

Todwick Ramble No.1

Todwick and the fringe areas of Wales (9 kilometres)

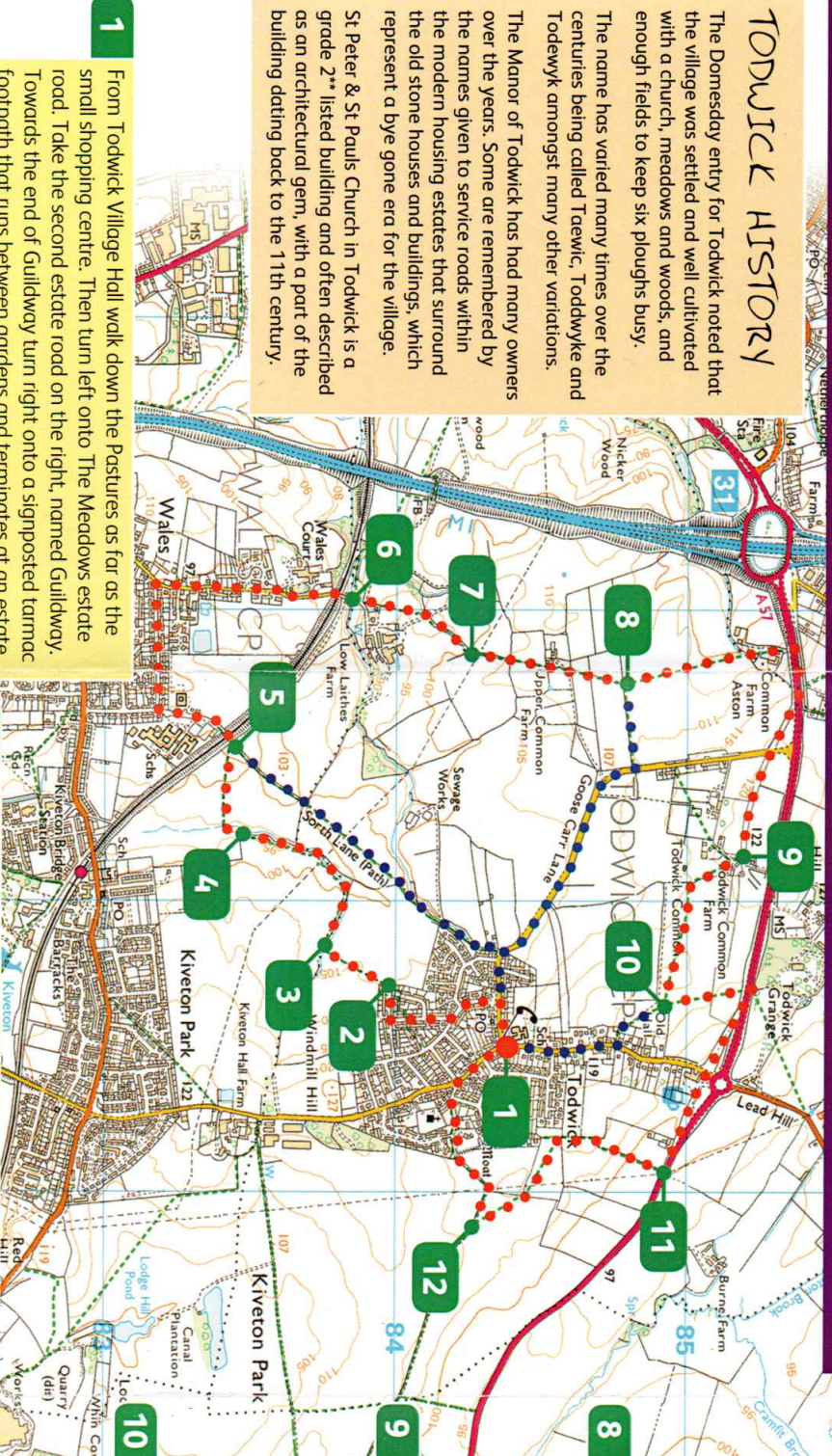
TODWICK HISTORY

The Domesday entry for Todwick noted that the village was settled and well cultivated with a church, meadows and woods, and enough fields to keep six ploughs busy.

The name has varied many times over the centuries being called Traewic, Toddwyke and Todewyk amongst many other variations.

The Manor of Todwick has had many owners over the years. Some are remembered by the names given to service roads within the modern housing estates that surround the old stone houses and buildings, which represent a bye gone era for the village.

St Peter & St Pauls Church in Todwick is a grade 2* listed building and often described as an architectural gem, with a part of the building dating back to the 11th century.

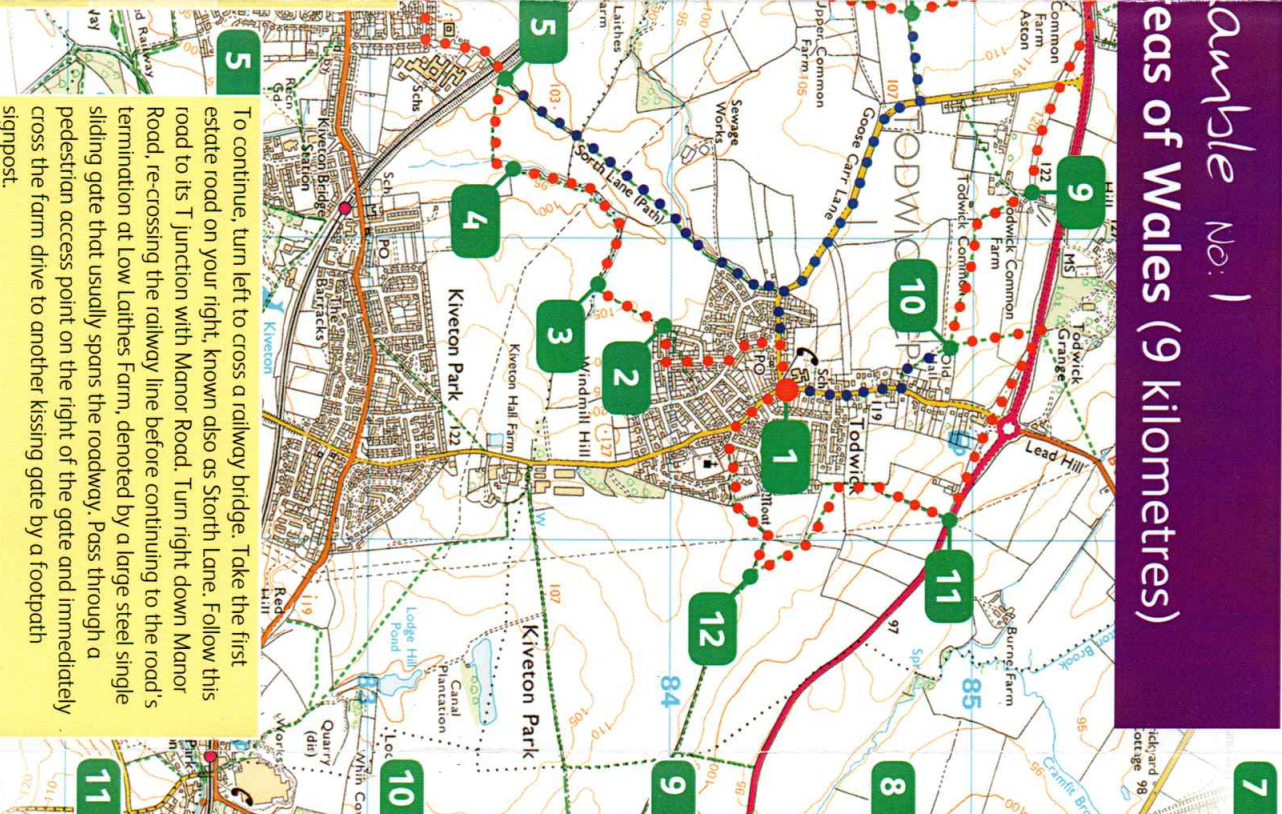


1 From Todwick Village Hall walk down the Pastures as far as the small shopping centre. Then turn left onto The Meadows estate road. Take the second estate road on the right, named Guildway. Towards the end of Guildway turn right onto a signposted tarmac footpath that runs between gardens and terminates at an estate road named Milfields.

2 Turn right here to pass through a kissing gate into a field. Turn immediate left and walk for 50m to the end of a bungalow, and a waymark post. Continue forward bearing slightly right and cross the field to another waymark post by the far hedge.

3 Go through the hedge and turn right. Continue ahead following the edge of a large arable field for approximately 750m, keeping the hedge and a dyke on your right.

4 The footpath eventually passes through a gap in a hedge to access a wooden footbridge on the right. Use the bridge to enter and cross an arable field by bearing slightly left towards a finger post by a kissing gate. Go through the gate to access Storth Lane. (The walk can be curtailed here by turning right and walking along Storth Lane back towards Todwick. Total distance 3.5km).



5 To continue, turn left to cross a railway bridge. Take the first estate road on your right, known also as Storth Lane. Follow this road to its T junction with Manor Road. Turn right down Manor Road, re-crossing the railway line before continuing to the road's termination at Low Laithes Farm, denoted by a large steel single sliding gate that usually spans the roadway. Pass through a pedestrian access point on the right of the gate and immediately cross the farm drive to another kissing gate by a footpath signpost.

6 Go through this gate and immediately turn right following the footpath alongside a hedge-line of a bungalow. Towards the top of the rise the hedge turns right but the footpath continues ahead. On reaching a way-mark post at the far edge of the field bear right and follow the hedge line to cross a field access track. The path goes uphill to a point where two hedges meet.

7 Go through a way-marked gap in the hedge and turn immediately left to walk as far as a corner created by another hedge that is crossed by a wooden stile. Now continue ahead bearing slightly right to pass through a field to a gap in a hedge. Beyond the hedge the path becomes bounded on one side by trees and on the other by a barbed wire fence before it crosses Upper Common Farm access drive to enter a small copse. On leaving the copse the path becomes enclosed by fencing as it crosses a paddock before entering another field via a gap in a hedge. Cross this field on a slight right-handed bearing to a metal footpath sign post. (The walk can be curtailed here by turning right to access Goosecar Lane, then turn right again for Todwick. Completed distance 6km).

The full walk continues straight ahead over a large field towards the buildings of Common Farm Aston. After crossing the field enter and exit a paddock via two stiles to join the farm access track. Go up this track to join the footway of the A57. Turn right to a set of pedestrian traffic lights. At this point access and follow the redundant A57 on the right. After crossing Goosecar Lane enter another section of the old A57.

Just before a sharp bend look for a sign on the right denoting the private road to Todwick Common Farm. Walk along this road for 35m then bear left to cross a field following the sign posted footpath. At the far hedge bear right, and follow a field track to its termination with a closed gate and way-mark post. Turn left here and follow the path to a junction of paths denoted by a way-mark post. (The walk can be curtailed here by continuing forward and bearing right to a stone stile in the corner of the field, giving access to Kiveton Lane and Todwick Village Hall).

To continue the full walk, turn immediate left keeping the hedge on your right until the hedge turns right. Continue across the field bearing slightly left descending a bank to another field, exited via a metal kissing gate to access the A57. Turn right for approx. 150m and look for a gap in the far end of the wooden fencing that encloses another section of the old A57. Climb the bank, go through the gap, and follow the old road down to a metal gate. Go through a gap by the wall to access and cross Kiveton Lane with care. (crossing refuge close by) Pass the Red Lion Hotel and re-join the footway of the A57 as far as the Greenscene Nursery. Where the Eastern boundary hedge of the Nursery abuts the A57 turn right by a footpath signpost and follow a field headland path uphill. It then turns right then left to follow the boundary hedge of the field into a corner where the path crosses through a gap to access another, but smaller field. The footpath cuts diagonally across to the corner of the field. Pass through a gap in the hedge to a large field. Turn right and continue to a junction of paths denoted by a footpath signpost.

12 Turn right here to follow a part-walled path towards Todwick Church. Where the path meets a tarmac drive turn right to join Kiveton Lane. Turn right here to return to Todwick Village Hall.