this road into Misterton. Keep right at T-junction then right into Church Lane followed by a footpath into All Saints Churchyard.

Leave the churchyard and turn left along A161 Haxey Road for 100m and take the signposted path on right through gate to stile ahead. Turn left in field to stile in corner then immediately over 2nd stile and turn right. Keep to the hedgerow on right in this large field to a stile in far corner. Cross next field to a footbridge over a dyke then right and left in quick succession into another large field.

Here turn right onto a bridleway with the hedge on your left and go south past some commercial buildings to reach Station Street. Turn left along this then left into Station Road and back to the start point.

Thanks to Alex Staniforth for devising this walk.