

# DOORSTEP WALK

Short, Easy to follow and local

## Take a walk around Rother Valley Park and explore the countryside around it.

- Allow an easy morning or afternoon to enjoy this walk which takes you from the reservoir valley up into the hills above, visiting picturesque Ulley village.
- Following ancient tracks and crossing rolling farmland this land is steeped in history, the fields and lanes around Ulley are rich in wildlife and flora.
- The Royal Oak pub at Ulley is half way round the walk, and refreshments are available at Ulley Country Park (please check for opening hours).
- You do not need to read a map.
- You do not need fancy equipment.

## Just follow the GREEN Doorstep waymark

You may wish to check out more of the paths Michael Longford and Lord Halifax have allowed access to on the Ulley Farmland Trail (Doorstep Walk 7), available from the Rights of Way team.

For more details, downloads of alternative route descriptions and themed guides check out our web-page on [www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow)

All paths around Ulley are shown clearly on the OS Explorer Maps 278 - Rotherham and 279 - Doncaster. Why not pick up copies at your local bookshop and devise your own walks.

## Responsible Walking

This walk uses just a few of our many rights of way to access and enjoy the countryside. A right of way is not owned by the council, it is a right to pass over private land. When you go out please remember that almost all the land you cross is in private ownership, and someone's livelihood will depend on the crops and livestock there. Our countryside is not just a beautiful place, but a working environment, please play your part by keeping it tidy for the people who walk and work there tomorrow.

Take a responsible attitude into the countryside, leave only footprints and take only photographs.

**Follow the Country Code, happy walking!**

## How do I get there?

Ulley Country Park has excellent bus links to other areas in the Borough. For up-to-date information call the Travel South Yorkshire on **01709 515151** or visit [www.travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com) for timetables. Cars can be parked at the visitor centre car park for a small charge.

## Something to think about

As ever, this walk would not be possible without the help and enthusiasm of local farmers and landowners. We would particularly like to thank local farmer Michael Longford and landowner Lord Halifax who have dedicated a number of permissive paths through the Countryside Stewardship scheme. They are allowing the public access to land where previously none existed, and ask only that you follow the country code and stick to the waymarked routes. Remember that farmer's livelihoods depend on the success of their land, please play your part by taking your litter home, sticking to the line of paths and keeping dogs on leads through farmland. Any enquiries please ring **01709 336003** or email [streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk) **Remember to keep a track of where you are in the description, occasionally waymarks get vandalised and we may not have had time to replace them.**

# DOORSTEP WALK Number 6

An easy way to explore the beautiful, local countryside on your 'doorstep'.

## The Village Walk at Ulley Country Park



REF: 85020/2020 Produced by RMBC Design Studio

# DOORSTEP WALK NUMBER 6

## The Village Walk from Ulley Country Park (5.2 Miles)

### Follow the Countryside Code:

- 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

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### Permissive Paths

Many farmers are happy to allow access along new paths providing these routes are not claimed as public rights of way for all time, this allows us to open up more of the countryside for you and ensure that the farmers land value will not be affected because of access. Watch out for other walks using the landowners permission but always remember to stay on paths and do not stray over land where you may not only damage crops but disturb ground nesting birds and wildlife.

### Ulley village

Worth 40 shillings in the Domesday Book, the settlement of Ollei, a 'forest glade rich in owls' was once in the ownership of monks from Worksop.

In the 17th century the village passed into the hands of the Halifax estate, and much of the farmland, including a large portion of the land you walk across, remains in the estate of Lord Halifax, the Queens second cousin.



- 1 Start in the car park facing the visitor centre in the park and head left, following the path to the reservoir. Turn left along the reservoir path and then stay on the path as it heads right along the reservoir wall and by the side of the water.
- 2 Carefully cross the road and head straight, following the path around the upper reservoir, cross a small wooden footbridge and then look out for a path on your left heading away from the reservoir and towards a wood, follow this path.
- 3 Pass through gorse and into the wood, the path follows the stream and soon enters a meadow, follow the waymarks straight ahead, but bearing away from the wet meadow bottom by the stream. Pause for a moment to admire the wood and meadow, rich in flora and fauna, up until recently this land was private, but thanks to the landowner and local farmer the pubic can now enjoy this beautiful area along this permissive path.
- 4 Keep going straight, along the permissive path on the field edge, crossing another path at one point (you will be returning this way later as you come back downhill) and eventually you will reach Stocket Lane, a hedge lined ancient track. This lane is a bridleway, keep an eye out for horses and cyclists on here.
- 5 Turn right and head uphill, along this narrow country lane, which eventually joins a farm track and arrives finally at Penny Hill Lane, turn right, carefully following the road. Soon you will arrive at Ulley Village (see sidebar). To take a sidetrip to the Royal Oak pub in the village turn left along Turnshaw Road.
- 6 Head straight through the village, passing the church of Holy Trinity on your right, after a short time you will see a track on your right between houses, follow this route remembering that this is the house access road, please respect the residents privacy. The path soon enters farmland – head straight downhill until you reach the edge of the stream, you have been here earlier. Head left along the stream and back into the wood and meadow, eventually you will rejoin the path around the reservoir.
- 7 Head left, along the reservoir path, this area is rich in dragonflies during the summer months. Soon you will rejoin Reservoir Road, turn right, taking care on this short section of road. Once across the reservoir wall head left along the path and soon you will arrive back at the visitor centre and car park.