

Grandborough Walk 1

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OS Explorer 222

A circular walk of approx 13km (8 miles) R = Right, L = Left.
Allow between 2.75 and 3.25 hours.



The Shoulder of Mutton Inn

With the Shoulder of Mutton in front of you, take The Lane on the R. Exit the lane with Gerona opposite and turn R for 50m. Just after Tresco turn left through a metal gate, following the signpost. Continue through a wooden gate and then turn R through a metal kissing gate. Take in the extensive open views on your left towards Woolscott and the River Leam. Keeping the hedgerow on your R continue to the corner. Look back for a view of St Peters. Go straight across the field, L of the telegraph pole to a wooden stile. Looking ahead you can see All Saints Church, Braunston in the distance. Cross the stile and continue across the next field keeping the farm buildings on your R. To your L there is a view of the Ridgeway with farm buildings at it's crest. Cross the double and single wooden stiles and continue across the next field parallel to a

line of broken trees on the R. At the top of the gentle rise you will see the gap that you are heading for. Look behind to take in another view of the spire tower of St. Peters. Cross the wooden bridge with metal handrail on the R and bear slightly R across the next field. Over the top of the farm building to the R you can see Bush Hill and Flecknoe in the distance. Further to the R you can see the wooded Shuckburgh Hills. Cross the stile to the L of a metal field gate and continue straight ahead toward the brick and corrugated building. Go through the metal gate and continue, keeping the hedgerow on your R. Cross the wooden stile and pass through the fence gap. Go across the next field keeping the hedgerow on your L and then go over a wooden V stile over a concrete step. Continue ahead to exit onto the main road..

Take a few paces to the R (*point A*). You can see the road T junction in front of you. Turn L to cross a wooden bridge and stile into the field on the opposite side of the road. There is a small pond on your L. Cross the field and then go over the double wooden stiles and bridge into the next field. The field narrows on your L to the stile that you need to cross into the next field. Go across the next bridge and stile arrangement. The brook meanders across the field to the L. You need to bear slightly R toward the farm buildings, passing through a metal gate. Keeping the buildings on the R, follow the farm track through a metal field gate. With the brook on your L bear slightly R and down the field to meet a wooden bridge cutting across your path on the L. Cross the bridge and then cross the field diagonally toward the hedgerow and farm buildings. As you cross look to your L to see the spire of St Peters; centred by the two Wellingtonia trees.



Wooden Bridge

Go diagonally R to meet the weir after which the route narrows. Follow the stream on your R to cross a wooden stile into the next field. Where the stream takes a sharp R, continue straight ahead toward the farm buildings, passing L of the telegraph pole. Go through the metal field gate and then in a few metres turn R through the two metal kissing gates. Go to the corner of the corrugated building and then continue to the corner of the house's garden (Leam View) after which you exit onto the main road through a metal kissing gate. To your L you can still see St Peters' tower (10:00 direction) but to your R (14:00 direction) you can now see the Norman tower of St Nicholas' church, Willoughby. You will need to look carefully amongst the tree tops. *It is possible at this point to shorten the walk by turning L on the road and return to point A and retrace your route back or continue to the T junction on the main road and turn R back to Grandborough.*



Follow the road to the R and at the sharp L bend go through the gate in the white picket fence by The Lodge house. Follow the fence and line of Chestnut trees parallel to the driveway and at the end of the field, exit through the metal field gate on the R. Ignore the gate and direction arrows to the L. Go ahead, keeping the fence and hedgerow on the L. All Saints Church spire and windmill tower can now be seen in the distance in Braunston. Where the hedgerow bears L and you meet an old hedge on your R, continue straight ahead toward the gate and cross country fence in front of you. Bear slightly L across the field and then go through the metal field gate across the ditch into the next field. Keeping the hedge on your R, go straight across to the next metal field gate. Look to your L over the fence and you have a great view of the turreted bridge. Follow the fence and hedgerow on your L. As you follow around a bend to the L you will see the ivy clad bridge that you need to go under straight ahead. Bridge number 470. Looking back through the bridge's arch you will see Willoughby House framed by the arch.

Exit the bridge; go through the metal gate and turn R. After a few metres turn L through another metal gate. Staying between the fence on your L and hedgerow on your R continue ahead taking in the closer view of Braunston ahead. The field opens to the R along a line of old trees, but keep following the fence L until you can exit L. Turn R through the metal field gate into the field and then go diagonally across the field bearing slightly L heading toward the Braunston church spire and house chimney pots in front of you.



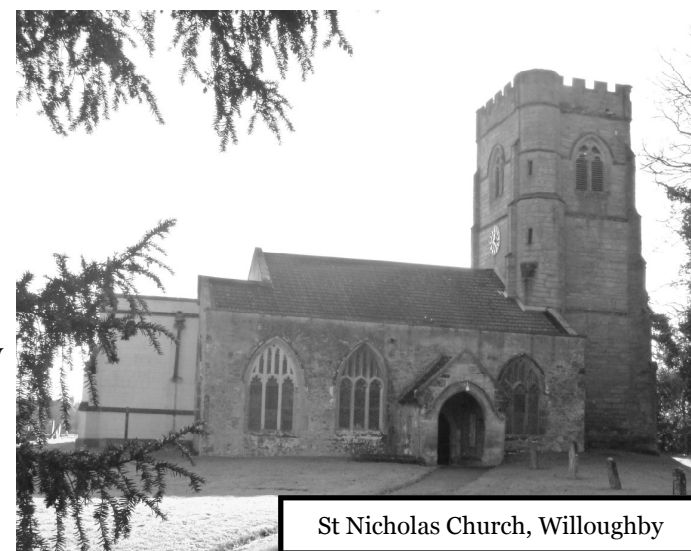


At the crest of the furrowed field you will see a white corrugated clad field gate ahead. Head towards this and then cross the stile on the R of the gate. Before you reach the main road, turn R through a wooden gate signposted Oxford Canal Walk. Follow brick steps down onto the canal towpath and turn L under bridge No. 90. Follow the towpath past the popular moorings and Canada geese rest area.

At bridge 89 exit L through a wooden weighted gate. Ignore the field walk arrow R and go immediately L through the un-weighted wooden kissing gate into the field. Turn R and follow the hedgerow R into the next field, crossing over a wooden stile. Continue R of the pond and then straight ahead to approx. the middle of the fence and hedgerow in front of you. Cross the fenced bridge and continue on bearing slightly L of the farm building in the distance. Cross the wooden sleeper bridge through the gate and continue straight ahead. On the L you can see the turreted bridge again. Go into the next field by the wooden stile approx 75m along the hedgerow from the L corner of the field. Go diagonally L across the field heading toward the taller, tree populated area. Cross the two wooden stiles and continue toward the corner of the field, exiting onto the main road via the wooden stile.

Turn R and go past the bricked embankment walls, Garage, and Cafe. Cross the road when convenient and continue R for approx 100m after the bus stop. Enter the field on the L by the wooden kissing gate and then cut across the corner to wooden bridge. On your R there is an ornate green metal gate into a wooded copse. Head diagonally L, go through the metal kissing gate and continue toward the yellow bricked Georgian Manse house. Go through the wooden kissing gate and bear L between the hedgerow L and fence. Continue to follow the fence, passing the pond to join the concrete path. Follow the path through a wooden kissing gate to join a narrow path that leads to the road.

Turn R towards the pond but then turn L into Brooks Close heading towards St Nicholas Church., Willoughby. Follow the lane R and then take the path on the R between two metal posts. Continue through the wooden kissing gate and keeping the hedgerow L, exit the field by a metal kissing gate. Join the track between the hedgerows and exit onto a tarmac track by a wooden kissing gate. Continue on the track L to meet the road opposite The Green cricket club gate.



Follow the road **L** for approx. 1.6km to the **Ridgeway** track on the **L** (unclassified county road). At the furthestmost side of the **Ridgeway** track, go through the metal kissing gate into the field. Bearing **R** of the telegraph pole ahead go diagonally across the field. As you gain height **St Peters** spire will come into view. Continue to the corner of the field, skirt around the back of the metal sheepfold and go through the metal kissing gate into the next field. Follow the hedgerow **R**. At the corner of the field exit **R** onto the road by the metal field gate. Turn **L** and cross the two bridges. There is no pathway here until you are past the 2nd bridge and can then join the causeway on the **L** over the ford. At the sharp **R** bend on **Main Street**, enter the churchyard by the metal gate and follow the path through the graveyard. At the front of the church and the stone wall bear **L** across the grass to the metal twist gate. Bear **L** and then turn **R** at the public footpath sign (**The Lane**). Follow this back to the **Shoulder of Mutton**.



Churchyard Twist gate



The Lane Signpost