

## About the route

Easy level walking using field paths, lanes and the river flood bank. It can get muddy and wet in places.

### Walk Checklist

#### Start point/parking

St Giles Church, Cromwell. There is normally space on Main Street next to the church. Please park responsibly in the village.

#### Distance

Approximately 5 miles (8 kms).

#### Duration

1.5 - 2 hours + stops.

#### Refreshments

The public house, Carlton on Trent.

#### Public Transport

Bus services run through Cromwell, for details, visit: [www.stapleford-notts.co.uk/bus\\_timetables\\_newark\\_collingham.htm](http://www.stapleford-notts.co.uk/bus_timetables_newark_collingham.htm)

#### OS Grid Reference

Walk starts at **SK799615**.



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



Trent Vale



Trent Vale

Walk Route

## Cromwell Circular



St Giles Church, Cromwell.

**Start Point:** St Giles Church, Cromwell

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

**Route Duration:** 1.5 - 2 hours + stops

**Route Type:** A walk along the River Trent visiting a picturesque lock



Trent Vale



For more information, visit:  
[www.trentvale.co.uk](http://www.trentvale.co.uk)



LOTTERY FUNDED



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# Cromwell Circular

**1 Start:** Parking is possible, with consideration, along Main Street. From the church, walk southwards along Main Street, passing the Doll Museum. Turn left opposite the telephone box and walk through a farmyard. Turn left, and then right to go over a bridge crossing the A1. Turn right, and then left to walk towards the River Trent. The 'Private Road' notice refers only to the use of cars along this lane.

 The Vina Cooke Museum of Dolls and Bygone Childhood; a wonderful collection of dolls from the 18th Century to present, including Vina's own handmade dolls - everything from The Beatles, Cliff Richard, Tudor and Stuart kings and queens, to characters from Alice in Wonderland and the Wizard of Oz. Please phone **01636 821364** to check opening times and admission charges.

**2** Follow the lane through fields to reach the river (though the river is out of sight behind a large earth bank). At a sharp bend, follow the lane to the right and walk to the picturesque Cromwell Lock. Return along the track to the sharp bend then step through the hedge straight ahead and now head northwards along the riverbank of the Trent, walking along the top of the grassy embankment. Keep to the raised embankment as the river meanders its way through fertile farmland. Sand and gravel pits can be seen on both sides of the river: these provide a fine habitat for waterfowl. You will also see a variety of boats on the river, while anglers enjoy fishing from the banks.



**Cromwell Lock** - The first of the big locks on the Trent to be built in 1910 - and designed to accommodate four 'Trent Size' barges (25m x 4.4m).



Spigot Mortar Mount

**World War II Gun Point** - Near the lock is a gun pivot - a metal pin fixed to the ground next to a brick ammunition shed. It's thought to have been manned by the women's auxiliaries or the home guard as the River Trent, with its significance as an important navigation route, could potentially be invaded by the enemy, either by water or air.

There is also a memorial to ten Sapper volunteers of the 131 Parachute Squadron who died in 1975 when their boat went over the weir during a night exercise. A power cut had caused the weir lights to go out.



Cromwell Lock clapper gate

Toilets are available at the lock for those with a facilities key.

**3**

Continue along the top of the embankment as it curves westwards and leaves the river, far enough to allow fields to develop on the river side. When you arrive at a dyke with a bridge, cross the bridge and walk along the side of the dyke to return to the river. Turn left and walk along the raised riverbank to reach a fence. The stile is missing, so climb over the fence and continue northwards through the grassy field beyond to reach a hedge. Walk around the hedge, then cross heathland, aiming directly for the spire of the church at Carlton on Trent. Cross a ditch over a farm bridge and go over a stile on to a lane. Turn left and walk along the lane to reach Church Street, Carlton on Trent, beside the Church of St Mary the Virgin.



Between April and September look out for sand martins, swallows, swifts and, at dusk, Daubentons bats.

**Refreshments:** The Nags Head, Carlton on Trent.

**4**

Turn left along Church Street to reach Main Street. Go past the Old Forge and continue along Main Street, which becomes Great North Road. Continue along this quiet country lane (which runs beside the busy A1 trunk road) for about a mile to reach a bridge, crossing the A1 to return to Cromwell.



**A Thankful Village** - Cromwell is one of only four villages in Nottinghamshire; and 52 in England and Wales - known as Thankful, or Blessed Villages, because all of their soldiers returned home from World War I.

