

The Bus Walk Route

- 1 Turn right out of Worksop Bus Station onto Memorial Avenue and aim for the modern library building. Walk round through its car park to a footbridge in the top left corner. Cross over and take the path alongside the water – an ornamental feature is here but it's actually a feeder taking water in to the canal further along.
- 2 Cross the road opposite the magnificent Priory Church and go through the car park, following the canal feeder on the right over this large grassy open space.
- 3 As you come to the road turn left, and at the canal bridge cross the road and go right along the towpath. The ornate building ahead with a tall chimney is the former Bracebridge Pumping Station dating from Victorian times. Below the next lock, Kilton Low, you can see water from the feeder channel flowing into the canal. Carry on to the fine red brick bridge (no 46) over the canal, where the towpath changes sides and becomes a little rougher underfoot. It's narrow too, so take extra care to keep away from the water. Continue along this very pleasant length. There are glimpses of Osberton Hall on the other side, as far as Osberton Lock. You can take a short diversion if you wish to the hamlet of Scofton to take a look at its white church in a field (a good half mile return).
- 4 The towpath changes sides again here and soon twists and turns around the Ranby Bends, as the canal clings to the contour line. The Chequers Inn is opposite with its popular canal side seating area. There's a bus stop near the pub if you want to shorten your walk here.
- 5 Continue along the towpath and you soon reach the first of the 4 Forest Locks. There are always boats moored by the rather confusingly named Forest Middle Top Lock. Continue along the towpath. At the railway bridge (no 54a) the busy East Coast Main Line (Edinburgh – London) crosses over and it marks the start of the built up area of Retford.
- 6 At bridge no 55, by Retford West Lock leave the canal and turn right. Then after a few yards turn right through the gateway of the splendid Kings Park. Continue along the path and over the bridge across the River Idle - if you look right, you can see the canal carried over the river on a brick and stone aqueduct where water is pumped up into the canal from the river. Keep straight on through the ornamental gardens and leave the park. Continue ahead on Exchange Street, turn right at Costa Coffee then left at Wilko to the bus station.



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



The Route Map

MAP KEY

Route

Bus Stops

Refreshments

Rail Station

WORKSOP TOWN CENTRE
Many cafes and shops with a street market on Fridays. On the canal, Straddle Warehouse, in the town centre, is an important historical building where boats once unloaded undercover with goods going up through a trap door. Now a cafe and a gym.

PRIORY CHURCH
A magnificent grade 1 listed building dating back to the 1100s, with a 15th century gatehouse; some interesting modern extensions.

BRACEBRIDGE PUMPING STATION
Now unused and seemingly unloved, it was built in 1881 in the Italianate Romanesque style following a cholera outbreak.

OSBERTON LOCK/SOFTON
An attractive spot, with the hamlet linked to nearby Osberton Hall (no public access) St John's church, located in a field, is one of the most prominent buildings in the area.

RETFORD TOWN CENTRE
Cafes and shops; a large market square with a french style Town Hall and prominent war memorial (market days Thursdays and Saturdays).

CHESTERFIELD CANAL
Designed by James Brindley and opened in 1777. It is 46 miles long and runs from Chesterfield through North Derbyshire and the fringe of South Yorkshire. Most of the route is in Nottinghamshire, where it passes through Worksop and Retford before joining the River Trent at West Stockwith. The first 5 miles from Chesterfield have been restored and there is a 9 mile section still waiting to be restored. For more information see www.chesterfield-canal-trust.org.uk

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stagecoachbus.com/buswalks

Points of Interest

About Bus Walks

Lincolnshire InterConnect bus walks

- 1

Faldingworth
Market Rasen
(linear)
7.25 miles
- 2

Nettleton
Market Rasen
(linear)
7.75 miles
- 3

Cabourne
Laceby
(linear)
7.5 miles
- 4

Hagworthingham
Fulletby
Horncastle
(linear) 8.5 miles
- 5

Candlesby
Gunby Hall
Bratoft
Burgh le Marsh
(linear) 4.5 miles
- 6

Burgh le Marsh
Skegness
(linear)
5 miles
- 7

Gainsborough
Knaith Park
Willingham
Stow Minster
(linear) 8 miles

Nottinghamshire bus walks

- 8

Wakeringham
Gringley on the Hill
(linear)
8.5 miles
- 9

Babworth
Retford
(linear)
6.5 miles
- 10

Retford
Clarborough
Hayton
Clayworth
(linear) 7 miles
- 11

Shireoaks
Worksop
(linear)
5.5 miles
- 12

Worksop
Retford
(linear) 10.5 miles

stagecoachbus.com/buswalks
for walk information

The Bus Walks provide a series of suggested walks across the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire countryside. Bus stops are located at the start and finish of these walks, delivering you to some of the most beautiful spots Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire have to offer.

The walks appeal to all types of people, from families and occasional walkers to the lone traveller and experienced ramblers. You can explore the stunning scenery, discover wildlife havens or simply enjoy a picnic in a picturesque spot. Whatever your age, group size or motivation, the Bus Walks provide a great way to get outdoors and enjoy an active lifestyle.



in partnership with



Bus Walk Information

- Distance

10.5 miles, 16.9 km Worksop to Retford
Shorter options - 5.5 miles Worksop to Ranby, 5 miles Retford to Ranby
- Time

Approx. 3 - 4 hours (2 - 3 hours for the shorter walks)
- Terrain

Level towpath, some surfaced, grassy areas

Refreshments
A wide range of options in the towns, Chequers Inn (usually open all day) at Ranby. In Worksop bus station there is a cafe. At Worksop rail station there is the Railway Cafe and the Mallard pub. On Retford rail station there is a Costa Coffee cafe.

Toilets
Retford and Worksop town centres

Bus Route
43 Worksop - Retford
(not Sundays or Bank Holidays)



Trains
There is a regular train service between Worksop and Retford; Both stations are some distance from start/end of walk

The Stagecoach app

Now with an interactive map for bus tracking

Bus Walks

Worksop
Ranby
Retford

10.5 miles
Linear Route
Walk **12**

