

# Be a responsible walker

Please remember the countryside is a place where people live and work and where wildlife makes its home. To protect the Lincolnshire countryside for other visitors please respect it and on every visit follow the Countryside Code. Thank you.

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

## Most of all enjoy your visit to the Lincolnshire countryside

This leaflet is one in a series of walk leaflets produced by Lincolnshire County Council's Natural Environment Team to help you explore and enjoy the county's countryside. If you have enjoyed these walks and would like information on other walking routes in Lincolnshire then please visit our website.

If you encounter any problems whilst on these walks, such as an overgrown path or a broken sign post, please let us know so they can be corrected.

We would also welcome your comments and suggestions on the walk and leaflet to help improve future editions.

*If you require this leaflet in another format please contact us.*

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# Walk Information

**Walk location:** Fulbeck is situated just off the A607, about midway between Lincoln and Grantham.

**Starting point:** Sports field car park on the A607, opposite the church.  
Grid reference: SK 949 504.



**Parking:** Sports field, as above.

**Public Transport:** The Interconnect bus service runs regularly between Lincoln and Grantham, stopping in Fulbeck. For times call the Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/busrailtravel](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/busrailtravel).

Public  
Footpath

**Walk length:** 3½ km (2 miles) or 9 km (5½ miles).

At a leisurely pace the walk will take approximately 1 or 2¼ hours to complete.

**Type of walk:** The walk uses field paths, tracks and minor roads. The shorter walk involves a descent and ascent in Fulbeck itself. The longer walk has an additional moderate descent and ascent.

**Ordnance Survey maps for the area:** Explorer 272 Lincoln. Landranger 121 Lincoln and Newark-on-Trent, and 130 Grantham.

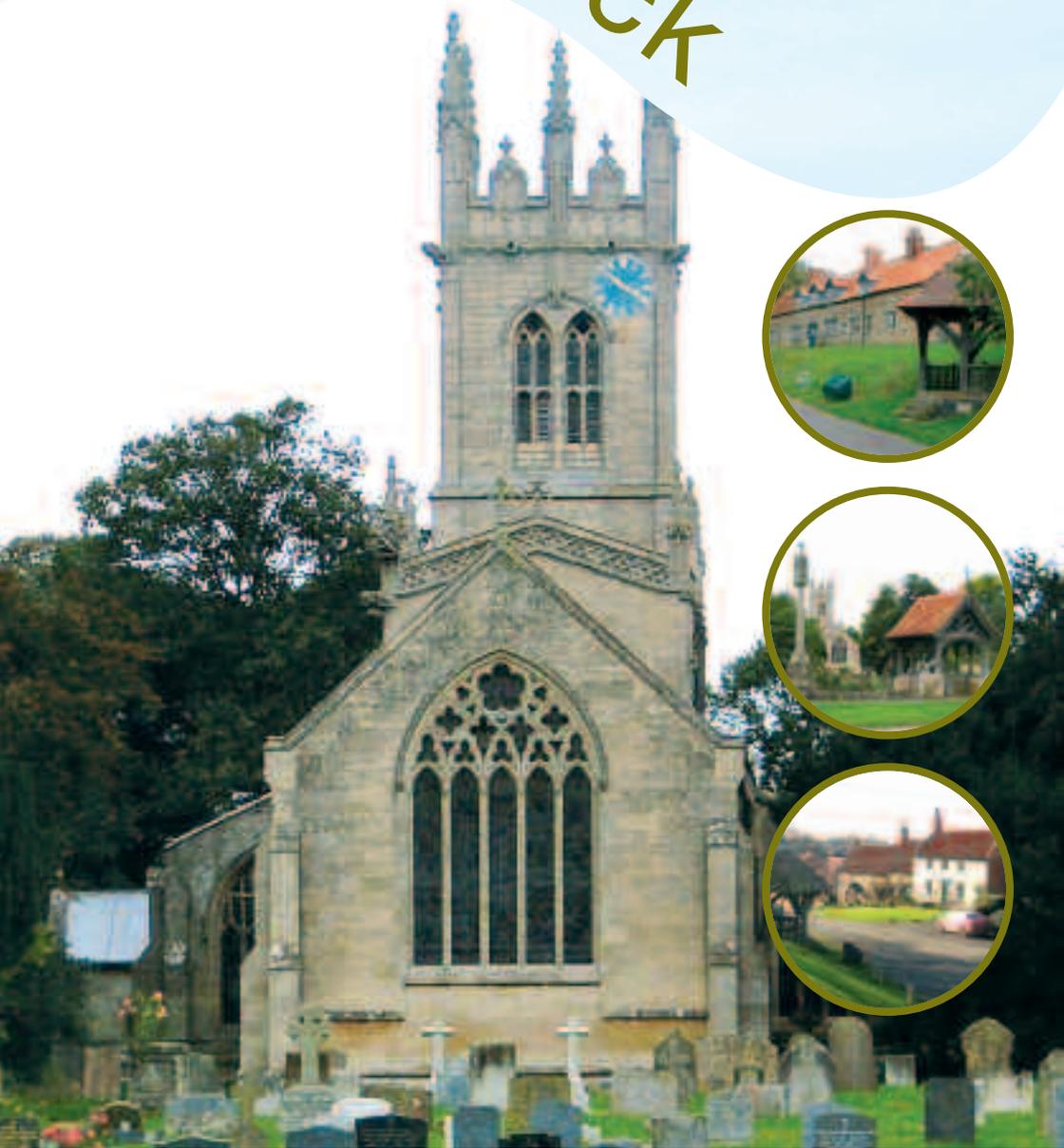
**Refreshments:** The Hare and Hounds pub and the Manor Stables Tearooms, both in Fulbeck.

Lincolnshire  
COUNTY COUNCIL

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*Lincolnshire Walks*

# Fulbeck



A circular walk of 3½ or 9 km (2 or 5½ miles)

# Introduction

This walk is set around the attractive village of Fulbeck, one of a string of spring-line villages along the western edge of the Lincolnshire Cliff. In fine weather there are stunning views of the countryside, up and down the escarpment and across the Trent Valley to the rolling landscape of east Nottinghamshire.

Recorded in the Domesday Book as 'Fulebec', the village takes its name from the Old English 'ful' and Old Scandinavian 'bekkr' – the combined word meaning

'foul stream'! Fulbeck is tucked away from the main road connecting Lincoln and Grantham, and has a charm all of its own which is best appreciated on foot. There are some fine 18th century stone houses, and dominating the village is Fulbeck Hall, home of the Fane family from 1632 to 2000. Much altered after a fire in 1733, the Hall became the headquarters of the First Airborne Division in 1943. It was here that Operation Market Garden was planned that resulted in the famous battle at Arnhem in 1944.



# The Walk

## The Walk

**1** Leave the car park and turn right along the main road. After approximately 30m turn right through a gap in a wall and follow the public footpath along the edge of the playing field. At the corner of the playing field go through a gate and over a stile, but continue on the same line with the hedge now on your right.

**2** At the end of the field go through two gates, crossing a track which was once the Honington railway line, and bear diagonally left across the field towards a telegraph pole and way marker post.

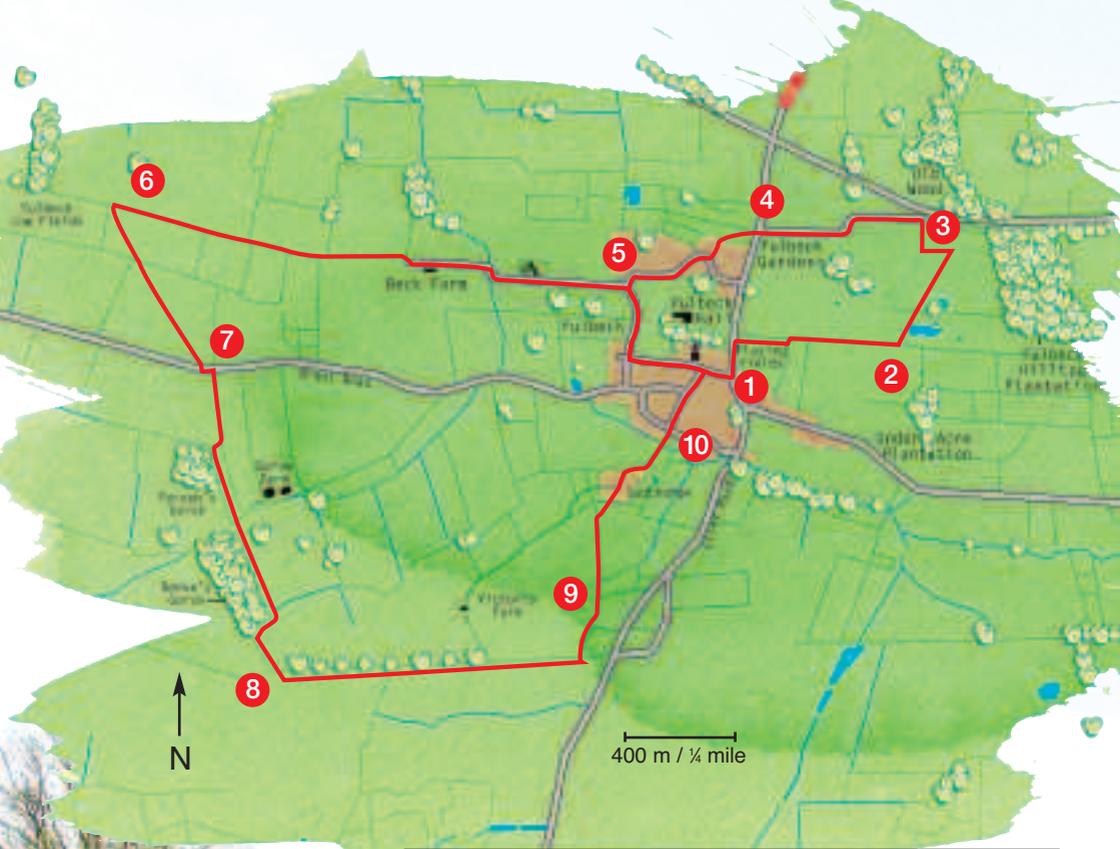
*Many years ago this overgrown track carried the old Honington railway line, opened in 1867 to speed up the journey between Lincoln and London and to connect the villages between Lincoln and Grantham. Use of the line declined in the 1930s with growing competition from buses, and the main section was closed in 1965. The tangled vegetation that hides much of the old railway is now a haven for wildlife.*

**3** Continue ahead towards an old hedgerow. Go through one of the gaps in the hedge and turn left towards the electricity sub station. Turn right at the way marker just in front of the sub station.

Go through the gate in the field corner and turn left on to North Heath Lane. Walk along the lane to the junction with the A607.



# Map & Walk



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# The Walk

4 Cross the main road with extreme care and go through the gate opposite. Bear diagonally left towards the houses, reaching another gate and tarmac road. Turn right after 100m and walk down the road to the bottom of the hill.

5 For the **SHORTER WALK** bear left at the bottom along Bulby Lane. At the next junction turn left to go up Rectory Lane. Continue ahead, passing the Hare and Hounds pub, until you reach the main road and the car park.

For the **LONGER WALK** bear left and then immediately right to follow a tarmac lane marked as a public bridleway. Continue straight ahead on this lane which eventually becomes a farm track, for approximately 1¼ km (1 mile).

Where the track bears right towards a farm, continue straight ahead on the bridleway, keeping a hedge on your left.

*This area, drained by the river Brant and its tributaries, is known as Fulbeck Low Fields. There are superb views from here across the Trent Valley, and you may be able to see Lincoln Cathedral to your right. Approximately 2 km (just over 1 mile) further west, on the line you are walking, is the disused airfield of Fulbeck. First opened in 1940 as a relief landing field for RAF Cranwell, it was used by the United States Army Air Force during most of 1944, and was involved in D-Day operations and Operation Market Garden. Fulbeck ceased being an RAF base in the 1970s, but continues to be used for military training exercises.*

6 At a sign where the bridleway crosses a footpath turn sharp left to follow the path diagonally across a field. Continue on the same line across a second field, using a distant church spire as your aim.

7 Cross over the minor road and follow the way marker signs (now a bridleway again) along the field edge, with a hedge on your left. Continue ahead in the direction of the ridge,

# The Walk

passing two woods on your right.

Turn right at the end of the second wood. Walk along the field edge for approximately 150 m and turn left to continue up the ridge.

- 8** On reaching the top of the ridge, and at a junction of bridleways, turn left along a grass track towards Fulbeck. Carry on along this track for approximately 1 km ( $\frac{2}{3}$  mile), passing a radio mast and then a farm on your left.

*The fine spire of Caythorpe church is visible on the right. The original spire was struck by lightning in 1859 and the present one was built by Sir Gilbert Scott and stands 47m (156ft) high.*

- 9** Just before meeting the main road, at a junction of a footpath and a bridleway, turn left along the field edge. Turn right over a footbridge and then go diagonally left across a field towards a house and footpath sign.

Go down the narrow path between the houses. Continue ahead down the tarmac lane.

*This short stretch on Sudthorpe Hill gives excellent views of Fulbeck just ahead. The houses, with their reddy-brown roofs, cluster along the slope of the ridge. Overlooking them is the Hall, partially hidden by trees, and the church of St Nicholas. The latter dates from 1300, although there has been a good deal of restoration. The unusual Perpendicular bell tower, with its eight pinnacles, is well worth a closer look.*

- 10** Go straight ahead at the crossroads, following the High Street as it runs up through the village. Continue straight ahead at the junction with Scots Hill, and then turn right at the Hare and Hounds pub. Walk back to the main road and the car park.

