

About the route

An easy walk connects two villages in a deeply agricultural part of the Trent Vale. Encountered on the way one finds a medieval track, a unique grassland meadow – and, strangely, ‘nodding donkeys.’ Relatively easy, mostly level walking using tracks, pavements and field paths; can be muddy in parts.

Walk Checklist:

Start point/parking

Village Hall in Main Street, South Leverton.

Distance

Approximately 4 miles (6 kms).

Duration

2 - 2.5 hours + stops.

Stiles and gates

1 gate at churchyard only.

Refreshments

Public House, South Leverton.

Public Transport

By bus: Services 91, 92 & 93.

OS Grid Reference

Walk starts at **SK784810** – Map OS Explorer 271 and OS Landranger 121.



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



Trent Vale



Trent Vale

Walk Route

South Leverton and Treswell Circular



St Matthew's Norman Church, South Leverton.

Start Point: Village Hall in Main Street, South Leverton

Route Length: Approximately 4 miles (6 kms)

Route Duration: 2 - 2.5 hours + stops

Route Type: Mostly level walking using tracks, pavements and field paths



Trent Vale



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For more information, visit:
www.trentvale.co.uk

South Leverton and Treswell Circular

1 Start. From the village hall take the lane by the side of the pub and follow it into the back of the churchyard. Leave the churchyard and go into Church Street.

Detour: About 300 metres to the left from here is the old school which was built over 300 years ago by a local benefactor. Return passing St Matthew's Church on your right and continue to the junction with Retford Road.

Detour: A little further along on the right is a sculpture created in the shape of a plough. It is made from local objects: a beam and bricks from an old farm and if you look closely you can see tiles inset; these were designed and made from local clay by all the villagers to celebrate the millennium.



Community Sculpture, South Leverton.

Retrace your steps to the junction and cross over the road.

South Leverton lies north of the county where the escarpment gives way to the River Trent. The village of South Leverton, mentioned in the Domesday book, has a grand Norman church – St Matthew's and many traditional Nottinghamshire buildings. Most of the church is of Norman construction. However two fragments of carved stone, reused in later fabric of the church, have recently been studied and identified as possibly being from as early as the 8th century. These may be fragments of a pre-Norman cross meant to mark a religious site.



Saxon carved stone fragment, St Matthew's Church.

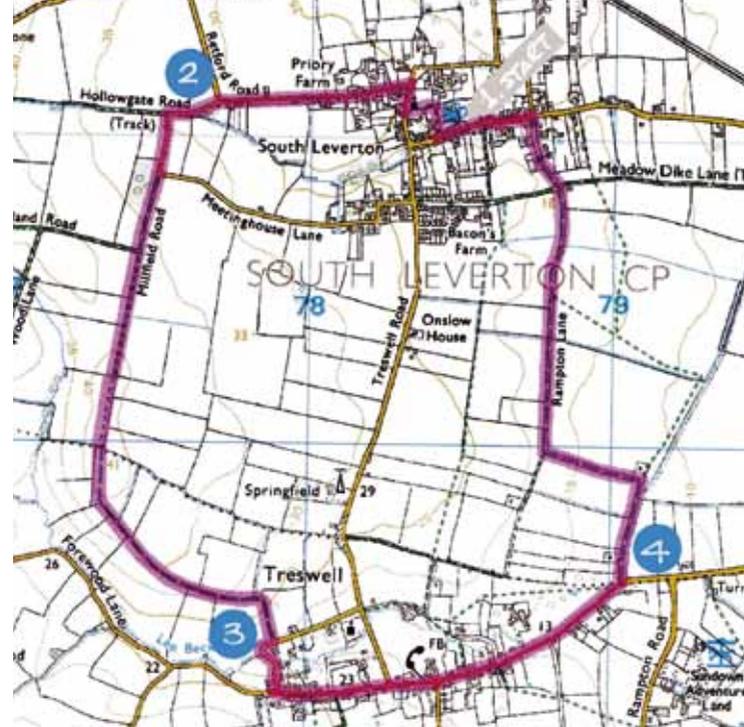


North Leverton Windmill.

2 Walk along Retford Road for approx 600 metres – on the right you get a distant view of the windmill at North Leverton – passing the Old Police House on the right (which looks new) as far as the sharp right bend in the road. Here cross the road to a lane on the left, Meeting House Lane. Follow the lane as far as the second left-hand bend. Now go south on a track (Millfield Lane), first enclosed by hedges, then across two fields before turning left into Northfield Lane – a track – which descends into the village of Treswell.

NWT Treswell Wood is one of the best examples of an ash/oak/maple wood in Nottinghamshire, and stands on poorly drained soils, derived from Mercia Mudstones (formerly Keupar Marl).

3 At a T-junction turn right into a tarmacked lane, Rectory Road. Continue down this followed by a short ascent to a T-junction with the main road, Town Street. Turn left and continue through the village for approx. 1.2 kms (0.75 mile) passing the Methodist Chapel on the right and Townside Lane on the left. On the outskirts of the village – now Cottam Lane – just before a new bridge where the road veers right, turn left along a wide hardcore track (Rampton Lane) with a line of trees on the right.



4 This was a medieval track, now a byway – a 'nodding donkey' oil pump may be seen behind some railings to the left.



'Nodding donkey' oil pump.

After 200m the track turns sharp left, and then 200m on it then turns right. On the left is Ashton's Meadow, a NWT Nature Reserve. Follow the track northwards for approx. 1.2 kms ignoring tracks both to the left and right near its end to reach Town Street in South Leverton. Now turn left to return to the Village Hall and the public house.



There is an oilfield below South Leverton, which was discovered in the 1950s or 1960s, and produces high grade crude oil. Ashton's Meadow is grassland surrounded by species rich hedgerows. It has been designated as an SSSI due to its grassland type, and a wide range of wild flowers. The meadow was purchased by the NWT in 1985, and has been described as 'the best example of a species rich neutral grassland in Nottinghamshire.'



Ashton's Meadow NWT Reserve.