

# Grandborough Walk 5

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OS Explorer 222

A circular walk of approx 11 km (7 miles) R = Right, L = Left.  
Allow between 3 and 3.5 hours.



Ridgeway, Woolscott

Standing with the Shoulder of Mutton Inn behind you, turn R onto Sawbridge Road. Follow the road to the junction with Hill Road as it bears R onto Main Street. Follow Main Street past the phone box L and St Peter's Church R. After a bend in the road R, join the causeway by the Old Vicarage. Continue after the pathway ends, crossing two bridges to meet Castle Lane junction by Mill House L.

Turn R to go through the metal field gate. Follow the hedgerow L and go through the metal gate by the metal sheep fold into the next field. Bearing slightly L of the telegraph pole ahead, go diagonally across the field to the corner by the pond R and exit through the metal gate

Turn R and follow the ridgeway track. To the L in the distance you can see All Saints Church, Braunston and as you gain height, St. Peters Grandborough also comes into view R. As you clear the crest of the hill, ahead you can see the wooded top of Shuckburgh Hills. To the R you can also catch glimpses of Rains Brook. Cross over the brook as the track levels out and further on look for the wooden stile R in order to access a field. Head diagonally L toward the brick bridge and exit onto the road via a wooden stile L of the bridge.

Bear R over the bridge and follow the road. Opposite the wooden field gate R, bear L to cross a wooden bridge and stiles 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. Go across the field and cross 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 L.



Brick Bridge



White Picket Fence

After the weir **R** the route narrows. Follow the hedgerow **L** 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 bungalows' garden 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 retrace your steps back from point A or continue to the T junction 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 at the entrance to Willoughby House. Follow the fence and line of Chestnut trees and at the end of the field turn **L**. Follow fence and hedgerow **R**. To the **R** is a view of All Saints Church spire and Windmill tower at Braunston.

Cross the wooden stile into the next field. Go through the black gate, over the track and drop down into the next field over a wooden stile. Cross this field section, heading toward the Norman Church tower. As you cross you can get a view to the **L** of St. Peters Church, Grandborough. Continue through the gaps in the fenced sections across the field, over the wooden stile into the last section and exit onto the main road via a metal kissing gate.

Turn **R** along the main road and as you enter Willoughby, turn **L** over the concrete bridge with metal railings. Turn **R** along the footpath. After the double tunnel culvert turn **L** onto Lower Street at Barberry Cottage. Continue past the row of cottages, and bungalows **L** before turning **L** into Brooks Close. Go past the church with its entrance arch commemorating the silver jubilee of Elizabeth II, 1952–1977.

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. Bear **R** along the road and after the end of the cricket field boundary hedge enter the next field **L** through the double metal field gate.

*When this route was written, the path was not well defined.* You need to head diagonally L across the field to a point approx. 85m to the R of the brick building in the distance to get to the stile required. You could also head toward the double metal field gate further to the R of the building and then follow the hedgerow L to get to the stile.

Exit the field onto the main road over the double wooden stile. Cross the road and onto the track via the metal field gate. Follow this wide track with fence and hedgerows on both sides. Go past the open domed barn built by A&J Main & Co. Ltd into the next field and continue keeping hedgerow L. At the pond L, go through the double metal field gate and continue keeping hedgerow R heading toward the farm buildings ahead. Go through the next metal field gate, and over the ditch.

Cross the field straight on, step over the stream, and go through a small fenced / hedgerow area before exiting into the next field over a wooden stile. Turn L following the hedgerow and stream and then go through the wooden gate and over the wooden bridge L. This is in Onley. Follow the well defined track diagonally R heading toward the end of the hedgerow. At the pond continue diagonally across the field heading toward the cluster of lamp posts on the main road. Cross the stream over the wooden sleeper bridge and continue to follow the track. Exit onto the main road through the gap in the hedgerow and up the embankment.

Cross the main road bearing R and just before the bus stop turn L along the farm track (to Lodge Farm). There is an agility dog training area on the L. At the bend, go R through the metal gate (number 565) and bear L to follow the hedgerow. Cross the double wooden stile into the wooded plantation area. The path goes diagonally across the field and you can find the route by following the slightly wider gaps in the planted tree spacing. At the pond L, go through the gap (there is an overgrown stile R) and follow the hedgerow R.

At the hedgerow corner, continue through the gap in the trees to the next hedgerow. Go through the metal gates, crossing the wooden bridge over the stream. Follow around the raised mound to the L of Fields Farm. Braunston Church spire can just be seen above the brick building L. Head uphill, L of the two poplars and house on the rise to the metal field gate in the hedgerow ahead (R of the higher hedgerow section). Cross the concrete bridge and through the metal gate, continuing uphill keeping the hedgerow L.



Wooden Bridge, Onley

Go through the metal gate into the wooded copse and follow the track through it, exiting onto the lane. Bear R to follow the bend in the road L, continuing to follow the road past Rose Cottage L.

Just after Green Farm Cottage R, cross over the double wooden stile R into the field. After a short distance, cross another wooden double stile into the next field. Head toward the pond to the R of the house going between the telegraph pole and tree to exit onto the road via another double wooden stile. Ahead you can see two wooden framed houses. The one on the L is Harrow House which was formerly a pub called Old Harrow Inn.

Follow the main road, passing Harrow House R and Woolscott House L. At the L bend in the road, drop down the bank R and cross into the field onto the footpath via a wooden stile. Follow the hedgerow L and then cross over a wooden stile into the next field L. Continue on keeping the hedgerow R and cross a double wooden stile by a sheepfold into the next field.

Bear diagonally L through a broken hedgerow line, slightly R of a telegraph pole to the corner of the field. Exit onto the road via a metal gate by Castle Lane and the Mill House.

Turn R and cross the bridges into the village. 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 St Peters' 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.

