

# EXPLORE

*experience inspired heritage in South Yorkshire*

heritageinspired.org.uk



feel the earth beneath your boots and the tarmac  
between your wheels on our lovely heritage trails exploring the  
best of south yorkshire's treasure houses of hidden heritage

HERITAGE INSPIRED: south yorkshire's faith tourism initiative

## WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF AGES!

Feast your eyes on our wonderful faith heritage. You'll find many inspirational places to visit and events to experience.

Churches, chapels, mosques, gurdwaras, synagogues and other faith sites are literally 'treasure houses' of history.

Faith sites are the keepers of community heritage. Churchyards, in particular, are a veritable 'who's who' of the area. In addition, they are also keepers of traditions and rites that may have been practiced for generations.

South Yorkshire has a wonderful heritage of faith buildings peppered across the countryside and nestling in our towns.

Why not come and explore them with us!



Our heritage faith sites are blessed. They are set within some of the finest natural landscapes in the country, and to visit is to discover the past, present and future of our place within them.

Our villages are great places to start, and often have local pub serving wholesome homemade food. Some have local ales!

If feeling the earth beneath your boots or bike is your thing, you are in for a treat! South Yorkshire has hundreds of miles of maintained paths and bridleways to explore.

This booklet contains a wide variety of walks, rides and scenic drives. They are different lengths and over varied terrains. They visit a wide variety of heritage sites, and often explore the history of the whole area in which they are set. They all feature a well laid out and easy to follow route.

We have a lot to tempt you out!

Don't forget that the Trans Pennine Trail and the National Cycle Network also pass right by many of our sites, and a walk or ride along these routes can also be a chance to explore some hidden gems!

## THE PRACTICALITIES!

Whilst most of our routes are a walk, ride or drive - our rides can be walked and our drives can be ridden (if you are feeling fit!).

Whether you walk, ride or drive there are a few things to consider...

### For walkers:

Walking is free, fun, sociable and anyone can do it. Walking regularly can help you keep fit, reduce stress and is a great way to discover the area. Don't forget to dress for the British weather, and wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Some of the routes are alongside busy roads - please take extra care when walking near traffic and remember to walk on the right hand side when there isn't a footpath.

For more tips on walking visit: [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)

### For riders:

A bike is a very versatile machines, enabling you to pedal happily down roads and across country. Ensure that your bike and lights are in good working condition before setting off. Always wear a cycle helmet. You will need to ride along the road in places, take extra care and stay visible.

For more tips on cycling visit: [www.ctc.org.uk](http://www.ctc.org.uk)

### For drivers:

Please drive carefully. If you would like to stop to admire the wonderful scenery please pull right off the road. Please respect the need for local people to park and attend services. Parking near all the sites is limited.



## key to symbols

- route
- 🏰 sites to visit
- 🍺 refreshments
- roads
- waterways
- railways

## opening times

Please bear in mind that our heritage faith sites are working buildings and may not be open all the time. Please check our website or visitor leaflets for detailed opening times.

## travel information

Ordnance Survey Explorer Maps 278 and 279 cover this area!

If you would like to visit the places on the walk by public transport plan your journey with [www.transportdirect.info](http://www.transportdirect.info)

# four waterways walks

Discover five lovely rural churches in the lowlands of northern Doncaster.

## 4 linear routes 1.1 ~ 3.9 miles each

Enjoy a walk along ancient footpaths and bridleways, many of which follow the route of two lovely waterways. The four waterway walks are a series of short walks, that cover between 1.1 and 3.9 miles each (one way). You can walk them individually or in groups and retrace your steps back to the start. Or, you can walk them all, leaving transport in Fishlake to get back to Hatfield.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers and riders. Some of the footpaths are alongside busy roads, please take extra care.

The walks are all very flat.

### natural history

This area, now known as the Humberhead Levels, was once occupied by a large glacial lake in which silt and gravel were deposited. The Levels contain the largest complex of lowland raised bog in Britain covering an area of 3318 hectares (8201 acres).



The abandoned peat cuttings, where sufficiently wet, have reverted back to bog. This provides an ideal habitat for a range of plants including common cottongrass, sphagnum mosses, cranberry and bog-rosemary.

The habitat supports a number of invertebrates, with over 3000 species. Birds include common teal, common snipe, European nightjar, hen harrier, merlin and short-eared owl. Reptiles such as adder, grass snake and common lizard are present.



### hatfield st Lawrence

(SATNAV: DN7 6QE)

St Lawrence is a surprisingly large cruciform church. The Domesday Survey of 1086 mentions a church but the present building is mainly 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century. The south and west doors are Norman and so is the lower part of the nave, with its pebble construction. Three Norman windows also survive.

Inside, the nave arches are 13<sup>th</sup> century, with pointed arches on rounded pillars. The clerestory, transepts, tower, chancel and north and south chapels are all Perpendicular. The chancel screen is very fine, dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and there are floral roof bosses. The font is over 700 years old, and the south chapel has a 15<sup>th</sup> century tomb and fragments of armour. The aisle contains a massive iron bound, dug-out chest.

There are gravestones with engraved crosses and two stone coffins. Also, there is a brass from 1386 and a tomb enriched with shields.



### Barnby Dun st peter & st paul

(SATNAV: DN3 1EB)

The present church dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, although it sits on the site of a much earlier building. Originally consisting of a nave and square chancel, the church was enlarged with aisles. The tower and porch were added in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

The south door has recessed pillars and the original wooden beam locking device. Inside the church there is a beautiful carved perpendicular font, sedilia and piscina. There are some beautiful monuments and stained glass windows. Of particular interest is an original 'poor box' with a hollowed out centre and iron clasps.



### Kirk sandall st oswald

(SATNAV: DN3 1RA)

St Oswald's, in its spacious and peaceful churchyard, still has great charm and interest. The church is mainly Norman, but there is earlier Saxon work evident. The church has 13<sup>th</sup> century arcades, with plain rounded arches and octagonal piers and a west window from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Inside the church is the very fine 1520 Rokeby chapel, named after the famous 15<sup>th</sup> century Rector William Rokeby who is buried in the church and to whom there is a monument. St Oswald's is known for its beautifully carved early 16<sup>th</sup> century oak screens, complete with gates. They have been restored with great care. The church is in the care of The Churches Conservation Trust.



### Kirk Bramwith st mary

(SATNAV: DN7 5SW)

St Mary's was started in 1120. Despite renovations it remains an original Norman church. The tower was constructed in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. Its single bell was made in York in 1350 and is believed to be the oldest bell in the Diocese.

The main doorway is Norman with fine stonework. The original font is believed to be Saxon and a later Victorian replacement now stands outside the main door. The church has several fine stained glass windows. The internationally famous craftsman Robert Thompson 'The Mouseman of Kilburn' made most of the furniture, including the pulpit, the lectern, hymn boards, the main door and all the pews. There are 27 of his trademark mouse carvings throughout the church.



### fishlake st cuthbert

(SATNAV: DN7 5JW)

The Norman doorway is the oldest part of the church, dating from 1170. It is richly adorned with sculptures featuring people and animals. The priest's door is also Norman and both formed part of the first church built by the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Surrey. Most of the present church dates from 1351.

The tower is in three stages with a canopied niche for a figure of St Cuthbert. Tradition has it that the remains of St Cuthbert rested in Fishlake during the period of the Viking invasions. The tower contains six bells of which two are ancient. The rood screen dates from about 1500. The oldest woodwork in the church is the priest's stall and a choir stall, dated 1616.

### HATFIELD - BARNBY DUN

3.7 miles

This walk takes you through Hatfield and across flat farmland into Barnby Dun.

- HATFIELD ST LAWRENCE.** Start in the car park next to the church. Turn left down Manor Road (curves right then left).
- Turn right down Coppice Lane (public footpath). Follow path straight, over Harpenden Road between the houses.
- Follow the end of Harpenden Road to Broadway. Cross Broadway and into Quarry Park (public footpath).
- At the footpath crossroads, turn right and walk down edge of field (with hedgerow on left). Bends round to left. Continue on the footpath across field.
- Cross the railway line. **BE VERY CAREFUL HERE, MAKE SURE YOU LOOK CAREFULLY FOR ONCOMING TRAINS AND DO NOT DELAY WHILST CROSSING.** Continue on the footpath to Hatfield Lane and into **BARNBY DUN.**
- Follow Hatfield Lane to Top Road. Turn right and walk along Church Lane. Follow Church Road to visit **BARNBY DUN ST PETER & ST PAUL** on the left.

### BARNBY DUN - KIRK SANDALL

0.75 miles

This walk takes you along the River Dun Navigation canal to the edge of Kirk Sandall.

- To visit **KIRK SANDALL:** Turn left down Madam Lane and left down High Street. After houses turn right to canal footpath, and walk along the edge of the canal (be careful crossing the lock). Cross the car park to visit **KIRK SANDALL ST OSWALD.**
- Walk back past the church and cross the car park. Follow the canal back into **BARNBY DUN.** Turn left onto High Street and right onto Madam Lane. Follow Church Road to visit **BARNBY DUN ST PETER & ST PAUL** on the left.



### BARNBY DUN - KIRK BRAMWITH

1.3 miles

This walk takes you along the River Dun Navigation canal and the River Don to Fishlake.

- Follow the road back into the village. Turn left down Madam Lane and left down High Street. At the swing bridge turn right onto the canal footpath (keeping the canal on your left).
- Just after the fork is Bramwith Lock/Marina. Go as far as the old Lock Keepers Cottage and cross over the lock (taking great care crossing the water). Follow the track out of the marina, keeping the canal on your right (be careful as this track is used by traffic).
- At the bridge, leave the canal footpath and turn left into Low Lane into **KIRK BRAMWITH.** Cross over the river and follow the road around a right hand bend. Go through the church gate on the right to visit **KIRK BRAMWITH ST MARY.**

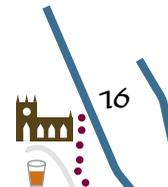
### KIRK BRAMWITH - FISHLAKE

2.5 miles

This walk takes you on top of the flood banks along the River Dun Navigation.

- Return to the road through the churchyard gate. Turn left and just before first bridge, cross the stile and join the footpath (public footpath).
- Walk along the top of the embankment along the river.
- Cross over the stile and road at Stainforth Bridge. To visit **STAINFORTH ST MARY,** cross the bridges, turn right and then left onto Field Road. The church is on the right. Retrace your steps to the stile to continue. Turn left and walk past the house on the right.
- Cross a second stile on your right and climb back onto the top of the embankment. Follow the embankment to **FISHLAKE.**
- When you come level with the church, walk down the embankment. Cross a stile to your left and walk into the churchyard to visit **FISHLAKE ST CUTHBERT.**

### Fishlake



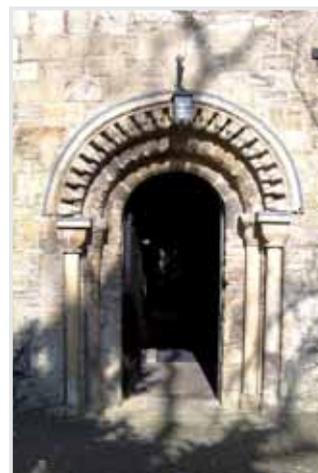
### Stainforth



### Kirk Bramwith

### Barnby Dun

### Kirk Sandall



### Hatfield



### Stainforth St Mary

The newly built parish church of St Mary opened on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1934. The land was given by Revd Thomas Kilham Kilham, whose ancestors had been farmers in the village for at least 350 years.

Inside, the church is light and airy. There is much to see, including lovely stained glass, memorials and the miners' memorial sculpture which was commissioned for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the 1939 cage crash at Hatfield Main Colliery.

# a woodland wander

Discover fascinating architecture, from ancient to modern, whilst enjoying a tramp through Sheffield's woodlands.

## 2.25 mile linear walk

Enjoy a lovely short walk through the hidden woodlands of South Sheffield, discovering wonderful churches along the way. This route describes the walk starting at Beauchief Abbey, where there is on street parking. You can start at either end and go in either direction.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers and riders. There is a little bit of walking along the roads, please stay on the footpaths and use crossings.

The walk will take about 2 hours, with good stops at each church. The route is a steady gentle incline, with flat sections and some steps.

### heritage woodlands

Within South Yorkshire lie a unique set of 'Heritage Woodlands', all of which are at least 400 years old.

There are seven heritage woodlands in the Gleadless Valley, which lies only 2 miles south-east of Sheffield city centre.

These precious Woodlands are home to a wide variety of flora and fauna, and a great place to spot wildlife. In particular, there is a large population of grey squirrels, who can always be seen running around the woodlands.

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



### Beauchief Abbey

(SATNAV: S8 0EL)

Beauchief Abbey is a hidden gem in the south-west of Sheffield. The Abbey and grounds were given to the people of Sheffield in 1932.

Founded in 1176 for Premonstratensian Canons, the Abbey grew into an important regional church involved in farming, coal mining, tanning and lead smelting. The Abbey's Canons worked in the community as priests, doctors and teachers. In 1536 Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries forced Beauchief Abbey to be stripped of its roof and the windows were broken. It was left to decay and the land was sold to Sir Nicholas Strelley. In 1671 the fine Beauchief Hall was built further up the hill and the old Abbey tower was restored with a chapel added. This remains today, largely unaltered, in the old monastery grounds. The foundations of the Abbey's Chapter House, Refectory and Cloisters can still be traced from the ruins. The nearby medieval fish ponds are of great interest to botanists, ornithologists and archaeologists.

You can also visit the Abbey church of St Thomas the Martyr and the Virgin Mary. The tower is original, and was remodelled in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Inside, the box pews and pulpit are 17<sup>th</sup> century. There are four bronze plaques showing scenes from the Abbey's history. Since the chapel was a family chapel until the 1920's, all the memorials are to the Strelley-Pegge-Burnell family and the Crawshaw family.



### Greenhill St Peter

(SATNAV: S8 7FN)

St Peter's was built in 1964-65 to serve an area of new housing on the edge of Sheffield. The church was designed in 1963 by the Sheffield firm of Oxley and Bussey and consecrated by the Bishop of Derby in 1965.

The church is roughly circular in plan and centred on a 93ft high spire - a prominent south Sheffield landmark. The main framework of the building is supported by four laminated timber legs which reach right to the top of the spire! St Peter's is an early example of the influence of the Liturgical Movement. This means that the priest celebrating communion is much closer to the people than in the great majority of churches.

Internally St Peter's is austere with exposed brick walls and a muhuhu wood block floor. There is a lovely Matlock marble font. All around the walls are fourteen embroidered banners, featuring the Stations of the Cross. The Chapel of Healing and Reconciliation features a beautiful floor to ceiling stained glass window. It is a remarkable example of modern stained glass, showing various symbols of St Peter.



### Norton St James

(SATNAV: S8 8JQ)

The earliest visible parts of the church are the north arcade, much of the tower (including the mighty, but slightly wonky, pointed arch) and the much restored, round-headed doorway. These were built about 1190, probably by the same masons engaged at Beauchief Abbey. The unique 9-sided font with its salamander carving can only date from a few years later; and decorative heads closely resemble a corbel from Beauchief now at Weston Park Museum.

The chancel, with its Perpendicular window, and the south aisle, were rebuilt in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Just before 1500, the Blythe brothers, Bishops of Salisbury and Lichfield (who were born at the 'Bishops' House' in Meersbrook Park) had a fine alabaster tomb made for their parents. The Blythe chapel is later Perpendicular Gothic, already influenced by the Renaissance. It should really be called 'St Catherine's Chapel'. Her symbol is a wheel (an instrument of torture), so she was popular with all the craftsmen who were beginning to exploit water power and altars were dedicated to her in all the local churches. Later the chapel was used to bury members of prominent local families.

Norton's most famous son is the sculptor Sir Francis Chantrey (1781-1841), a great benefactor to the National Gallery and his native parish. He is buried with his parents in the part of the churchyard nearest Norton Hall, and commemorated by the obelisk nearby and in church by a wall-monument and a seated figure by John Bell RA (1811-95).

Much of St James' present appearance derives from the restoration carried out by George Edmund Street before his death in 1881. He changed the aisle windows, and repaired the arcades which had been adapted for galleries. The corbel at the west end of the south arcade may portray the architect; its eastern counterpart has been pulling its tongue out at everyone for over 500 years!

**1** Start at **BEAUCHIEF ABBEY**.

Walk up the hill for a short distance before turning left (following the public footpath sign), with Beauchief Abbey Farm on your right.

The path crosses through part of Beauchief Golf Course, look out for golf carts!

**2** Keep to the left path following the edge of the golf course. As the path forks, keep to the left again.

The path climbs up into **Parkbank Wood**, bends to the left and then down to the road.

**3** At the road (Bocking Lane), turn right. Cross over the road at the crossing.

**4** **OPTIONAL VISIT TO GREENHILL ST PETER**

Turn right, following Bocking Lane up the hill. Walk for about 3/4 mile passing one roundabout. **GREENHILL ST PETER** is on the right at the top of the hill.

**5** Take the public footpath (on the left) across from the junction with Bocking Lane. There is a footpath sign and also signs for Sheffield Roundwalk.

This goes between two white houses and into **Chancet Wood**.



**6** Cross over the small bridge and then take the left path, continuing through the woods in a sweeping right hand curve.

At the crossroads take the middle path (straight across). Keep straight on sticking to main path. At the next fork, keep left.

**7** As you leave the woodland, the path leads down steps to the main road (Meadowhead Road).

Turn right and walk up to the pedestrian crossing. Cross the road and turn left back down the road slightly.

Follow the public footpath/Sheffield Roundwalk sign into **Cobnar Wood** (part of **Graves Park**).

**8** Keep straight on the left path.

When the path comes to a crossroads – walk straight over the concrete path and follow path uphill (still following Sheffield Roundwalk sign).

**9** At the next crossroads go straight over and follow path up the steps and into **Waterfall Wood**.

At the top turn left and then go across a narrow stone bridge.

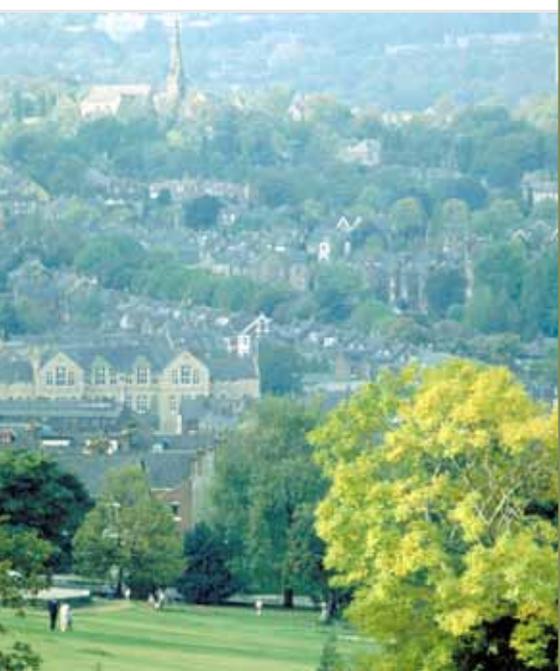
Come out of woodland at the Graves Park boating lake.

**10** Turn right up the hill.

After the bench take the path to the left (the path has black railings at either side) to walk through the open farm.

**11** At the crossroads carry straight on. You will see the church ahead.

Go through the black gate to see a monument to Chantrey. Turn left then left again up the path to the churchyard to visit **NORTON ST JAMES**.



**Bishops' House**

Nearby Bishops' House is one of the oldest timber-framed buildings in Sheffield, typical of a large farmhouse or small manor house from that time. The oldest parts were built in the 1500s.

The name Bishops' House is misleading. It comes from a local tradition that two future bishops lived here during their childhoods.

Bishops' House will amply reward any time detectives or treasure-hunters willing to seek it out. The house is a living, breathing time capsule, where history seeps out of every wall and soot-stained fireplace.

Bishops' House



# DIVINE DEARNE RAMBLE

From Robin Hood's Black Monks to an ancient carved dragon, explore medieval history in the Dearne Valley.

## 5.1 mile linear walk

Enjoy a wander along ancient footpaths, used for hundreds of years by local people and visitors alike - and possibly used by the Black Monks of Monk Bretton Priory. This route describes a linear route, starting at Monk Bretton Priory, where there is some on street parking. You can start at either end and go in either direction.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers and riders.

To walk, the trail will take about 3 hours with good stops at each church.

### ROBIN HOOD in south YORKSHIRE

Robin Hood is a well known outlaw in English folklore. A highly skilled archer and swordsman, he is known for 'robbing from the rich and giving to the poor', assisted by a group of fellow outlaws known as his 'Merry Men'.



In popular culture Robin Hood is usually portrayed as living in Sherwood Forest, in Nottinghamshire, where much of the action in the early ballads takes place. But, the many of the surviving early ballads and other references suggest that he may have been based in the Barnsdale area of South Yorkshire.

A tradition dating back at least to the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century gives his birthplace as Loxley, Sheffield, while the site of Robin Hood's Well in Skellow has been associated with him since at least 1422. His grave has been claimed to be at Kirklees Priory and there is a headstone there to him.



### monk bRETTON priory

(SATNAV: S71 5QD)

Here lived Robin Hood's black monks of St Mary's Priory. Their £million business made Barnsley into a thriving market town and brought rival Priors to fight over its wealth. Today it is a peaceful picnic spot with stunning countryside views.

Founded in 1153 Monk Bretton Priory belonged to the powerful monks of Cluny, who followed the 6<sup>th</sup> century rule of St Benedict. After Robert de Laci gave land in Pontefract to found a priory there for Cluniac monks from Charite-sur-Loire in France. Ailric of Cawthorne, a landowner under de Laci, also gave to this order. Ailric's grandson, Adam founded St Mary Magdalene Priory to be run by the Cluniac monks from Pontefract. Adam wrote to both Priors in Pontefract and France to ask them to choose a Prior. This led to over 100 years of in-fighting that had to be dealt with by Sheriffs, a King and two Popes. Pontefracts monks came with soldiers to take over, but the monks locked out the Pontefract Prior and three monks were killed in the fighting.

King Henry VIII brought monastic estates under Crown control in 1538 and Monk Bretton Priory was closed and sold off. Seven bells, church silver, sixty tonnes of roofing lead and countless tonnes of sandstone building blocks were taken away. Thomas Wentworth bought the church's north aisle columns for his family church in Wentworth village.

Today the administration building and Prior's rooms still stand, because after the Dissolution they were kept in use as farm buildings. Unfortunately when the good stone was taken away from other buildings, rubble wall-filling spread out and buried everything else up to three metres deep. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> century archaeologists uncovered the church, cloister and hospitality building walls - and Britain's best example of Cluniac drainage.

### DARFIELD all saints

(SATNAV: S73 5NQ)

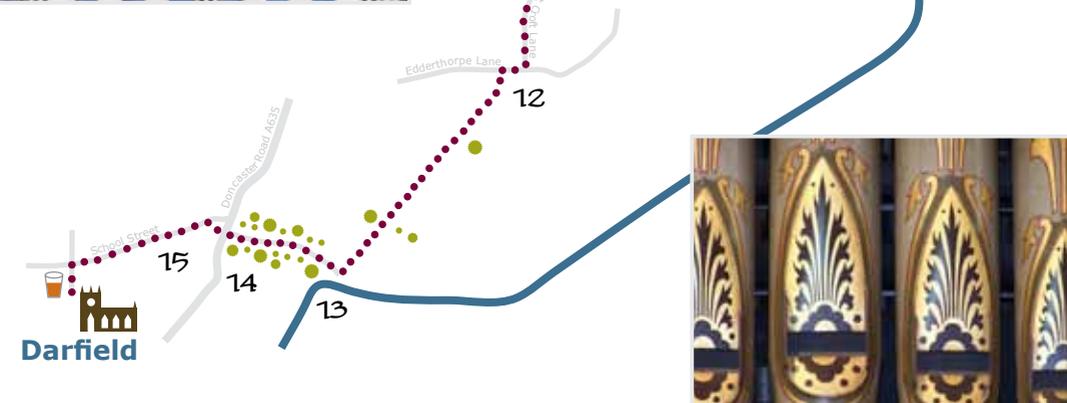
This ancient and interesting building shows the development of a parish church over 1000 years. The size of the church reflects the fact that Darfield was historically a large parish covering seven townships and villages. The oldest part of the present building is the lower section of the tower, which is Norman. The nave and chancel date from the 14<sup>th</sup> century with the south aisle added later. The upper part of the tower is 15<sup>th</sup> century, as is the north aisle.

There is much of interest to see at Darfield church. The box pews are Jacobean and the stone font is medieval with wooden Jacobean cover. Most of the stained glass dates from the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Throughout the church you will see carved Saxon and medieval stones re-used as building stones - our favourite is the dragon. In the Lady Chapel is a fine alabaster tomb of a knight and lady dating from about 1400. On the walls are numerous splendid memorials from the last three or four centuries. The tower holds eight bells.

The churchyard is huge and has two memorials to mining disasters - the Lundhill Colliery Disaster of 1857 and the Houghton Main Cage Disaster of 1886. It also holds the grave of Ebenezer Elliott, renowned as the 'Corn Law Rhymer'.

- 1 Start at **MONK BRETTON PRIORY**. Come out of Monk Bretton Priory and turn left, heading for the bottom of Abbey Lane.  
Go through the black railing underneath the gatehouse arch.  
Carry on forward past the tree stumps then turn left, walking along the edge of the parkland.
- 2 At the junction with the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) turn right (the post points to Stairfoot). Carry on along the path which goes over two old bridges.
- 3 At the crossroads turn left and continue.
- 4 At the fork in the path - take the right path.  
Follow the path into into woodland. Leaving the woodland, stay on the same path over the open fields. This path follows the route of a dismantled railway.
- 5 On entering the woodland carry straight on, on the left path (not up the hill).  
Passing a stile, keep to the left path.
- 6 Take the right path (there is a bridge to your left, don't cross it) then immediately take the middle path (look out for the green/yellow Dearne Way waymarker).
- 7 At the top of the path, turn right onto the road. Walk along the road, crossing an old railway bridge.
- 8 Look out for the public footpath sign on the right. Take the path back into the woods, passing electricity pylons on your left and right. Look out for a stile and a left turn. Climb over the stile into woodland.
- 9 Come out of the woodland and walk diagonally across the field aiming for the barn.

- 10 At the bottom of the field cross over the track to the left and over the stile (broken).  
Walk straight until you reach the middle of the field then bear left, heading for the stile on the left hand side of the field.
- 11 Go over the stile and walk straight on (following the edge of the field on your right).  
In the corner of the field, turn right then left to walk down Priest Croft Lane into **Edderthorpe**.
- 12 In **Edderthorpe** turn right and walk down the road a little way.  
Take a left at the public footpath sign (climbing over a stone stile). Follow the path diagonally across field, towards the tree.  
Continue on the path. At the hedgerow go through (between two white posts). Carry on path diagonally over the field to the stile.
- 13 Take the right path (behind the stile). It goes slightly uphill on a cobbled path.
- 14 At the main road, cross straight over and go up the small cobbled path/snicket with houses on the right and into **DARFIELD**.
- 15 At the top of the path turn left onto School Street. Walk along the pavement passing the cricket field on your left.  
After the dental practice turn left onto Church Street (across from the **Maurice Dobson Museum**).  
Walk down Church Street to visit **DARFIELD ALL SAINTS**.



# heavenly heritage trail

Discover glorious architecture and fascinating heritage on a walk around Sheffield City Centre.

## 0.7 mile circular route

Explore great cathedrals, hidden chapels and much more on this short walk. Discover architecture and artwork, symbolism and heritage - all part of the fabric of a vibrant city centre. This route describes the clockwise route, starting at Sheffield St Peter & St Paul (CofE Cathedral) where there are bus and tram stops. You can walk in either direction and start at any point.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, although there are lots of places to stop for a break or refreshments.

The walk can be done in an hour, but you could spend longer at the churches. The route is mostly flat.

### heritage

With a mesmerising history and passion for culture, Sheffield is alive with attractions and steeped in heritage.

Feel inspired by world class art in our cool contemporary galleries; absorb yourself in the historical displays of a cutting edge interactive museum; sense the past trembling the air around you in a perfectly ruined abbey - this city is a cultural treasure trove.

Make sure you look up and down as you are walking, the signs of the city's heritage are everywhere!



### sheffield st peter & st paul (cofe cathedral)

(SATNAV: S1 1HA)

Whether you have come to pray, to search or to ponder; whether you are a lover of art, architecture or music; whether you need help or have come to look round, you are most welcome here. The cathedral is one of Sheffield's oldest buildings, the ancient heart of this great city. Stones from a Norman church (11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> century) with their dog-tooth pattern, can be seen set in the east wall.

The Tudor monuments in the Shrewsbury Chapel are magnificent, especially the huge one commemorating the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury, husband of Bess of Hardwick and guardian of Mary Queen of Scots during her fourteen years of imprisonment in Sheffield.

Every window tells a story, not least the glorious multi-coloured Lantern window in the west end which welcomes you in to this place.



### sheffield st marie (rc cathedral)

(SATNAV: S1 2JB)

St Marie's Cathedral has stood on this site for over 100 years. Until 1559 Catholic worship had for centuries been celebrated in the medieval parish church of St Peter and St Paul, now the Anglican Cathedral. As the protestant reformation took place Catholic worship was outlawed. Attendance at the new protestant services was enforced by law with heavy fines for non attendance.

Throughout the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries Catholics hung onto their faith. In Sheffield, Mass was celebrated in a few houses belonging to the gentry - including the house of the Duke of Norfolk in Fargate. In 1814 local Catholics bought the house and built a small chapel in its back garden. By now the law had been relaxed a larger church was needed. St Marie's was started in 1846, the design based on a 14<sup>th</sup> century church in Heckington. The church was completed in 1850 and was opened with great grandeur.

The church has wonderful elegant architecture, the gold coloured stone work indicating the sacred and the roof panels bearing shields of the 3 English martyrs. There is also magnificent stained glass. The decorated style of the Cathedral, adorned with angels, stonework and tiles is rich in symbolism. You can admire the beautiful Guardian Angel, made of alabaster and ascend a little spiral staircase to the Munster or Lady Chapel.



### sheffield upper chapel

(SATNAV: S1 2JD)

Upper Chapel has been on this site since its original construction in 1700. It retains its original red brick walls and the interior is a splendid example of a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century non-conformist chapel. The Chapel is a heritage site and as a Unitarian Chapel welcomes everyone.

The chapel has much to see including nine windows on the ground floor by Henry Holiday, installed between 1889-1920. The front has imposing Greek columns in the Paladian style, and three statues by the Sheffield artist, George Fullard.

The congregation of the chapel was actually founded in 1660 when Revd James Fisher was ousted from the then parish church, now Sheffield Cathedral. It became a Unitarian Chapel in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The chapel has many interesting things to see, including memorials and three statues by George Fullard.



### sheffield quaker meeting house

(SATNAV: S1 2EW)

Quaker meetings are known to have been taking place in Sheffield since 1668. Land for a burial ground was purchased off Broad Lane in 1676. At that time Quakers met for worship at sites like this, or in their own homes.

Land and buildings for a meeting house and stable were eventually purchased in 1707, however during the bombings raids of December 1940, the main buildings were gutted by fire.

The present meeting house on St James Street opened in 1991. The building is a fine piece of architecture. Visitors are welcome to use the library and browse the collection.

- 1 Start at **SHEFFIELD ST PETER & ST PAUL (CofE Cathedral)**.
- 2 Leaving the Cathedral precinct, turn left and cross over the road and tram tracks (be very careful). Turn right to walk up Fargate.
- 3 On your left is Chapel Walk, go down this narrow lane and walk to the end. **Victoria Hall Methodist Church** is on your left and **Central URC** on your right. The Crucible and Lyceum Theatres are across the road.
- 4 Turn right and walk up Norfolk Street, taking your next right into Norfolk Row. Visit **SHEFFIELD ST MARIE ((RC Cathedral)**. The Tourist Information Centre is opposite the Cathedral.
- 5 Walk back down Norfolk Row and turn right to visit **UPPER CHAPEL** on your right.



- 6 Leaving the chapel, turn right and go straight over at the crossroads, still on Norfolk Street. Turn right to walk through the **Peace Gardens**, passing the **Town Hall** on your right. Leaving the gardens turn right again, passing the **City Hall** area on your left and continue straight on up Leopold Street.
- 7 Take a right up the pedestrianised Orchard Street.
- 8 At the end continue across Church Street onto Vicar Lane. At the top visit the **QUAKER MEETING HOUSE**.
- 9 Leaving the meeting house, turn left onto St James' Street and follow round back to **SHEFFIELD ST PETER & ST PAUL (CofE Cathedral)**.



## explore more

Pick up our area leaflets for full information about opening times and more places to visit!



## DISCOVER MORE

Would you like to know more before you visit, to identify and interpret features in ancient churches?



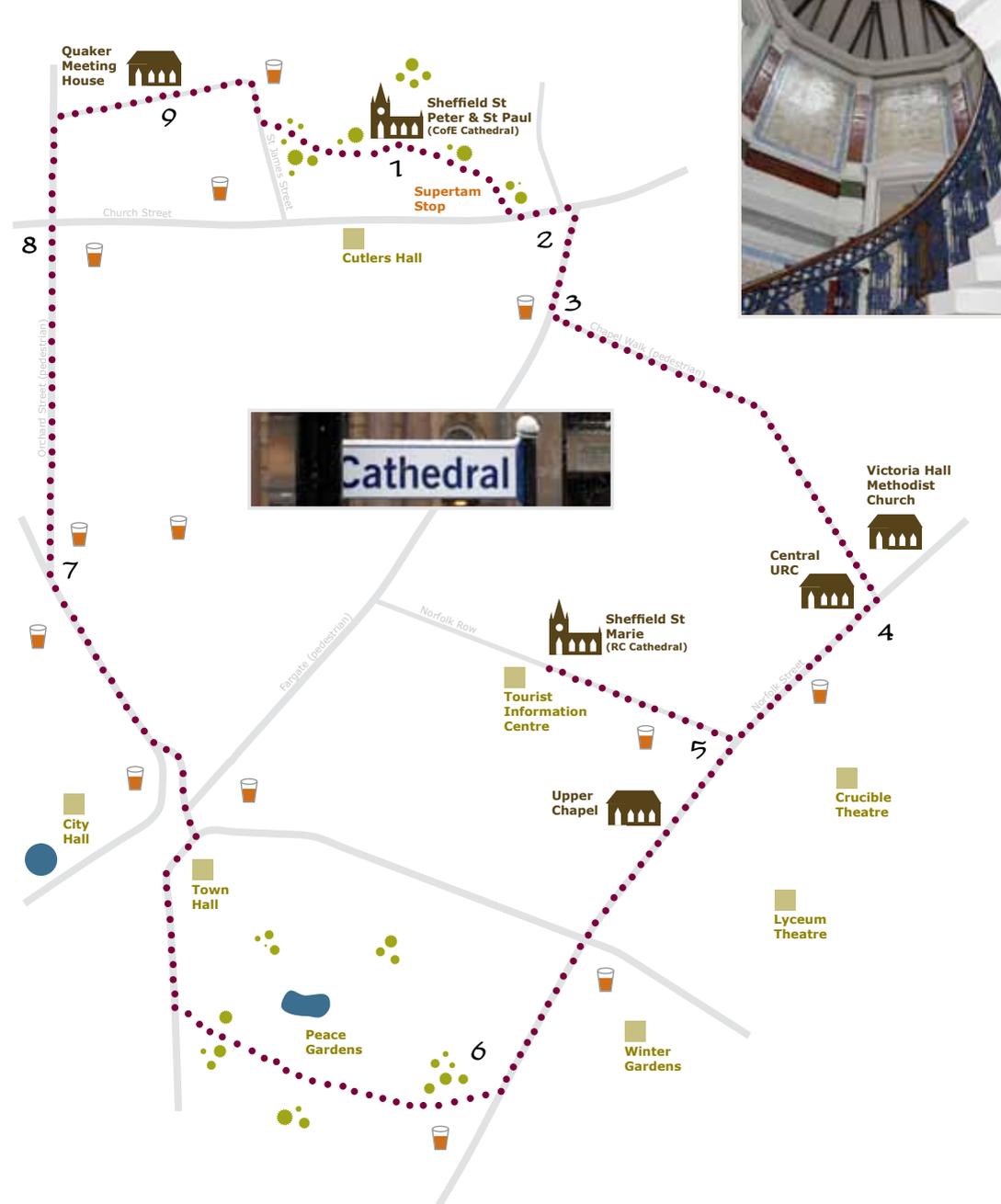
Our CD-Rom has over 350 beautiful photos of South Yorkshire's wonderful hidden gems and explanations of their main features - interpreting hidden messages and meanings in the architecture and features of our wonderful churches.

Copies are just £5 and available from us, or via **Amazon.co.uk** (search for 'heritage inspired')!

## events

Our heritage faith sites have a strong tradition of welcome, often over centuries. Many have come for the special qualities of a place, others to see something unique, and others to experience an event.

All our heritage faith sites organise events, large and small, throughout the year. For information about concerts, exhibitions, festivals and much more check our website.



### The Peace Gardens

The Peace Gardens is an award winning public space. They contain the Goodwin Fountain, dedicated to the founder of an important Sheffield steel and toolmaking firm, and the Holberry Cascades, dedicated to the leader of the Sheffield Chartist Movement. The gardens contain the Standard Measures, an early method of consumer protection, and the Spanish War Memorial.

The Peace Gardens are on the site of the old St Paul's church, demolished in 1938 after closing due to loss of congregation with the de-population of the city centre.



# ROMANESQUE COUNTRY RAMBLE

Explore three ancient Norman churches in the lovely countryside of North Doncaster.

## 7 MILE CIRCULAR WALK

Enjoy a walk along ancient footpaths and bridleways, which have been used for hundreds of years by local people and visitors alike. This route describes the clockwise route, starting at Owston, where there is a small car park. You can start anywhere and go in either direction.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers and riders. Some of the footpaths are alongside busy roads, please take extra care.

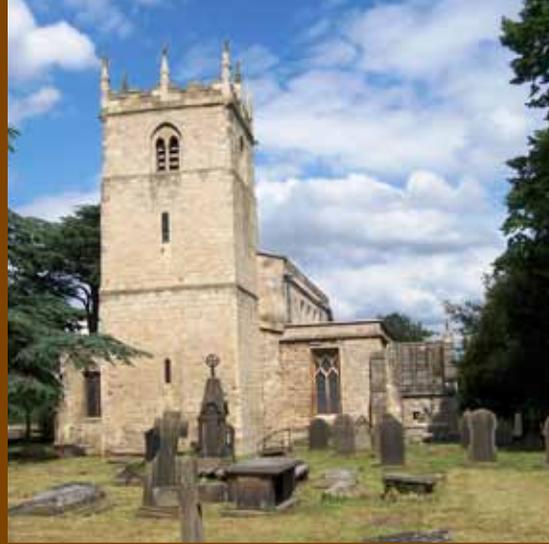
The walk will take about 4 hours, with good stops at each church. The walk is predominantly flat.

### natural history

Close to the route of this walk is Owston Hay Meadows, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. This, and the rest of the surrounding area, is close to the eastern edge of the Magnesian limestone escarpment in South Yorkshire. It is low lying, being less than 15 metres above sea level, and the soils are a near neutral silty clay alluvium subject to high groundwater levels and with naturally poor drainage.



Owston Hay Meadows is the second most important example of neutral grassland habitat in South Yorkshire. The area has been traditionally managed for hay with autumn grazing which has enabled a rich variety of plants to thrive with over 90 species recorded. They include yorkshire fog grass, quaking-grass, meadow buttercup and ribwort plantain.



### owston all saints

(SATNAV: DN6 9JF)

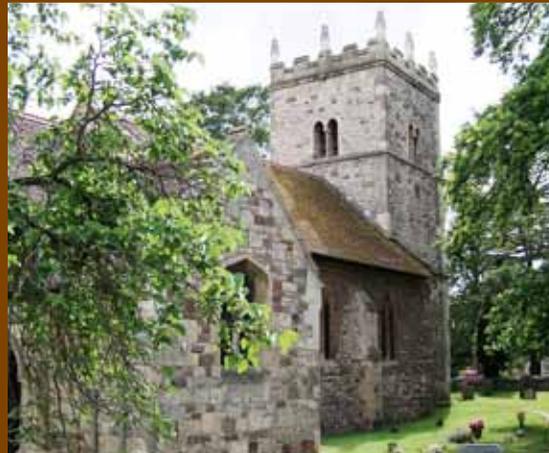
All Saints nestles in the beautiful hamlet of Owston and is over 800 years old.

There is much to see both inside and outside the church. In the roof of the 15<sup>th</sup> century porch are some fascinating 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century stone coffin lids with incised crosses and a sword. The church has some wonderful carved heads around its doors and windows.

The windows are interesting, displaying the major styles in ecclesiastical architecture. There are fragments of medieval glass. There is a beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century oak rood screen and two monuments by Chantrey, the famous Sheffield born sculptor.

The reredos was carved by Robert 'mouse-man' Thompson and there is a monument to George Byard who was a Captain in the Cromwellian Army who died in 1660. There is also the Hatfield Brass, which is over 600 years old. There are only six in the country which show a couple are holding hands.

The earliest recorded burial in the churchyard is 1683 and the oldest gravestones are to be found on the west side of the tower and immediately around the walls of the church. The churchyard has many wonderful trees with the cedar tree the most imposing. Squirrels enjoy the churchyard and can be seen scurrying up and down.



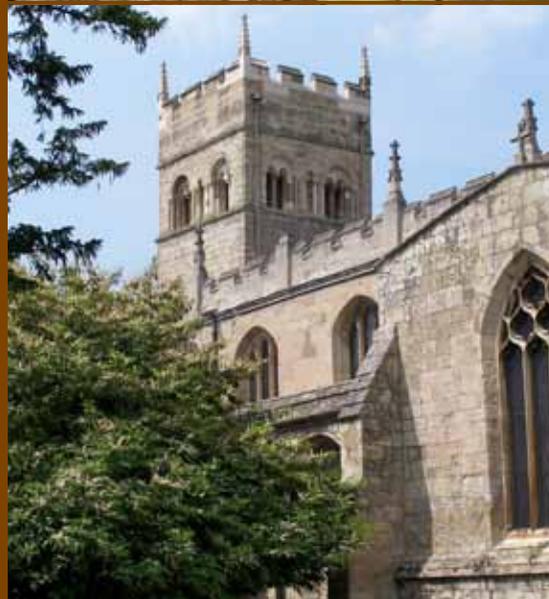
### burghwallis st helen

(SATNAV: DN6 9JL)

A church has stood here since pre-Saxon times and there was a Roman camp or settlement at Burghwallis. The present church maintains a basic plan without the addition of aisle or chapel and there is a large amount of herringbone masonry. In the porch is a Mass Dial, dating from 1190 and used to show the times of services.

There are lots of hidden treasures to discover. The original Norman font is still in use, and the earliest window dates from 1216. There is a beautiful painted George III Royal Coat of Arms on a panel and a finely decorated brass to Sir Thomas Gascoigne who died in 1554.

The rood screen is very fine, with grape carving from around 1280. It was hidden in a cellar when Cromwell's troops were destroying many decorations in churches and was discovered in 1881. The pre-Reformation High Altar mensa was found buried in the sanctuary during the 1930s, and has been restored to its original place. In the churchyard is the ancient Churchyard Cross and some very old graves.



### campsall st mary magdelene

(SATNAV: DN6 9AG)

An ancient and beautiful church founded between 1066 and 1160. It contains features of almost every style and there still remain many examples of Norman architecture. The building was extended in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The baptistry has an impressive 700 year old vaulted ceiling, with a priest's room above. Nearby is an early Norman stone with very unusual carving. The Romanesque tower had been standing for four centuries when the bells rang out to celebrate the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. It has been described as 'the most ambitious Norman west tower in the West Riding'.

There is much to discover in the church, including a 16<sup>th</sup> century Parish Hutch, originally used to store the Parish Records. The pulpit is Jacobean. Above the north aisle are wooden figures, supporting the roof. Several rest on corbel stones carved with faces. The Warrior Chapel contains 'The Founder's Tomb' - legends say the tombstones in this area were possibly those of Knights Templar (1190).

There is a lovely 15<sup>th</sup> century carved rood screen and a bishop's chair which dates from 1610. There is also a fine and important memorial designed by the famous sculptor Flaxman in 1803. The carved stone altar in the Lady Chapel is a masterpiece of work, designed by the eminent architect Pugin.



**1 OWSTON ALL SAINTS.** Park in Owston All Saints Church car park. Walk back towards the church until you reach the lychgate. Walk up the road directly opposite the lychgate and continue on the path (Park Lane).

**2** The path continues straight (with a golf course on both sides) and joins the the North Park Lane Fitness Trail.

**3** When you reach the end of the path in **SKELLOW**, turn right in front of the park onto the bridleway (Stoney Croft Way). Walk straight along the path.

**4** Look out for a wooden post with an orange arrow waymarker - turn right into the field. Follow the path right, then along the edge of the trees towards the houses (orange roofs).

**5** Walk up between the houses into **BURGHWALLIS**. Turn right when you reach the road (Old Village Street) and follow round to the left. At the main road, turn right. Cross over to walk on the footpath. Walk down the road and turn right up a small lane to visit **BURGHWALLIS ST HELEN**.

**6** Walk back to the main road and turn left, retracing your steps. Carry on past the phone box and bus stop and turn right onto Sixroad Lane. Continue on the path, passing the farmhouse on your left and farm buildings on your right.

**7** The path slightly curves to the left. Follow the bridleway sign to the right (through the hedgerow) and then the row of hedges around to left and straight across the field to the road.

**8** When you reach the road turn right and follow the road.

**9** When you reach the main road turn right. **BE VERY CAREFUL AS THERE IS NO FOOTPATH - MAKE SURE YOU WALK FACING ONCOMING TRAFFIC.**

**10** When you reach **CAMPSALL**, cross the road to join the footpath (Bone Lane). Turn left at the t-junction and follow the road around to the right (you will have to cross over to keep to the footpath). Pass the Post Office and pub to visit **CAMPSALL ST MARY MAGDELENE** on your right.

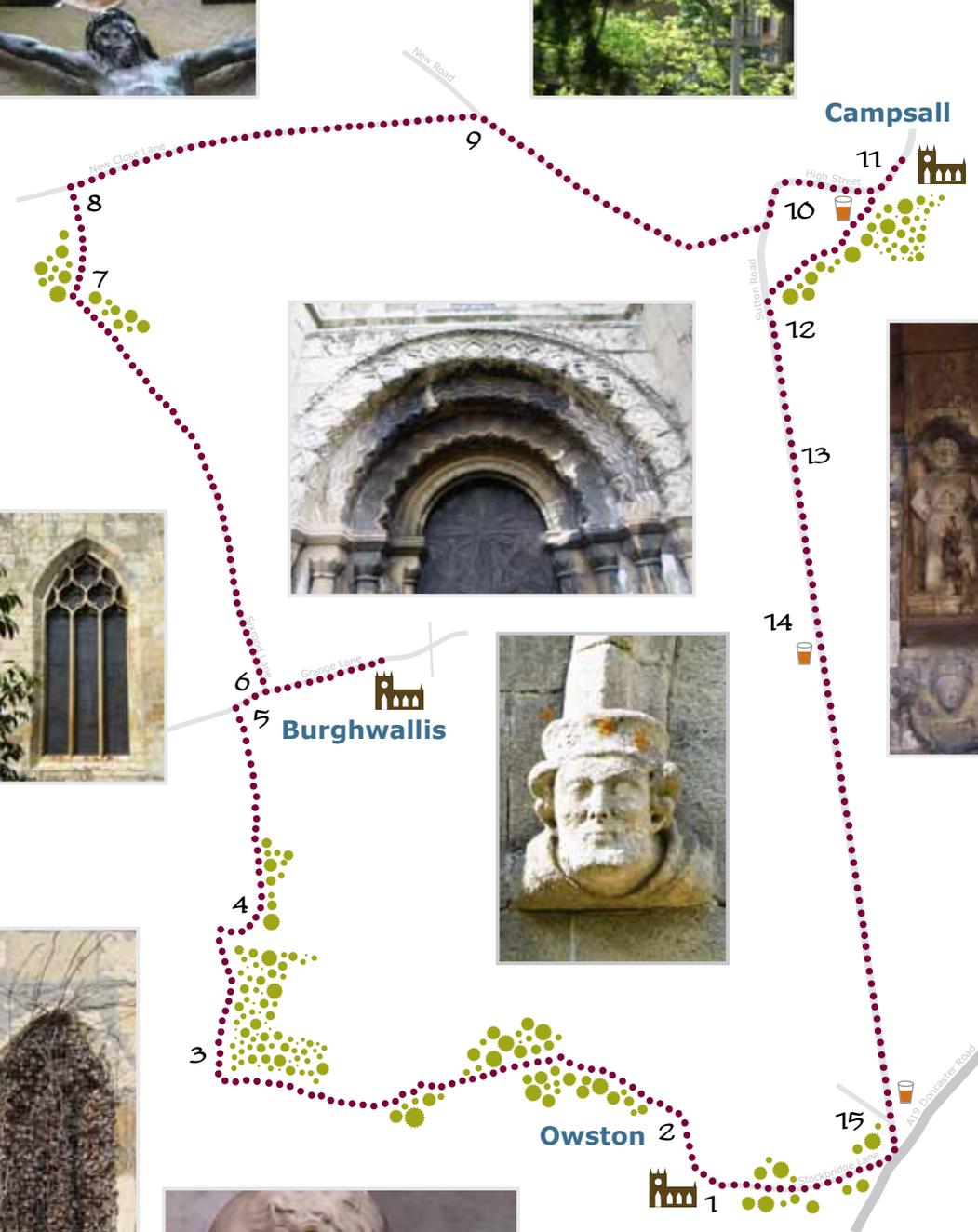
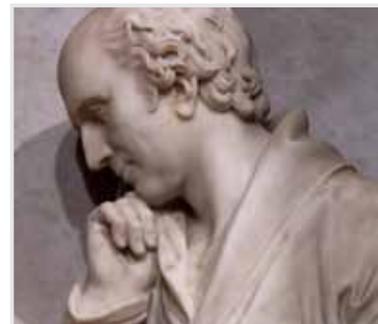
**11** Walk back to the pub and take the footpath to the left just before it. Walk down the path for a short way, then take the second path (the one with a 'kissing gate' to the right of the railings) and follow to the road.

**12** At the road turn left (crossing over to join the footpath). The footpath continues down the road, cross over Burghwallis Lane and carry straight on.

**13** At **SUTTON** and the red phone box you will have to cross over to stay on the footpath.

**14** Past the pub (on the right) the pedestrian footpath ends so continue on the road - **BE VERY CAREFUL AND WALK FACING THE ONCOMING TRAFFIC.**

**15** At the end of the road, where it meets the A19, take a sharp right and walk down Stockbridge Lane back to into **OWSTON** and to the church and car park.



If you go down to the woods today...  
The 900m woodland path through Skellow Cross Plantation features a cross trainer, air walker, chest exerciser, back exerciser and sit up benches - free and accessible to all.

# HILLS & DALES HERITAGE TRAIL

Explore lovely countryside and fascinating industrial heritage in Pennine Barnsley.

## 8.5 MILE CIRCULAR WALK

Enjoy a walk along ancient footpaths and bridleways, which have been used for hundreds of years by local people and visitors alike. This route describes the clockwise route, starting at Silkstone, where there is on street parking. You can start anywhere and go in either direction.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers and riders. Some of the footpaths are alongside busy roads, please take extra care.

The walk will take about 4 hours, with good stops at each church. The route is a little hilly, with a steady uphill to start and then gradual downhill and flat from Hoylandswaine.

### the silkstone waggonway

The Silkstone Waggonway was a horse drawn railway, built in 1809 from Cawthorne to Silkstone, to transport coal mined in the area to the canal. The coming of the Barnsley Canal in 1800 into this previously land locked coalfield, meant that coal could be moved by barge. The waggonway was extended to Silkstone Common in 1830 to serve the various collieries. In 1848 a branch line of the railway, enabled coal to be taken to Manchester, and from 1852 the line also gave access directly to London markets.

Today, you can walk The Silkstone Waggonway on a fascinating industrial heritage trail, and see various restored features of the waggonway. To discover more about local heritage please visit [www.silkstonerefects.co.uk](http://www.silkstonerefects.co.uk)



### silkstone all saints & st james the greater

A warm welcome to our church, the 'Minster of the Moors' since the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It is a beautiful, peaceful, ancient, stately church situated on a knoll within a large churchyard. The building has monastic foundations, well prior to 1066, and has been a Christian place of worship for over 1000 years. The current building is mainly 14<sup>th</sup> century. (SATNAV: S75 4JH)

The church has an 80ft tower with flying buttresses, battlemented parapets and pinnacles. There are many original gargoyles, and three new sculptured figures. There are also many interesting tombstones, ledger tombs and table tombs. In the churchyard is the Huskar Monument, erected to commemorate the drowning of 26 children in the Huskar Pit Disaster in 1838.

There is much to see including an intricately carved 14<sup>th</sup> century rood screen, green men, Victorian box pews, beautiful stained glass and a Royal Coat of Arms, carved on both sides with a lion and unicorn reverse. The church is also home to some fine memorials, including one of the finest examples of a knight in armour from 1675.



### hoylandswaine st john

(SATNAV: S36 7JJ)

Discover our lovely village church, built in 1867, set in a picturesque village with extensive views over the valley towards Cawthorne and beyond.

The church has a wonderful peel of bells in the tower. Many bell ringing competitions are held here throughout the year. The interior of the church is very simple but beautiful. The east window, which depicts the Crucifixion with the blessed Mother and St John on either side, was designed by William Morris.

Unlike many parish churches in the area, St Johns' has a full choir of men and ladies at most of the services. The churchyard is often visited by people looking for their ancestors and the burial register, together with baptism and wedding registers are available for inspection.



### cawthorne all saints

(SATNAV: S75 4HQ)

All Saints' stands at the centre of this picturesque South Yorkshire village, and we are glad to welcome visitors. The earliest reference to a church in Cawthorne can be found in the Domesday Book of 1086. The church was begun in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, although it retains features from earlier buildings. The north wall contains a late Anglo-Saxon cross head.

All Saints underwent restoration in 1875. All the woodwork, including the waggon-headed roof and the pulpit carved in Florence (which features beautiful pre-Raphaelite panels), is from this time. There is a lovely carved black oak screen, bearing the sacred emblems of the Passion.

To the west of the village is Cannon Hall, now a museum. The church contains memorials to the Spencer-Stanhopes of Cannon Hall. The bowl of the 15<sup>th</sup> century octagonal font was found in the grounds of the hall in the late 1800's. The square font in the south aisle is 10<sup>th</sup> century.

There are some lovely stained glass windows, again dedicated to the Spencer-Stanhopes. In the churchyard are notable carved Saxon crosses as well as the mausoleum of the Spencer-Stanhopes.



# five churches walk

Discover the rural splendour of beautiful south Rotherham!

## 10 mile circular walk

Stepping in the footsteps of centuries of walkers, visit picturesque villages and explore some of Rotherham's finest church architecture. This route describes the clockwise route, starting at Todwick where there is a small car park. You can walk in either direction and start at any point. You can almost half the route by taking the path along the Chesterfield Canal.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers.

The walk will take about 6 hours with good stops at each church and has a couple of reasonable hills.

### natural history

This route passes through many varied habitats.

Ash, oak, field maple, hawthorn, blackthorn, holly and dogwood trees can be found in the hedgerow along Walsaker Lane. Birds including jay, turtle dove, willow warbler, blackcap and even sparrowhawk live in Crow and Loscar Woods.



Reedmace, reed sweet-grass and branched bur-reed grow along the banks of the Chesterfield Canal, and provide resting places for damsel and dragonflies.

As the path from Todwick bears left, there is an area rich in flowers on your right. These include meadowsweet, and square-stemmed St John's wort. Butterflies are also common, including green-veined whites, small copper, small skipper and common blues.



### todwick st peter & st paul

(SATNAV: S26 1HN)

Step back in time at this unique and beautiful village church. The church was almost certainly built in Anglo-Saxon times, during the early 11<sup>th</sup> century and this building forms the nave of the current church. Stone. The Chancel and porch were added in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, while the tower was built in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. The porch has original carvings of a face and a scallop shell in the roof beams. The blocked Saxon 'devils door' can be seen both inside and out.

Inside the church you will find wonderful horse-box pews, carvings in the roof beams and behind the 17<sup>th</sup> century altar rails is a case containing the Todwick Byble, dated 1639. There is an impressive coat of arms of George III and some lovely stained glass, including fragments of medieval glass.



### anston st james

(SATNAV: S26 2EE)

There has been a place of worship in Anston since at least 1171 and St James has survived the upheavals of civil war, poverty and sickness. The lovely limestone church dates mostly from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, with the tower added in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Inside are many interesting features to discover, including a 14<sup>th</sup> century effigy. This beautiful and very rare effigy, of a father and his daughter, stood outside the church for many years, but is now sited near the font at the west end of the nave. Some of the pillars between the nave and the aisles have holes in them (now filled in) which are thought to have been caused by musket balls during the Civil War of the 1640s.



### thorpe salvin st peter

(SATNAV: S80 3JP)

The nave of the church dates from 1130 when Roger de Busli of Tickhill was Lord of the Manor. The village takes its name from Ralph Salvain, a knight who lived here in 1284. The chancel, tower arches and massive pillars are all part of the original building, dating from around 1130. The south doorway is elaborately decorated with carved capitals and, Norman round arches carved with 'lozenge and chevron'. It is protected by a half-timbered Tudor porch, a fine example of medieval craftsmanship.

The impressive Tudor half-timbered porch has protected the stunning Norman carved doorway for 450 years. The gem of the church is the font, which is 12<sup>th</sup> century and one of the finest in the country. It displays scenes of the seasons, in great detail. Other things to see include the chained Bible, the early roof line, stone sedilia and various memorials including those to the Sandford family which date over three centuries.



### harthill all hallows

(SATNAV: S26 7YG)

Harthill's first church was built in 1085 of local Rotherham Red sand-stone, by William the Conqueror's son-in-law, William de Warrene. It was enlarged in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, and restored in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Inside the church is splendid, with its wide aisles and finely carved Italian woodwork. The nave roof has some interesting bosses, including green men. Of particular note are the arcades carrying original battle-axe carvings, the east window by Kempe, painted hatchments, memorials of the Osborne family and the tomb of the first Duke of Leeds. The church is closely linked with the Dukes of Leeds, who lived at Kiveton Hall. The crypt contains 32 coffins from the Leeds (Osborne) family.



### wales st john the baptist

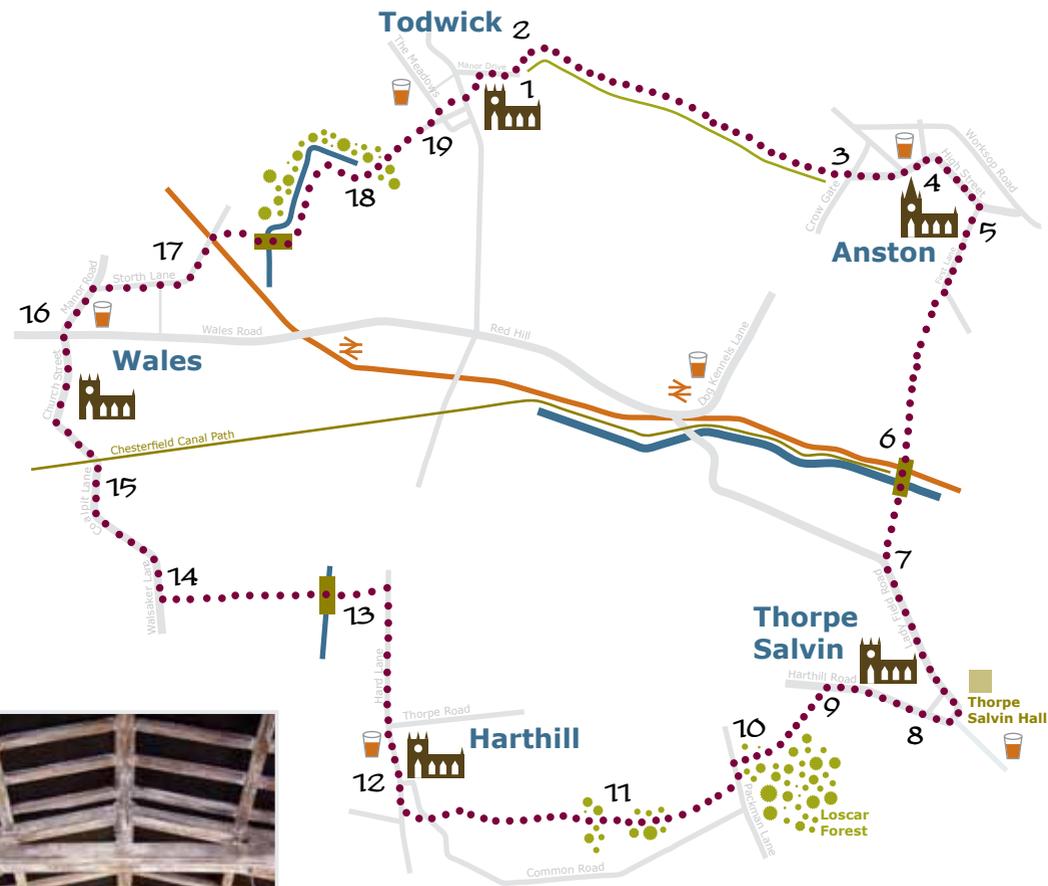
(SATNAV: S26 5LQ)

The original Norman church was constructed during the reign of Henry I (d1135). The tower was constructed in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and in 1897 a new nave and south aisle were added. The original nave and chancel now form part of the Lady Chapel with a beautiful Norman chancel arch on which is a curious carved head. The fantastic Norman south door, with alternate bird and human head carvings is 12<sup>th</sup> century.

The Norman font stands at the entrance to the 15<sup>th</sup> century tower and has a modern carved cover. The tower houses three bells, the oldest which is dated 1425.

- 1 **TODWICK ST PETER & ST PAUL.** Turn right out of the car park and walk down the lane with the swings on your right.
- 2 At the end of the path turn right and follow the wall until you reach **ANSTON**. This wall was the boundary of the 600 acre Kiveton Park Estate, the home of the Duke of Leeds in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.
- 3 At the end of Axle Lane turn left and walk 100 yards. Carefully cross the road, onto High Street. Go through the lychgate and up the hill through the churchyard to **ANSTON ST JAMES**.
- 4 Walk up the path between the gravestones towards the back of the churchyard, go between the houses, and turn left onto Hillcrest Drive.
- 5 After leaving the estate, turn right onto a bridleway between a field and the back of a row of houses. Walk across the field and down to the Chesterfield Canal.
- 6 Take care crossing the railway line and canal, and carry on up the hill.
- 7 At the top of the hill, take time to look back at the view. Turn left onto Lady Field Road and into **THORPE SALVIN**.
- 8 On your left is the privately owned Thorpe Salvin Hall (not open to the public). Follow the road round to the village pump and cross the road to the east gate of the churchyard and **THORPE SALVIN ST PETER**.
- 9 Leave the churchyard by the main gate and turn right. Take care walking up Harthill Road as there is no footpath.  
At the end of the hedgerow on your left, bear left onto the path going diagonally across the field towards Loscar Wood.
- 10 Climb a couple of stone steps and walk along the edge of the wood. Staying on the path, turn left up Packman Lane.  
At the end of the path cross the road, and cross a stile into the field opposite. Walk along the field edge, crossing stiles, to Crow Wood.

- 11 Follow the path through the woods, and along the edges of fields towards **HARTHILL**.  
After the last stile, cross the road and follow the stone path opposite. Take care going down the steps. When you reach the main road, turn right to **HARTHILL ALL HALLOWS**.
- 12 As you walk through the village you will pass the memorial dedicated to local people killed during the Great War. It sits on what is thought to be the old village cross base.
- 13 After visiting the church turn right and carry on down Hard Lane. As you reach the end of the village, turn left through a stone wall onto a path between a fenced field and hedgerow. Cross the stone bridge across a stream, and carry on uphill along the bridleway.
- 14 Turn right onto Walsaker Lane. Follow this, and then a surfaced track (Coalpit Lane) into **WALES**.
- 15 Walk uphill through a farmyard, and past the cemetery on your left. Follow Church Street to visit **WALES ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**.
- 16 When you leave the churchyard turn right and walk down Church Street. At Wales Road, cross very carefully, and take the path down the right hand side of the Lord Conyer's public house. Walk down Manor Road, and turn right onto Storth Lane.
- 17 At the end of Storth Lane, turn left past Wales Comprehensive School on your right.  
After the railway bridge, cross the stile on your right into a field. Head across the field towards the hedgerow. Cross the bridge.
- 18 Walking with the hedge and ditch on your left, follow the edge of the field.  
Follow waymarkers carefully, through a gap in the hedge. Walk in a NE direction towards **TODWICK** on the horizon.
- 19 Cross the stile and walk up Mill Fields. At the top turn left, then right onto Mill Hills. At the main road cross very carefully. Turn right and almost straight left onto a footpath into the churchyard at **TODWICK ST PETER & ST PAUL**.



# SIX churches walk

Discover industrial heritage in the rural surroundings of North Rotherham!

## 10 mile CIRCULAR walk

Explore industrial heritage, walking through lovely countryside along paths and bridleways used for hundreds of years. This route describes the anti-clockwise route, starting at Wath where there is a small car park. You can walk in either direction and start at any point.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers.m Be careful when walking alongside roads.

The walk will take about 7 hours with good stops at each church and has a couple of hills and valleys from which there are lovely views.

### wentworth follies

Passing through the village of Wentworth you can take a short detour to view Wentworth Woodhouse from the footpath. This impressive country house, once home of the Earl Fitzwilliams, has the longest frontage in England. Around the house are a number of 'follies', which can be seen from viewing points along the walk.

#### Keppel's Column

Built by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marquess of Rockingham to commemorate the acquittal of Admiral Keppel, charged with cowardice in 1778.

#### Needle's Eye

Built by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marquess of Rockingham. Believed to have been built to win a wager that a coach could be driven 'through the eye of a needle'.

#### Hooper Stand

This triangular tower is 100 ft high and commands splendid views all around. It was built in 1747 by the 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Rockingham to commemorate the quelling of the Jacobite rebellion in 1745.



### wath all saints

(SATNAV: S63 7RD)

The first church was built in Saxon times and may have been built of timber. By the time the Normans arrived a small stone Saxon church stood on the site of what is now the nave. The Normans extended the church in about 1150 adding a north aisle and chancel. The Lady Chapel was added around 1300.

In the Lady Chapel is a row of five Norman carved stone heads, originally on the outside wall of the church. All Saints has a wonderful collection of painted roof bosses in the Nave. As you leave the church notice the timber bar built into the wall to act as a lock for the south door.

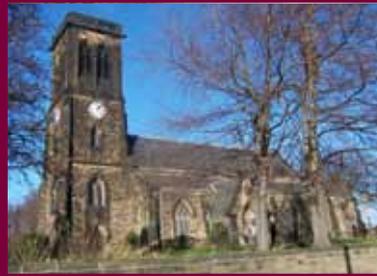


### west melton urc

(SATNAV: S63 6RG)

The origins of non-conformism and dissent from the Church of England are not very well documented. The first record of a Dissenters Meeting House in West Melton was in 1762, the second in 1796. It was from this gathering that the Independent Chapel, worshipping in the Congregational manner, was founded in 1799.

The present church was built in 1799. The interior was based on the original puritan thinking, no stained glass or statues and little or no decoration. There is a large gallery, installed shortly after the opening of the church.



### BRAMPTON BIERLOW CHRIST CHURCH

(SATNAV: S63 6AN)

The church was built in 1855 to accommodate the population increase due to the growth of mining. Christ Church is a splendid Victorian church, built in the decorated style. The church windows all have delicate and unique tracery and beautiful stained glass, by Whitefriars

It is bright and spacious with a fine vaulted ceiling and gold-leaf roof bosses. At the top of one of the columns is a carving of a cow's head. There is a figure of a girl on the opposite side of the column, which is why together they are locally known as the cow and the milkmaid!



### elsecar holy trinity

(SATNAV: S74 8HS)

On Whit Monday in 1841, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl Fitzwilliam laid the foundation stone of the church. It is built of sandstone, roofed in slate and designed in the Early English architectural style.

Inside, four stained glass windows commemorate parishioners killed in the First World War. They are by Morris & Co London which was founded by the pre-Raphaelite artist and designer William Morris. The windows are very striking and portray several bible scenes.

Nearby is Elsecar Heritage Centre, an exciting history and craft centre in a former ironworks workshop.



### wentworth old holy trinity

(SATNAV: S62 7TX)

The church is partially ruined but remains a powerful presence in the village. It is believed to have medieval origins, with mouldings dating back to the late 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Inside visitors can explore the world of the Wentworth Family. The church is home to an interesting collection of monuments to generations of the Wentworth and the Fitzwilliam families. The vault is accessed via a tunnel which leads under the graveyard. The church is in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust.



### wentworth holy trinity

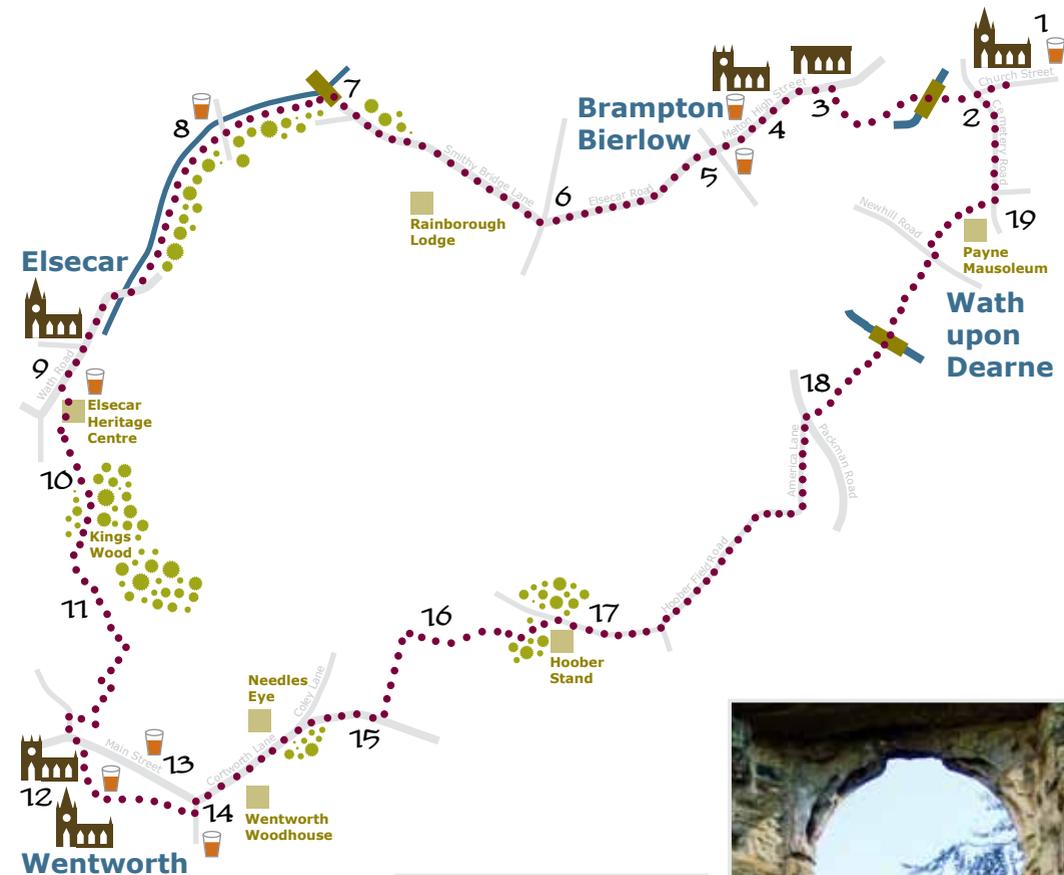
(SATNAV: S62 7TX)

The new church was commissioned in 1872 by the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl Fitzwilliam in memory of his parents. The magnificent building with its tall spire was designed by the distinguished Victorian church architect, J.L. Pearson. It was built on a grand scale, the vast interior can comfortably seat over 300 people.

The interior is particularly fine. The east and west windows are good examples of 19<sup>th</sup> century stained glass (by Kempe) and there are 20<sup>th</sup> century windows down the north aisle, all connected with land agents to the estate. Family memorials are in the south transept.

- 1 **WATH ALL SAINTS.** From the church, walk into Church Street. Turn right and right again into Thornhill Place. Notice the old **parish lock-up**. Continue round to Church Street. The ring of stones is the **village pinfold** (stray animal pen)
- 2 Cross over Church Street and take the right-hand path over the field. Cross Brook Dyke via a metal bridge, keep to the left path. At the end of the wooden fence turn right up a stone chip path and through the gate into **BRAMPTON BIERLOW**.
- 3 Turn left onto Melton High Street to visit **WEST MELTON URC** 100m on the right.
- 4 Continue up High Street for approx 300m. On the right is **BRAMPTON BIERLOW CHRIST CHURCH**.
- 5 After leaving the church, continue along High Street to the Cottage of Content. Cross straight over the crossroads. Continue on Elsecar Road.
- 6 Go past the Counting Houses on your left at Coley Lane. Pass Rainborough Lodge and on to Smithy Bridge Lane.
- 7 At the Welcome to Rotherham sign bear right past a Weak Bridge sign and over a stream. At the next bridge turn left onto the old canal towpath - part of the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT).
- 8 Carry on the TPT past the Elephant & Castle pub. Go up the steps, over the road and continue to follow the trail to Cobcar Bridge. Leave the TPT and turn right into **ELSECAR**, walking past **Reform Row 1837** and coming to **ELSECAR HOLY TRINITY** on your right.
- 9 On leaving the church return to the main road. Continue for about 400m and cross the road into **Elsecar Heritage Centre**.
- 10 Leave by the main entrance. Turn left onto Forge Lane continue straight ahead onto the 'Doorstep Walk' public footpath across fields to enter Kings Wood. Take the left hand fork and follow the green and white arrows up through the wood.
- 11 At the top of wood go left over the stile. Cross the field and follow the hedge up. Turn right over a stile following Rotherham Ring route. Walk diagonally down across the field to the bottom left hand corner and pick up a track between two hedges. Follow path round to the

- right onto a tarmac path and onto main road in **WENTWORTH**.
- 12 Cross the road, turn left, follow footpath up to Main Street, cross over to Church Field Lane to visit **WENTWORTH OLD HOLY TRINITY**.
- 12 In leaving the churchyard, cross the track to visit **WENTWORTH HOLY TRINITY**.
- 13 On leaving the church EITHER carry straight down the drive and turn right to walk through Wentworth village OR turn right along path signposted Vicarage and take footpath to main road. Cross the road and turn left.
- 14 At the T-junction, turn right along Cortworth Lane. Carry on past the entrance to **Wentworth Woodhouse**. Further along on the left you can see the **Needles Eye** in the distance. Keep on the grass verge and walk past the end of Coley Lane.
- 15 At the next bus stop cross the road. Follow the public footpath to Cortworth House. Go through the kissing gate, and walk through the fields onto Street Lane.
- 16 Turn right towards **Hooper Stand**. Continue past the houses and turn left over the wall. Take the diagonal path across the field to the wood. There is a wonderful view from here, you can see **Keppel's Column** and down into the Dearne Valley.
- 17 Enter the wood via the stile and keep to the right footpath uphill to **Hooper Stand**. Go through gate and onto the road. Turn right and follow the road past the Observatory on the left. At end of Lea Brook Lane turn left. Follow Hooper Field Road and continue on past Hooper Hall cottages on America Lane.
- 18 Carefully cross the main road, turn right and then immediately left to take the footpath through the hedge. Continue along the footpath as it curves to the left, go across a stile on the right and follow the markers over the fields to another stile at the end.
- 19 Follow the path up between the houses onto the main road in **WATH**. Turn left and then right into Newhill Park. Cross the field to the Payne Mausoleum. Exit the park onto Cemetery Road and turn left back down to **WATH ALL SAINTS**.



# Domesday Villages Trail

Step into the ancient past, visiting three Domesday villages in rural western Doncaster.

## 10 mile circular walk/ride

Enjoy a walk or ride along ancient bridleways, which have been used for hundreds of years by local people and visitors alike. This route describes the anti-clockwise route, starting at Sprotbrough. You can start anywhere and go in either direction.

Don't forget to dress for the British weather, wear appropriate clothing and footwear and read the general advice for walkers and riders.

To walk, the trail will take about 5 hours with good stops at each church. To ride, the trail will take about 3.5 hours, with stops at each church.

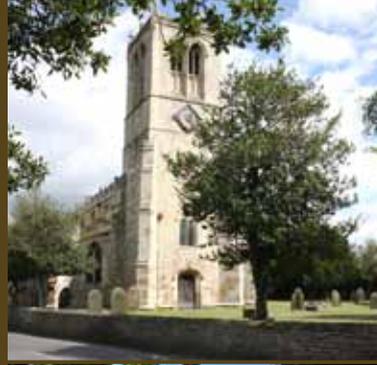
### the Domesday Book

The Domesday Book was commissioned by William the Conqueror, who invaded England in 1066. It was completed in 1086 and contained records for 13,418 settlements in England. The original Domesday Book is currently housed in a specially made chest at The National Archives in Kew, London.



The Domesday Book provides extensive records of landholders, their tenants, the amount of land they owned, the amounts of woodland, meadow, animals, fish and ploughs on the land and other resources, any buildings present and the whole purpose of the survey - the value of the land and its assets, before the Norman Conquest.

Many South Yorkshire villages are in the Domesday Book, and exploring them is like stepping back in time.



### Sprotbrough St Mary

(SATNAV: DN5 7RJ)

The original church was almost certainly small, with just a nave and chancel. The present church is thought to have been built around 1170. In 1516, the roof was replaced and clerestory windows added. There is a Saxon inscribed stone in the chancel wall which may be a fragment of a cross.

There are many wonderful things to see. The Royal Coat of Arms dates from 1714, the chancel screen is rare and ancient with several misericords. Some carved pew ends from the old box pews are thought to be of 16<sup>th</sup> century origin. There is a superb floor brass commemorating Sir William Fitzwilliam (who died in 1474) and his wife and a very rare stone 'sanctuary' seat which gave respite to fugitives. Several fine effigy memorials can be seen in church, some dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Other things include a 13<sup>th</sup> century sedilia and piscina, medieval grave slabs and striking stained glass.



### Marr St Helen

(SATNAV: DN5 7AU)

The beautiful village church of St Helen has original herringbone masonry. The nave and chancel are early Norman and the spire tower is thought to date from around 1300. The stone-ribbed porch is 15<sup>th</sup> century.

There are many interesting things to see including an early 14<sup>th</sup> century font, a Royal Coat of Arms, two medieval piscinas and the pulpit with its fine medieval woodwork. There are also traces of red wall painting on the south arcade arches and round one of the windows. Seventy Roman coins were recently found in the area which provide evidence of the boundary line which Marr formed at the Roman Rickneild Street.



### High Melton St James

(SATNAV: DN5 7SZ)

This gorgeous 12<sup>th</sup> century church is in a lovely rural setting, where people have lingered for centuries. The church was established in 1153AD and has been extensively extended over the years, most notably by the addition of a tower and Lady Chapel in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and some extraordinary Victorian internal features.

Over the years it had connections with Archbishops, Lords and Archdeacons, and there are some spectacular memorials to benefactor families. There is a lovely oak rood screen and reredos, by Sir John Ninian Comper. He also designed several altar frontals for St James and wonderful stained glass above the 12<sup>th</sup> century 'wine goblet' font. St James is noted for its beautiful stained glass, from medieval to Victorian work by Kempe.



### Cadeby St John the Evangelist

(SATNAV: DN5 7SW)

The church overlooks grand views of the Dearne Valley. It was built in the ancient village of Cadeby by Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1856, for Sir Joseph Copley. The church was intended as a Decorated version of the Early English church at Skelton near York. Although some of the external stonework detail has eroded, the fine carving inside by J Birnie Philip is as crisp as ever. There is painted decoration in the roof and original furniture. The church is in the care of The Churches Conservation Trust.



### Conisbrough St Peter

(SATNAV: DN12 3BU)

As you walk into St Peters church an 8<sup>th</sup> century welcome greets you!

Described as the oldest building in South Yorkshire, the church has a lovely 'across the centuries' feel. There is a warmth and peace which comes to you from the many Christians who have worshipped here down the ages. Built in Saxon times (c740-750AD) for 400 years it remained in its original form. From c1100 the church was extended and expanded until c1450 when the church became much as it is today.

There are many interesting features to see, including a medieval altar slab removed from the ruins of Conisbrough Castle chapel and aumbry and piscinas of different ages and styles as well as a 15<sup>th</sup> century font and two 13<sup>th</sup> century stained glass windows. In the porch is a lovely Roman-British carving, and inside the church is a 12<sup>th</sup> century tomb chest mentioned by Sir Walter Scott in the notes to his novel 'Ivanhoe'. There is also furniture by Robert 'mouse-man' Thompson.



**1** Start at the car parking spaces near The Boat Inn, on Boat Lane, Sprotbrough (on the Trans Pennine Trail).

Follow Boat Lane up the steep hill into **SPROTBROUGH**. At the junction with main Street turn right to visit **SPROTBROUGH ST MARY** on your right.

**2** When you leave the church, turn left along Main Street (to Cadeby).

Turn right up New Lane (3<sup>rd</sup> road on right). At the top of the lane, cross over Melton Road and continue up Folder Lane.

**3** At the end of Folder Lane, continue straight ahead on the Bridleway. Walk/ride across the field, when the path forks take the left hand branch keeping the trees on your right, and continue on the Bridleway.

**4** Cross over Sheep Lane/Brand Lane and join the Bridleway straight across the road. Continue straight on over the field (keep the hedgerow to your right) until it becomes a Sprotborough Lane). Follow into **MARR**.

At the main road (A635 Barnsley Road) turn left and then right down Church Lane to visit **MARR ST HELEN**.

**5** Return to the main road and turn right. At Marr Lodge pub, turn left down Blacksmiths Lane, opposite (MAKE SURE YOU WALK FACING ONCOMING TRAFFIC). You will see a Bridleway on your left. Follow this path into High Melton Wood.

**6** Once you emerge from the woodland continue to follow the Bridleway across the field. Turn sharp right at the signpost, and then left onto Hangman Stone Lane.

Cross a field and into **HIGH MELTON**. The lane curves to the left then right. Continue to follow it down to the main road and turn left. Follow the signposts to visit **HIGH MELTON ST JAMES**.

**7** On leaving the church, return up the lane to the main road. Turn right, and then right again down Cadeby Lane. IF YOU ARE WALKING BE VERY CAREFUL WHERE THERE IS NO FOOTPATH - MAKE SURE YOU WALK FACING ONCOMING TRAFFIC.

At the crossroads in **CADEBY**, turn right. On your right is **CADEBY ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST**.

**8** On leaving the church turn left down the main road, back to crossroads. Turn right down Garden Lane and follow down hill.

When the road turns sharp left (just before the Quarry), follow the path straight on into the trees - following the blue Trans Pennine Trail to Edlington sign.

**9 OPTIONAL VISIT TO CONISBROUGH ST PETER**

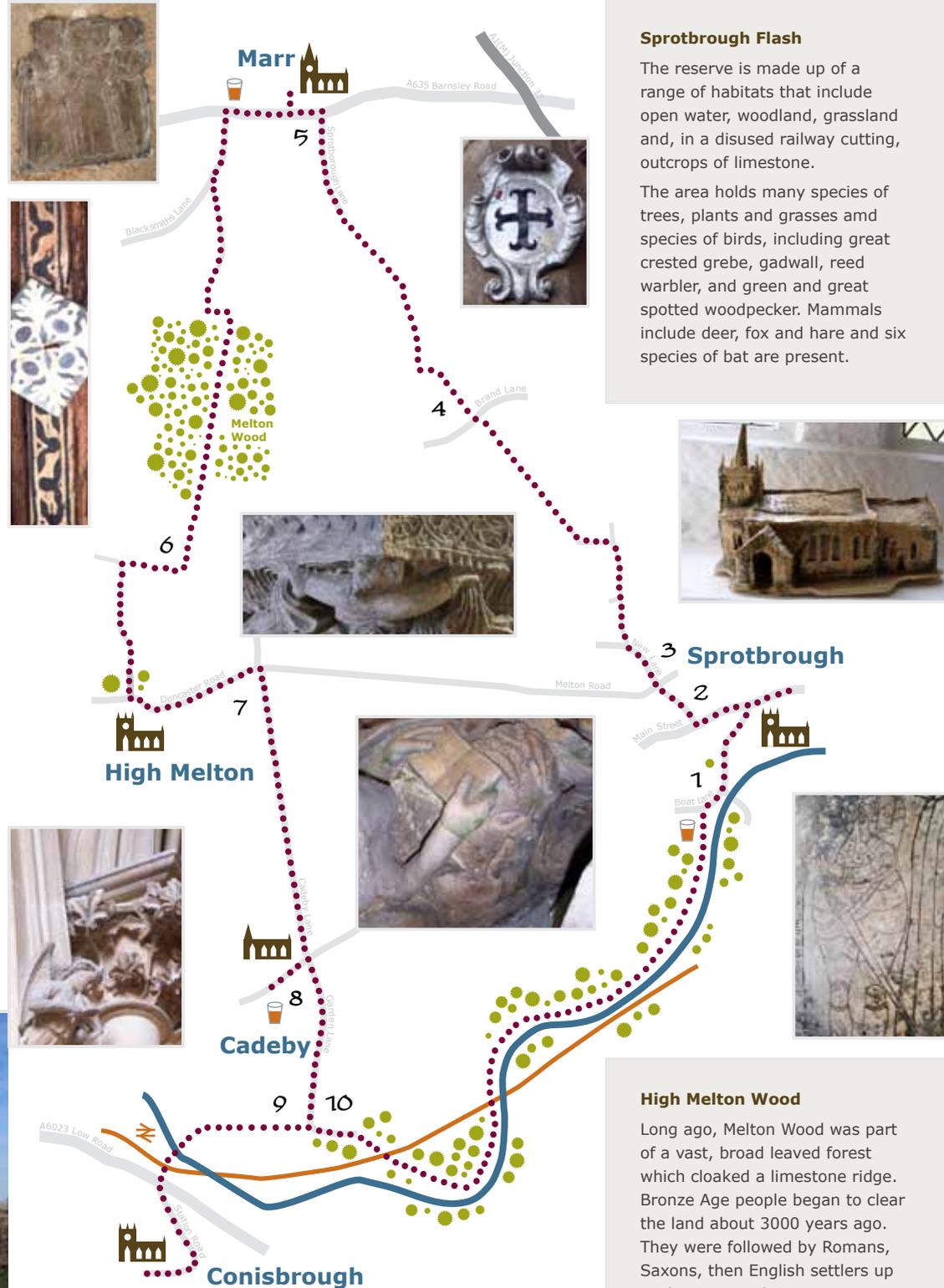
At the Trans Pennine Trail, take the trail to the right towards Conisbrough. At the Earth Centre, take the path on your left and follow it through the woodland, through the Earth Centre and up through the railway station onto the main road (Low Road).

Turn left and then right up Station Road (past the Station Pub) into **CONISBROUGH**. At the top of the hill follow Church Lane to visit **CONISBROUGH ST PETER**.

Retrace your steps back to the where you turned left towards Conisbrough.

**10** Follow the path onto the Trans Pennine Trail, turning left and going down the hill with Conisbrough Viaduct on your right. At the bottom of the hill follow the path to the left.

You are now following the Trans Pennine Trail. Follow the trail along the river and through Sprotbrough Flash, back to the The Boat Inn.



**Sprotbrough Flash**

The reserve is made up of a range of habitats that include open water, woodland, grassland and, in a disused railway cutting, outcrops of limestone.

The area holds many species of trees, plants and grasses and species of birds, including great crested grebe, gadwall, reed warbler, and green and great spotted woodpecker. Mammals include deer, fox and hare and six species of bat are present.



**Sprotbrough**

**High Melton Wood**

Long ago, Melton Wood was part of a vast, broad leaved forest which cloaked a limestone ridge. Bronze Age people began to clear the land about 3000 years ago. They were followed by Romans, Saxons, then English settlers up to the present day.

# Valleys & peaks SCENIC DRIVE

Discover churches and chapels amid the craggy Pennine landscape.

## 12 mile Linear route

This area is renowned for its stunning landscape, with sweeping valleys and craggy outcrops and hills. The drive skims the boundary of the Peak District National Park, Britain's first national park created in 1951.

The area's name comes from 'peac', an Old English word for hill and its scenery has been forged by nature for millions of years, and by human activity for thousands of years.

Within this landscape are rugged villages of local stone, ancient sites and monuments, heritage sites and stately homes - all well worth a visit!

### natural history

The landscape of crags and valleys is home to a number of rare flora and fauna. The heather moorland is of global ecological importance.

Habitats in the Peak District include limestone dales, lead rakes, hay meadows and blanket bog. There are communities of mountain hare (which turn white in the winter), curlew, lapwing and water-vole.

The geology is a mix of sandstone and gritstone formations for most of the route, before passing into coal measures in the south and east.

There are no natural lakes but several valleys have been flooded to form reservoirs, which in themselves have added to the diversity of habitats in the area.



### midhopestones st james

(SATNAV: S36 4GW)

Midhopestones is a hamlet, high in the Pennines, north-west of Sheffield. St James' is a tiny rugged church, surrounded by a picturesque graveyard. It is built of grey sandstone, with roof tiles of the same material.

The foundations were laid around 1360 by the Barnby family, the Lords of the Manor of Midhope (1354-1622). They used it as their private chapel until, impoverished by adherence to the Catholic faith after the Reformation, they had to sell the whole Manor. Some of the old benches in the gallery may have come from this time when there would have been no other seating.

When Godfrey Bosville of Gunthwaite Hall bought the Manor in 1690 the chapel was falling into disrepair. He restored it in 1705, adding the porch, gallery and simple box pews. Most of these survive, and two have the names of their original tenants carved upon the doors.

The churchyard has wonderful views over the open moors and hills.



### bolsterstone st mary

(SATNAV: S36 3ZB)

St Mary's church stands on the site of much older places of worship. The first documented place of worship here was established by Sir Robert de Rockley in 1412 as a private chantry chapel. Throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the chapel was extended with the addition of a gallery, rood loft and bells. This chapel was in such a bad state of repair by 1790 that it was demolished and replaced with a new church in 1791. It was again replaced in 1872 and completed in 1879.

The lychgate was erected in 1897 to mark the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria and a war memorial nearby was added in 1921 to commemorate the people of the parish who were killed in conflicts of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The graveyard also contains two large rectangular stones of unknown origin, known as the Bolster Stones.



### bradfield st nicholas

(SATNAV: S6 6LG)

This beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century church is set on the edge of a hill in the Peak District, with stunning views from the churchyard. Simon Jenkins wrote that, from the church, 'the view is glorious, enjoyed by the weather beaten gargoyles peering from under toppling pinnacles'.

The church retains features from the original stone church (dating from 1109), and houses a carved Anglo-Saxon cross believed to date from the 9<sup>th</sup> century. The original church was largely rebuilt in the 1480s in the Perpendicular style, using some of the original masonry.

There is much to explore in the church. The pulpit features carved panels portraying Christ with the four Gospel writers and oak panels brought from Normandy in 1886 decorate the sanctuary and the altar. There is a camber beam roof with carved feet and various embossing, and the original Norman font.

Near the main gates stands an irregular shaped watch house, built in 1831 to fight against grave robbers looking for fresh corpses for medical study. Friends and relatives often guarded recently buried loved ones.



### stannington underbank chapel

(SATNAV: S6 6AP)

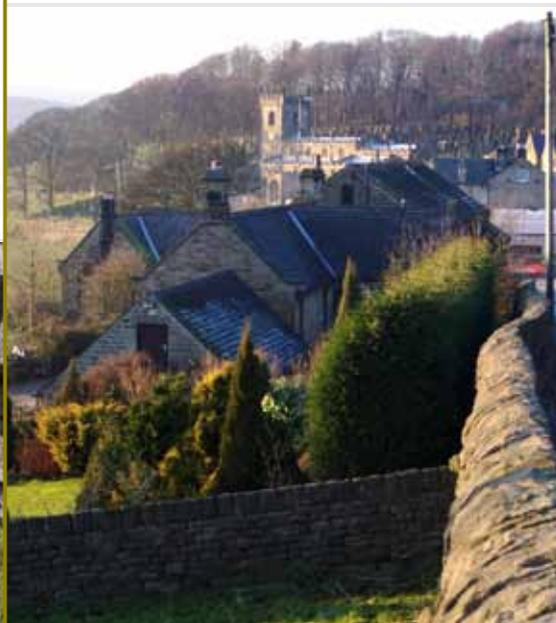
The chapel is the oldest church in Stannington. It opened in 1743, with the original congregation founded in 1652. The exterior of the chapel is very striking, and retains the two original doors (this may have been one for men and one for women). The windows are very tall, and in a symmetrical pattern. There are two circular windows on the south facade with pronounced geometric quoins and the original sashes. The graveyard overlooks a fine view of the valley.

The interior was much altered in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. There is a gallery at the east end and the pews date from 1860. The pulpit is in the centre of the west side, although a faint outline of where the original pulpit stood can be seen. The chapel contains many interesting features, including a fine embroidered tapestry celebrating 350 years of Underbank Chapel and a model of the chapel by Ivan Harper. You can also see the Schoolroom on the other side of the road. Opened in 1854, this is the 'new school' - the original school began in 1652. Why not climb the hill behind the schoolroom to enjoy the magnificent views.

- 1 **MIDHOPESTONES ST JAMES.** Follow Church Lane to Mortimer Road. Turn right onto Mortimer Road, following signpost for Bolsterstone.
- 2 Take the first left onto Oaks Lane out of **MIDHOPESTONES** (be very careful driving along here and subsequent roads – they are narrow with one lane traffic and passing places). Keep straight on this road – going past **Underbank Reservoir** on your left (there are lovely hikes here if you want to stop).
- 3 The road turns into Machin Road and then New Hall Lane passing **Underbank Outdoor Activity Centre** on left (you can see Bolsterstone St Mary in the distance).
- 4 Road turns into Lee House Lane and then Stone Moor Road.
- 5 Enter **BOLSTERSTONE**. At the t-junction turn right. Park to visit **BOLSTERSTONE ST MARY** on your right.
- 6 After leaving the church continue on Sunny Bank Road past Bolsterstone Village Hall on your right). Bear round a corner to the right at the village hall. The road becomes Yewtrees Lane.
- 7 Follow Yewtrees Lane. On the left you can glimpse **Broomhead Reservoir** through the trees. Pass over a small bridge and stream.
- 8 Pass the village of **Wigtwizzle**, the road becomes Lee Lane. Keep going straight forward. After a road joins from the right, the the road becomes Canyard Hills Lane.
- 9 After climbing along the edge of the valley, take a right onto Load Field Road and continue up the hill. There are glorious fields of heather on the right.



- 10 At the t-junction (where there is a wonderful view over the valley ahead) turn left onto Penistone Road. This becomes Brown House Lane and leads downhill into **BRADFIELD**.
- 11 After the first house on the right. Park on Brown House Lane and walk down Jane Lane on the right hand side of the road to visit **BRADFIELD ST NICHOLAS** at the bottom.
- 12 After leaving the church, continue straight down Brown House Lane onto Loxley Road (do not turn right down Woodfall Lane).
- 13 Continue along Loxley Road along the edge of the wide valley, and passing alongside Damflask Reservoir. Turn sharp right then right again onto New Road and over the top of the dam.
- 14 Watch out for the next (sharp) left onto Briers House Lane and go up a steep hill.
- 15 Go through Dungworth village. Climb along the edge of the hill with spectacular views over the valley. The road becomes Cliffe Road and then Rye Lane.
- 16 Keep straight on and the road turns into Brookside Bank Road and then finally Stopes Road as it enters **STANNINGTON**. Park to visit **STANNINGTON UNDERBANK CHAPEL** on your left.



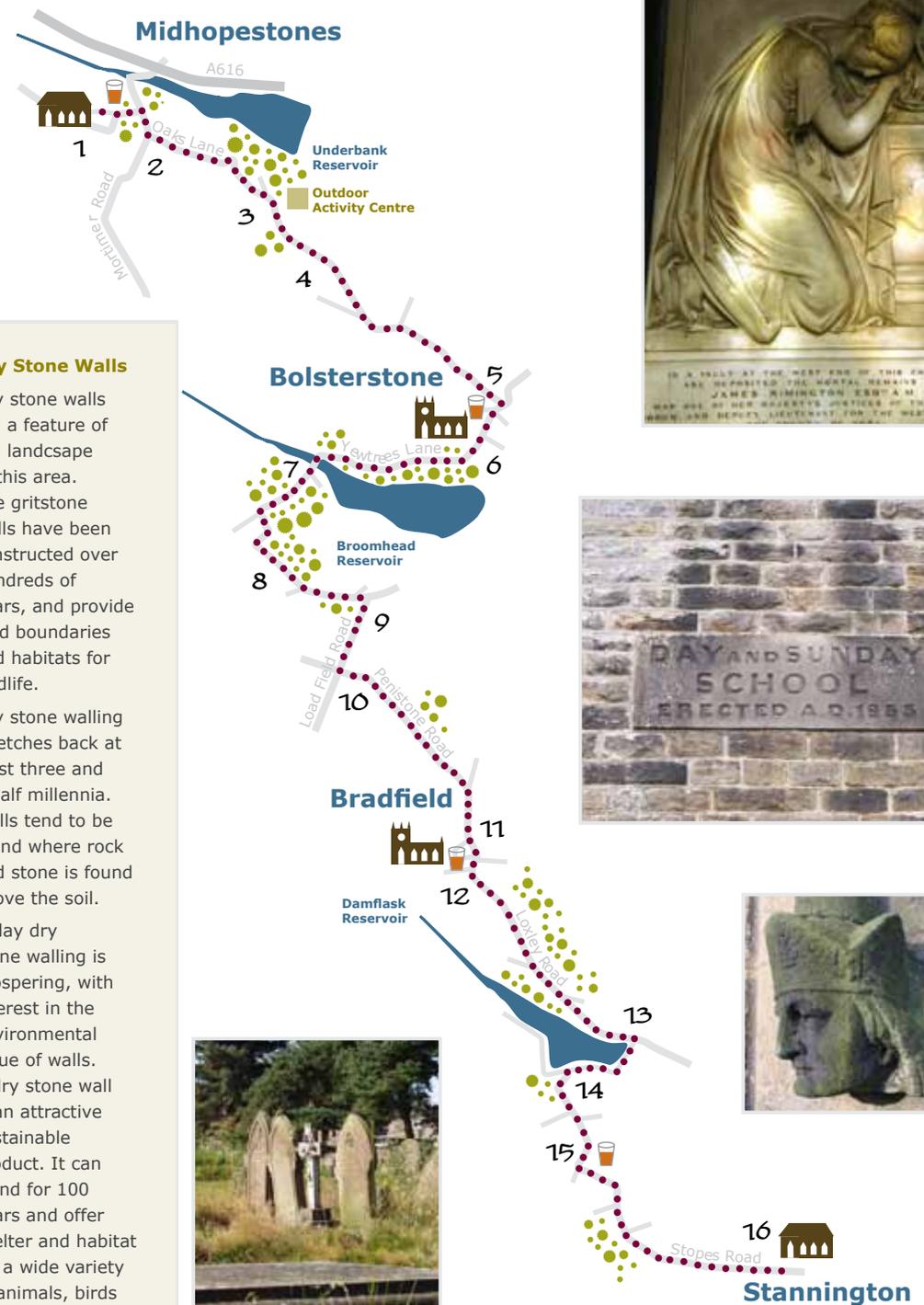
### Dry Stone Walls

Dry stone walls are a feature of the landscape of this area. The gritstone walls have been constructed over hundreds of years, and provide field boundaries and habitats for wildlife.

Dry stone walling stretches back at least three and a half millennia. Walls tend to be found where rock and stone is found above the soil.

Today dry stone walling is prospering, with interest in the environmental value of walls. A dry stone wall is an attractive sustainable product. It can stand for 100 years and offer shelter and habitat for a wide variety of animals, birds and plants.

[www.ydswa.com](http://www.ydswa.com)



# PILGRIMS SCENIC DRIVE

Discover rural churches in the Pilgrim Fathers area of Doncaster!

## 25 MILE CIRCULAR ROUTE

This area is renowned for its market towns and villages.

**Tickhill** is a lovely market town, centred around a Buttercross erected in 1777. The remains of a Norman Castle overlook a picturesque mill dam.

**Blyth** was an important stopping place for travellers on the old road from London to York. There are several coaching inns still standing today.

**Bawtry** was an ancient port. Now it is a busy market town with many restaurants and quality shops. It was a former staging post on the Great North Road.

### natural history

This drive visits a number of places linked to the origins of the separatist 'Pilgrim Fathers' - the early settlers of the Plymouth Colony in present-day Massachusetts, USA.



In 1620 one hundred separatists boarded the 'Mayflower' bound for the New World. They were concerned about losing their cultural identity and believed that the New World was their only chance for a fresh start.

William Bradford and William Brewster, both passengers aboard The Mayflower, came from this area. William Brewster was born in Scrooby, and his manor house was used as a meeting place between 1606-7. William Bradford was born in Austerfield in 1589, and christened in the village church. Bradford rose to become one of the principal figures in 17th century New England, becoming Governor in 1621. William Bradford's diaries give us details of the lives of the separatists.

[www.pilgrimfathersorigins.org](http://www.pilgrimfathersorigins.org)



### tickhill st mary

(SATNAV: DN11 9LY)

St Mary's has been described as one of the finest medieval churches in Yorkshire. Its splendid tower, with crown of open arcading, spans the centuries - the base dates from 1200, the top is 15<sup>th</sup> century. Built of magnesian limestone the stately interior includes three 13<sup>th</sup> century arches all with nail head ornament. The nave has beautiful arcades remodelled in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Arches and pillars were altered, decorated capitals added and a splendid clerestory inserted. There are two chapels, chiefly 14<sup>th</sup> century, each with an old screen. Other woodwork includes the pulpit and a chest with iron bands. Some coloured glass dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, but most is late Victorian.



### blyth st mary & st martin

(SATNAV: DN81 8HL)

St Mary & St Martin is also known as Blyth Priory. It was originally built in 1088, making it the oldest church on this route. The present nave and north aisle remain from this original building. The south porch was added in 1180 and about 1230 the original wooden ceiling was replaced by stone vaulting. In 1287 a new south aisle was built. Towards the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century the west tower was started. It is crowned with an elaborate open parapet with pinnacles.

The western door is very beautiful. It features an ogee canopy, set into a panelled recess. Among the many monuments in church, there are the remains of a tomb with an effigy of a knight. The church is particularly known for its huge Doom Painting, a painting of the Last Judgement, on the wall above the chancel arch. There is also a very fine painted screen featuring figures of Saints.



### scrooby st wilfrid

(SATNAV: DN10 6AJ)

Scrooby was once the seat of the Archbishops of York, and in the old archiepiscopal mansion the leaders of the separatist 'Pilgrim Fathers' used to meet - including leading founder William Brewster. Next to the church is the timber framed 'Brewsters' Cottage', originally built around 1590 and where the separatists met from around 1605.

The church is mostly early 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, but has its origins in an earlier 12<sup>th</sup> century church on this site. The tower is distinctive, with four chamfered corners to form an octagonal base for the spire. The roof, pews, pulpit and east window are all Victorian. There are two 16<sup>th</sup> century chancel seats which, along with Brewsters' Pew, are carved with vines.



### bawtry st nicholas

(SATNAV: DN10 6HX)

St Nicholas's church was built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century as a chapel of Blyth. The tower was largely rebuilt in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, perhaps with limestone from Roche Abbey, but its belfry windows are medieval. There is a blocked Norman doorway and 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century arcades in the nave. The east window dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century, and has a wonderful carved moulding on the outside - said to be one of only two of its kind in the country. There is a 15<sup>th</sup> century chapel, and the red and gold altar is in memory of all men who have died for peace. It features figures of St George and St Michael and of soldiers by the cross.



### austerfield st helena

(SATNAV: DN10 6QU)

The present church was built in 1080 by John de Busli as a Chapel of Ease for the people of Austerfield. They previously travelled to Blyth Priory. The church has undergone extensions and renovations. There is a tympanum above the south door, showing a dragon. It has been related to the Synod of Austerfield of 702AD which settled the manner in which Easter should be calculated.

Inside, the pillars are Norman. One features a Sheela Na Gig within its carved capital. This is a quasi-erotic stone carving of a female figure sometimes found in Norman churches. Austerfield is perhaps best known for its link with the separatist Pilgrim Fathers. William Bradford, who went on to become Governor of Plymouth, Massachusetts was baptised in this church.

- 1 **TICKHILL ST MARY.** From the church head out towards Maltby on the A631. Across from Traveller's Rest pub, turn left onto the A60 towards Oldcotes/Worksop. See Harworth Pit to the left. Pass the sign welcoming you to Nottinghamshire.
- 2 In Oldcotes turn left at the mini roundabout (with the King William VI pub) along the A634. Notice Oldcotes Church to your right at the roundabout, then the 1840 Wesleyan Chapel on your right once you have turned left.
- 3 Continue on the A634 past Oldcotes car boot site on the left. Pass Northern Garden Centre on the right, and then the Best Western Charnwood Hotel on the left. Go through the traffic lights and over the old bridge (be careful).
- 4 Enter **BLYTH**. As the road bends right, turn left and park to visit **BLYTH ST MARY & ST MARTIN**.
- 5 After visiting the church, return to the main road. At the junction turn right then left, still on the A634.  
Pass under the bridge bearing the A1 and take the first left onto B6045, Blyth Road, to Ranskill.
- 6 In Ranskill turn left at the crossroads (with the Blue Bell pub). Now follow the A638, the Great North Road (Ermine Street), to Scrooby.
- 7 Pass through Scrooby Top, notice the big house on your left. Enter **SCROOBY**. Turn right down Low Road and park to visit **SCROOBY ST WILFRID**.
- 8 After visiting the church turn left up Church Lane. At the top turn right back onto the main A638 road. Pass the Pilgrim Fathers pub on left. Continue along the road past Bawtry Garden Centre on the left.
- 9 The road bends sharp to left then follow round to the immediate right, following signs to Bawtry. Pass the sign welcoming you to Doncaster. Enter **BAWTRY**, passing Bawtry Hall on the left.  
Go straight on through traffic lights. Turn second right down Wharf Street (just before the Granby Hotel). Turn right at the bottom onto Church Street, park to visit **BAWTRY ST NICHOLAS**.



- 10 After visiting the church continue along Church Street, at the end turn right. Turn right at the traffic lights onto the main road.
- 11 Turn right onto the A614 to Austerfield (Bawtry Methodist Church on left).

**12 OPTIONAL VISIT TO MISSON ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**

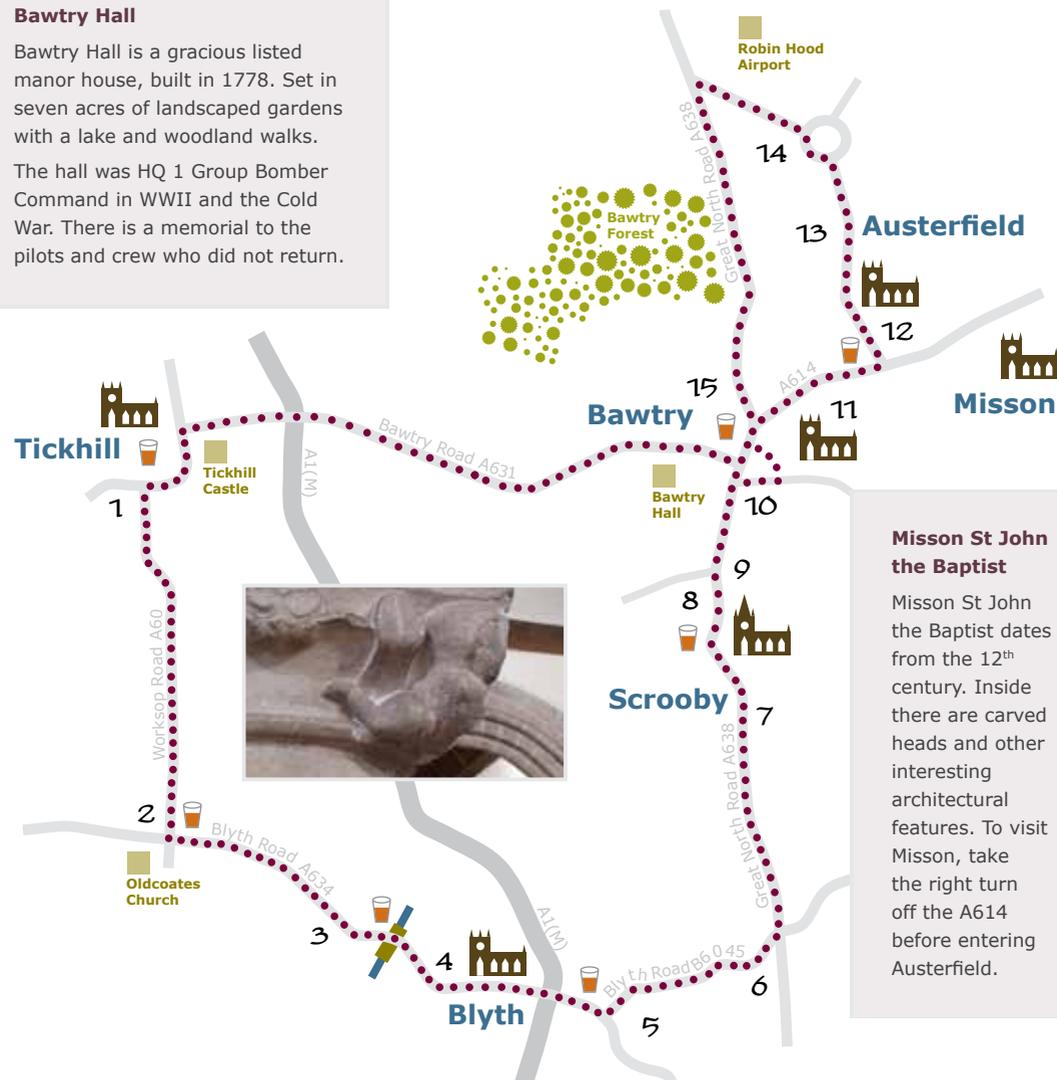
On the A614, bear right to Misson on Bawtry Road. Follow into **MISSON**, then turn right onto West Street. Turn left onto High Street. Park to visit **MISSON ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**.

- 12 Follow A614 into **AUSTERFIELD** past the Mayflower pub on right. The church is about 50m further on the right in a churchyard behind two large trees.  
Park to visit **AUSTERFIELD ST HELENA**.

- 13 Continue along the main road leaving Austerfield. Pass the Caravan Park on the right.
- 14 At the roundabout take the first exit onto High Common Lane. Pass Robin Hood Airport on the right. At the junction turn left back onto the A638 Great North Road. Re-enter **BAWTRY**.
- 15 In Bawtry, turn right at the Crown hotel onto the A631 Bawtry Road. Continue straight on, notice Harworth pit to the left and Maltby pit in front. Pass the garden centre. The road goes under the A1(M) and enters **TICKHILL**.  
Pass the Buttercross and turn left back towards the church.

**Bawtry Hall**

Bawtry Hall is a gracious listed manor house, built in 1778. Set in seven acres of landscaped gardens with a lake and woodland walks.  
The hall was HQ 1 Group Bomber Command in WWII and the Cold War. There is a memorial to the pilots and crew who did not return.



**Misson St John the Baptist**

Misson St John the Baptist dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Inside there are carved heads and other interesting architectural features. To visit Misson, take the right turn off the A614 before entering Austerfield.

**The Great North Road**

The Great North Road has its origins in pre-Roman Britain. The road stretches 400 miles, between London and Edinburgh, through the smallest and largest counties in England.

The Romans built Ermine Street, from London to York, as a military road and even after centuries of neglect Harold used it to march to York and back in 1066. The Scots used the route to invade England, Warwick the Kingmaker died on it and many Wars of the Roses battles were fought on and near it.

There have been many Great North Roads and there is no definitive route.



# BE INSPIRED

Feast your eyes on our wonderful faith heritage. You'll find many inspirational places to visit and events to experience. Churches, chapels, mosques, gurudwaras, synagogues and other faith sites are literally 'treasure houses' of history and the keepers of community heritage. They were all built for the same purpose, but no two are the same.

Our heritage faith sites are blessed. They are set within some of the finest natural landscapes in the country.

If feeling the earth beneath your boots or bike is your thing, you are in for a treat. Use this booklet to enjoy walks and rides along well laid out routes, along with information about local heritage and places to visit. There are even a couple of scenic drives for when you aren't feeling so energetic!

We work with 150+ heritage faith sites and attract over 50,000 visitors per year. Our volunteers offer a warm Yorkshire welcome, and are proud to share the architectural and cultural treasures they care for.

South Yorkshire has a wonderful heritage of faith buildings peppered across the countryside and nestling in our towns. Why not come and explore them with us!

## EXPLORE

Please visit [heritageinspired.org.uk](http://heritageinspired.org.uk) where you can find detailed information about each church, visitor trails and interpretative leaflets.

**0845 6529634 / [info@heritageinspired.org.uk](mailto:info@heritageinspired.org.uk)**

With a wealth of amazing attractions and places to eat, sleep and enjoy, step outside and explore. There's a whole lot more going on in Yorkshire. Please visit [yorkshire.com](http://yorkshire.com)

## HELP

All these sites are cared for by volunteers, and they are maintained from donations. To help preserve this wonderful heritage for the future, please give generously when you have enjoyed your visit.

Welcome  
to Yorkshire  
[yorkshire.com](http://yorkshire.com)



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