

From the car park next to St

The Bellows Burn Tread

Mary Magdalene churchyard walk down Magdalene Drive, turning right onto Butts Lane 2.

Butts Lane - As you make your way along Butts lane. pay particular attention to the hedgerows alongside you. Hedges form one of the most wide spread wildlife habitats in the UK. They provide food and shelter for many wild animals, also creating corridors so that creatures can move around with some protection from predators.

Keep left where the lane splits 3 and continue along the road, (ignoring, as you walk down the lane, the two separate bridleway signs on your left) 4 until you reach Thorpe Bulmer Farm. Following the waymarker signs, bear left before the pond **5**. Walk down the track towards a conifer wood. With the conifers on your right, walk down a field edge path.

At the end of path, enter the wood through a gap in the fence 6. Walk down the steps and cross a small bridge over Bellows Burn. Follow the path up the other side of the valley until you meet a grassy track

Cross over the track onto another field edge path. Follow the path ahead, keeping the hedge line to your right. Turn left

Hart - Nesbitt - Sheraton Circular Distance approximately 4.5 miles Shops Pubs Parking Thorpe Bulmer Dean **Bellows Burn** Lane 10-9 Thorpe Bulmer

> at the corner of the field. keeping to the edge. You now head towards a white bungalow and the farm lane

8. Turn left onto the lane and continue until you reach a bend in the road, turn right here onto Bellows Burn Lane 9.

Continue until you come to a public bridleway sign, shortly afterwards, on your left. Go

through a gap in the hedge 10 and onto a field edge bridleway path. Follow the path ahead, keeping the hedge to your right and join a farm track, continue walking ahead, uphill.

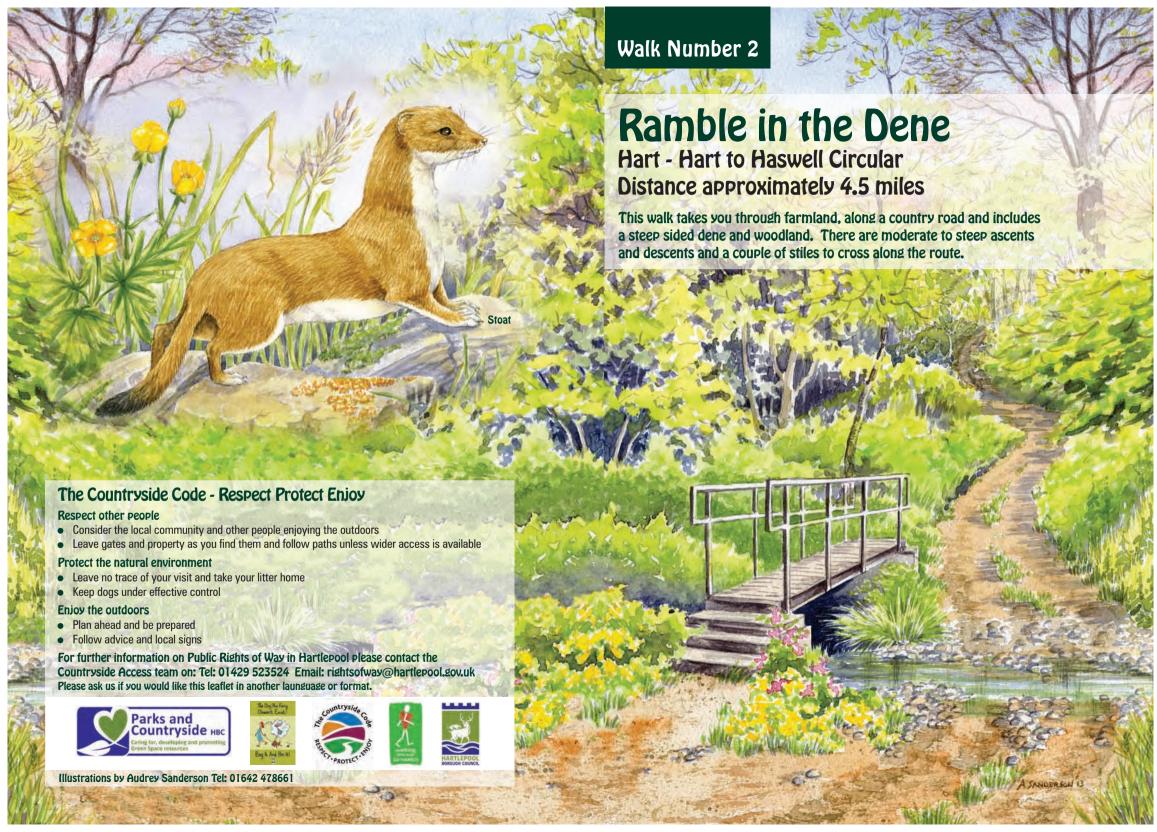
**Nesbitt Hall** 

300 metres before reaching Sheraton Farm (field before farm gates), turn left onto a footpath keeping the hedge to your left, 11 and head towards an old sheepfold 2. Cross over a stile and then a bridge over Bellows Burn. Immediately after the bridge, take a right and follow the path by the side of the stream along a Gorse-filled valley.

At the end of the valley, turn left through a gate (B) and head uphill onto a track that

becomes a field edge path. When you reach a bend to the right, leave the field edge path and cross straight ahead, over a cross-field path, heading towards and through a gate into a pasture field 14. Walk a little to your left,

towards a fenced off pond. Keep the pond on your left, follow the fence to and through a gate and turn right into an enclosed green lane 15. Continue along the lane until vou reach Butts Lane. Turn right into the lane towards Hart and take Magdalene Drive back to the church car park.



From the car park 1 enter
St Mary Magdalene
Churchyard through a white
gate and follow the path along
the front of the church. Turn
left off the main path onto a
side path that leads towards a
small gate to the right of a
field gate. Go through the
small gate and follow the
edge of the field, beside a
stone wall, towards North
Hart Farm 2.

Go through another gate turning right into an enclosed path and through the next gate. Walk straight ahead and follow the boundary of the small field around to the opposite diagonal corner and go through another three gates leading you to a farm track.

Take a right onto the track 3 and continue along it until you reach a field gate ahead, go through a small gate to your left into a large pasture field 4. Follow waymarkers around the field boundary and then go through a gate, on the left onto a bridge. Cross the bridge and keep straight ahead on the field edge path.

Go through the next gate ahead, and then another directly to your right 5. Continue straight across the field and through another gate directly ahead. With Nelson Farm on your left, enter the lane 6 heading away from the farm.

Follow the lane to the Coast Road 7, carefully cross the main road into Hartville Road and follow the sign to the Hart to Haswell Walkway 3.

The walkway was originally a major rail route for carrying coal from the local collieries to the docks at Hartlepool. The famous engineer. George Stevenson, who built the Rocket designed the railway which was built in 1835. The line was heavily used until the coastal railway from Sunderland to Hartlepool was opened in 1905. The line was finally closed in 1980. This former railway line is now a Local Nature Reserve and supports an array of wildlife due to the rich mix of magnesiun limestone grasslands. ponds, semi mature and mature woodlands.

Follow the walkway for 1½ miles until you reach a waymark post on your left (If you reach the pond on your right you have gone a few metres too far). This will lead you downhill into a small dene **9**.

The denes were formed around 10,000 years ago as the ice from the last ice age rapidly melted.

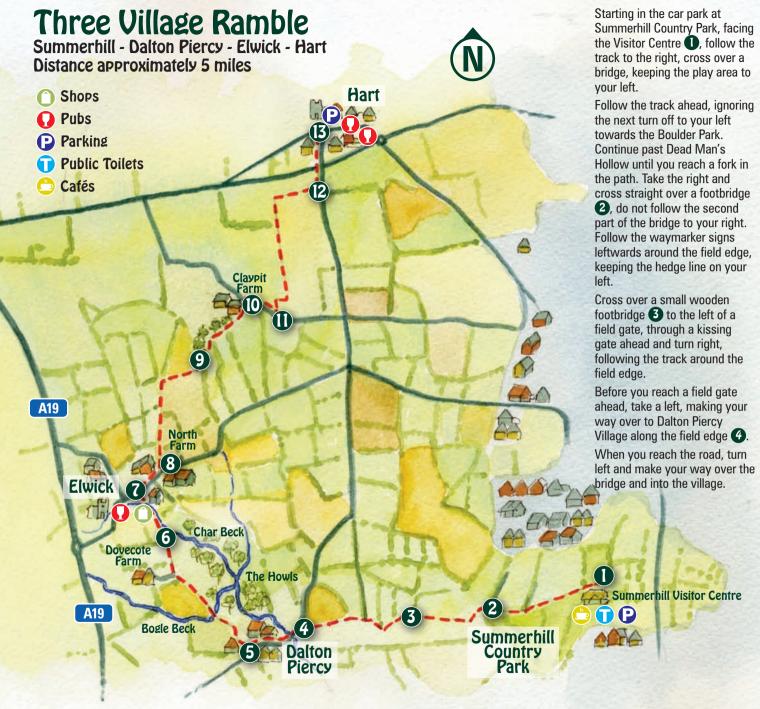
The sides of the valleys were too steep to be cleared for agriculture allowing the survival of the semi-natural ancient woodland. The variations in soil and slope in the denes provide a variety of habitats and an interesting array of plant and animal inhabitants such as Harts Tongue Fern and Brown Long - Eared Bat.











Continue up the road until you reach College Close on your right. Here you will see a signpost directing you along a track onto the public footpath

Continue along the track, through a kissing gate and over a boardwalk and onto an enclosed path, Ignoring the path to your left leading up to Dovecote Farm, continue ahead through another kissing gate and into an open field 6. Head downhill towards the beck. before you reach the beck, veer left keeping it to your right until you reach a footbridge. Cross the footbridge and go through the gate ahead, making your way up the hill into Elwick Village 7.

When you reach the main road, the shop and pubs are to your left and the walk continues to your right.

Follow the road leading out of the village until you see farm buildings (North Farm) to your left. After the farm buildings, carefully cross the road onto the same side as the farm and follow the footpath signpost to a stile in the hedge 3. Cross into a small field and continue ahead through a field gate and cross another stile onto a long straight track.

Follow the track, cross a stile and continue along until you reach a field with a waymarker directing you to the right.
Follow it until you meet the fence line at the other end, turn left and follow the fence until you reach a stile **9**.

Cross the stile, and walk downhill to meet another boardwalk, follow this over the beck, before crossing another stile and heading up some steps into a field. Take a right and follow the field edge to another stile and into a chicken farm. Veer right onto the track and walk up to the main road .

At the road take a right and continue ahead for a few minutes until you reach a footpath sign on your left, if you reach the Hartlepool Water gates, you've gone too far **1**. Cross the stile and follow waymarker signs around the field. After passing the wind turbine to your right you will see a waymarker post on your left directing you across the crossfield path towards a gap in the hedge and farm buildings behind. Follow the path towards the road 12. Take a left at the road and head towards the A179. Crossing the road carefully, making your way along the small lane ahead and into Hart Village 13.

St Magdalene Church - When you reach Hart Village, if you continue across the road and head down Butts Lane, you will come to Magdalene Drive on your right. Follow this road and St Magdalene Churchyard will be ahead of you.

This is a Saxon church dating back to the 7th century and is the oldest church in Hartlepool. The original church is likely to have been a wooden structure, later replaced by a stone building. Look out for the stone with a carving of St George and the Dragon in the front wall of the church.



## Wild West Figure of Eight

Coal Lane - Stotfold Moor - Embleton Circular Distance approximately 61/2 miles

At Coal Lane 1. heading away from the A19 you will find a Public Footpath signpost on a farm track (Stotfold Moor Farm) to your left leading you to some black iron gates with a smaller gate to the right of them. Go through the small gate and follow the road down past Stotfold Moor Farm. At a right hand bend turn left onto a farm track and cross over a stile 2.

Follow the track ahead as it bears right around a pasture field. At the end of the pasture field, cross over a stile next to a field gate 3 and continue on the track to a stile. Cross over a stile with gate in it 4 into a green lane, through a gateway, and then cross over the stile into a farmvard and bear right on a track around the farm-buildings.

Go through a wooden gate 5 and then turn right through a field gate into another farmyard. Keeping the blue barn on your left, continue straight ahead, through a short section of farmyard to a gateway, go through the field gate into a pasture field.

Follow the track downhill to a beck and 2 bridges. Cross over the narrow wooden footbridge on the right and then back onto the track. Follow the track a short distance until you reach a stile on your right. Cross the stile 6 and follow the track towards some woodland. At the top of the track, follow the footpath signs along a field edge path as it skirts around Black Wood. Cross a stile, keeping the fence line on your left and a newly planted woodland on your right.

At the end of the plantation, follow the grass path that yeers to the right towards another plantation. Follow the waymarker leftwards and cross over a small sleeper bridge and then cross the stile 7. Continue ahead to the next stile, keeping the fence line to your left. Cross the stile and sleeper bridge with the newly planted woodland on your right and the hedge on your left, continue ahead to another stile.

Cross over the stile 8 and head towards a telegraph pole in the field in front of some scrub woodland. At the telegraph pole, turn left and follow a track downhill into the wooded area. Following the grass track, cross diagonally across the valley bottom and to the left, walk uphill out of the valley using the deep cut track. Cross over a squeeze stile into an enclosed lane. At the end of the enclosed lane, turn right and walk along the top of a bank to another squeeze stile.

Cross it and turn right to cross the next stile 9. Follow a footpath enclosed by banks to another stile.

Cross the stile and keep the wooded area on your right and the field on your left. Cross the next stile and then over a lane to another stile, cross over this stile into a pasture field. Keeping the farm buildings on your left, go through a gate into another pasture field.

Follow the waymarker signs and go through another gate in the corner of the field in front of a green barn, before turning right onto a tarmac lane 1.

Corn Bunting - Now probably the rarest breeding bird in the Tees Valley, the Corn Bunting hangs on in its last outpost in the county around the fields of Red Gap Moor and Amerston Hall. Listen for its scratchy song, like keys jangling, as it calls from the tops of trees and telephone wires. Badgers - Look closely at the ground and you might see signs of badgers along the footpath and fields. Their tracks have five toes, unlike the four in foxes and cats. You might also see the small, round. snuffle holes that they dig and fill with large. soft badger droppings to mark their territories. Amerston

Follow the lane as it bears left. until you reach a telegraph pole on your right 12. At the pole, you will see a waymarker directing you right and across an arable field towards another waymark post next to a large gap in a hedge. Go through the gap and walk across the next field to another gap in the top left corner of the next hedge.

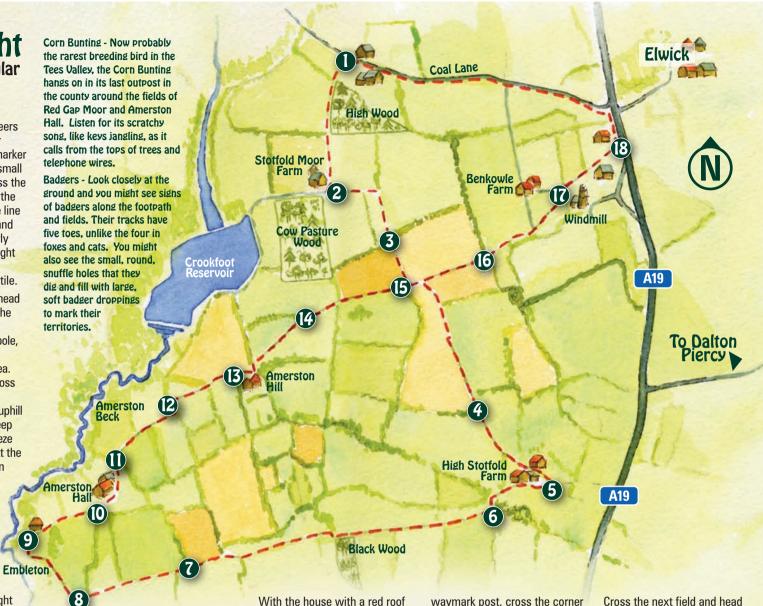
(B) Amerston Hill on your right, go through the gap, and keep the garden fence line to your right. Follow the fence line onto the lane, walk down the steps and cross the lane into an arable field. Walk up through the field and a little to your left, towards a small group of tall trees in the hedgerow ahead, to a stile 14.

Cross the stile and turn right, walking up a field edge to a

waymark post, cross the corner of the field to a gap in the hedge, and go through it.

Walk ahead, along an open grass path between two fields until you come to the farm track (5) which you walked down earlier. Cross the track and go through an open hedge ahead of you into a field. Follow the headland path until you come to a footbridge; cross the bridge 16.

Cross the next field and head towards an old windmill until you come to a wide field edge path and waymark post. Follow the field edge to a stone track, cross the track and then cross the next field towards a lane just to the left of the old windmill 17. Turn right onto the lane and follow it to the end and turn left alongside the A19 18. Keep on the verge and walk back up to Coal Lane and back your start point.





Park to Park

Ward Jackson Park - Burn Valley Gardens - Summerhill Country Park Circular Distance approximately 2.5 miles

Ward Jackson Park commemorates Ralph Ward Jackson, distinguished founder of West Hartlepool. and was officially opened in 1883. Additional elegant features such as the bandstand, clock tower and fountain add to the park's appeal.

Starting at the main entrance of Ward Jackson Park (1), turn right down Elwick Road until you reach a lane on your left marked with a Public Footpath sign 2. Follow the lane down to an A-frame barrier on your left, just over a bridge. Go through and follow the path along the side of the beck. Bear left over a concrete bridge 3 and continue along an enclosed path. At the end of the enclosed section of the path bear right along the side of a young woodland, this is part of Family Wood.

Exit at Catcote Road 4 and cross over into Family Wood via a gate slightly to the right. Follow the grass path straight ahead until you reach the main Family Wood surfaced path. Straight ahead of you is Burn Valley Gardens.

In 1898 the Burn Valley Garden was opened without ceremony. Consequently, it was labelled as the poor man's park. This label stuck for many years, but the development of some very important features and the redesign of additional areas of land has now created a very popular park



for both local people and for wildlife.

At the surfaced path, turn right and continue back onto Catcote Road, crossing over into Summerhill Lane opposite. Follow the lane up into Summerhill Country Park 5.

Walk past the front of the Visitor Centre, following the track and cross over a bridge. keeping the play area to your left. Follow the track ahead. ignoring the next turn off to vour left towards the Boulder Park. Continue past Dead

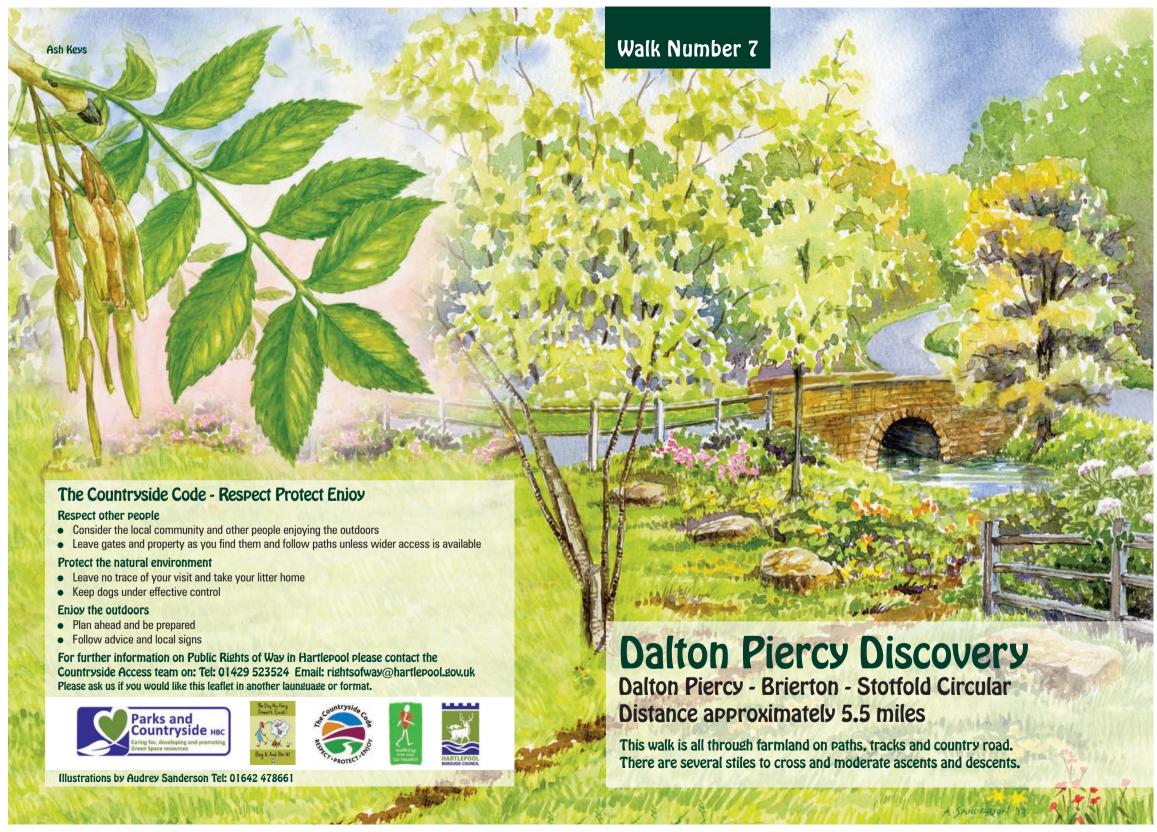
Man's Hollow until you reach a fork in the path 6.

Take the right hand path and follow the sign for Dalton Piercy. Carry on until you come to a footbridge on your right 7. Follow the footbridge around to the right and then follow the

enclosed path alongside the beck towards housing. Go through two gates and bear right through a gap before turning left into Valley Drive 8.

Continue up Valley Drive to the main road and turn right into Egerton Road 9. Where you

meet Elwick Road, carefully cross at the bend and re-enter back into Ward Jackson Park.



## **Dalton Piercy Discovery**

Dalton Piercy - Brierton - Stotfold Circular Distance approximately 5.5 miles

There is an interpretation board on the Green about the village's history. Starting from the Green in Dalton Piercy ①, take the road downhill, towards Hartlepool. Turn right at the public footpath sign before the bridge over Dalton Beck ② and follow along the beck side.

Go through a gate and over a concrete bridge, keep the hedge on your left and the stream on your right.

Follow the footpath into an open field and continue ahead until you reach a gap to your left 3. Walk through the gap and continue along an enclosed path to a gate, go through the gate and then another gate directly ahead into a field. Keep to the right along the headland path with the hedge to your right until you reach another gate 4 that takes you through into a pasture field.

Following the direction of the waymarker sign, cross the field and head under the power cables towards a track, bear left to a gate and go through it **5**. Continue along the track heading uphill to Brierton Farm North. Keep the large barn to your right,

follow the track around the bend through the farmyard on a concrete road, pass a house on your left and exit through a gateway into a lane.

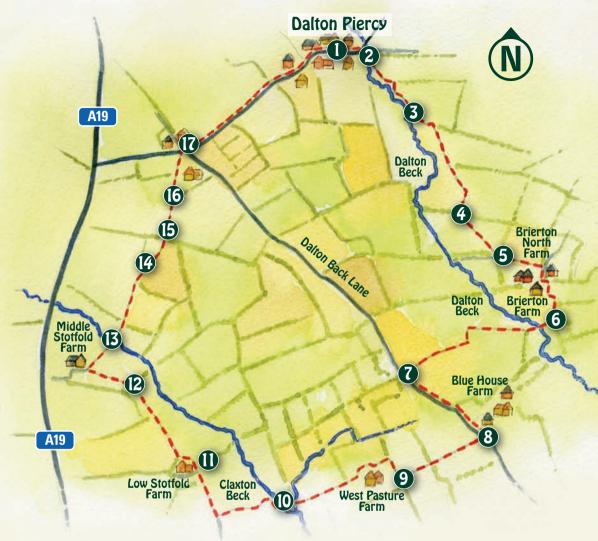
Turn right into the lane, and follow it as it first goes between a detached house and a large barn and then heads downhill. Keep on the main track as it bears right, at the bottom of the hill **6**. Follow the concrete track over Dalton Beck and all the way to Dalton Back Lane **7**.

Turn left onto Dalton Back Lane and follow for 1/4 mile to a public footpath, opposite the entrance to Blue House Farm, signposted on your right 8. Turn right onto the footpath and follow along the field edge with the hedge on your right, cross a stile and cross an arable field passing a way-marked telegraph pole and head towards another stile **9**. Cross the stile and turn right onto the field edge path. Keep the hedge on your right and walk around the field towards West Pasture Farm.

Before the farm, go through a metal field gate on your right and skirt around the back of some farm buildings, keeping them on your left. Head downhill to a stile in the left corner of the field, cross the stile and follow the field edge with an old hawthorn hedge on your left. Cross the stiles, at the footbridge and continue to follow the field edge and fence line on the left around the pasture field. Cross another footbridge and continue along the field edge with a beck to your left.

When you reach a bridge to your left, take a right instead, towards Low Stotfold Farm. Cross the stile in the corner of the field and skirt around the farm keeping it on your left, first across a field and then into a wide enclosed run. At the end of the run follow waymarker signs through the gate ahead, immediately turn right and continue along a field edge with the hedge on your right.

Head towards the bottom of the field, cross over a stile and walk straight ahead to a gateway ②. Go through the gateway and follow the track towards Middle Stotfold Farm.



After the first house, go through a gate and turn right. Go through a second gate with a double garage and gas tank on your left then go through another gate. Head across a pasture field to a small flat bridge over a stream **3**, before continuing ahead towards a stile in the hedge. Cross the stile and

follow the field edge path with the hedge to your right. Half way up the field, go through a gate in the hedge and cross the arable field, veering slightly right as you head uphill towards the hedge line to some steps and a stile **(5)**.

Cross the stile and follow the field edge path, with an old hedge on your right, up to the top of the field. Enter the enclosed path and go through the gate at the end by the side of the stables. When you reach the main road, turn right to head back to Dalton Piercy.



## Greatham Get Away

Greatham - Cowpen Bewley Circular Distance approximately 3.5 miles

Starting at the top of Greatham High Street , head down past the 'Sheaf Thrower' sculpture on your left and the Hospital of God on your right. After the entrance into the Hospital of God, take a side road on your right into Parish Row, becoming West Row.

At the end of this road go through a gap in the wall and follow the enclosed footpath to the right. At the bottom of the hill cross a footbridge and turn sharply left following the path along the beck side until it reaches another bridge on the left another bridge, follow waymarkers and turn right, following the field edge path below the railway embankment.

Instead of following the rail line over Claxton Beck, veer right and follow the beck upstream alongside the field edge **5**. Continue with the beck to your left, through a gate and into another field. Keeping to the field edge you will come to a stile at the end of the field, cross the stile onto a track **6**.

At this point, as an extra, you can turn left over Cloff Bridge into Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park and explore Faith Wood.

To reach the Visitor Centre, go over the bridge, take the first left through a kissing gate and continue along the track to another gate. Through this gate take a left which will lead you to the Visitor Centre car park.

Cowpen Bewley Country
Park is well worth a visit
due to the variety of
wildlife it holds, including
over 80 species of birds
and 18 species of
butterfly. This abundance
is due to the variety of
habitats including mixed
woodland, wildlflower
meadows, ponds and a
large lake.

Otherwise, turn right after crossing the stile and follow the farm track for a mile until it turns sharply left, at this point look for the public footpath waymarker to your right. Follow this footpath though a gate in the hedge onto an enclosed path and continue until you reach a footbridge lock. Cross over and walk uphill, keeping the allotments on your left, bear right back into Greatham High Street lock.





## **Seaton Snooks Stroll**

Seaton Carew - Seaton Snooks Circular Distance approximately 3.5 miles

Starting in Seaton Carew. facing the sea 1, turn right and follow the main road passing Seaton Carew Golf Club on your left. Past the golf club entrance, turn left and go through an A-frame barrier marked with a blue arrow sign for the Public Bridleway 2. Follow the enclosed path with the golf course on your left. Go through another A-frame barrier and pass the North Gare car park 3 on your right. Go through another A-frame barrier to the left onto the golf course. take care when crossing the fairway and take the track to your right 4. You have now entered into Teesmouth National Nature Reserve.

Follow the track down to an A-frame barrier next to a gate and pass through onto a tarmac road (Zinc Works Road) opposite the factory **5**. Turn right and continue along this road until you come to a 'Y' junction close to the main road. A public footpath is signposted to the right beside a gap in the fence, leading to a gate 6, which takes you onto Seaton Common (Seaton Snooks). This path can be flooded during the winter and in prolonged wet weather. As an alternative, you can go through the gap but take a left before the gate. This will lead you along an enclosed permissive footpath running parallel to Tees Road from point 6 to point 2.

In drier conditions follow the signed footpath across the Common. Cross over a bridge and head towards a gate at the North Gare car park access road , go through and follow the footpath signs ahead.

After crossing another bridge
you should see a stile
onto the Public Bridleway

**9**, cross the stile and turn left to retrace your steps back into Seaton Carew.

Seaton Common and Dunes Local Nature Reserve is home to a vast number of resident and migratory wading birds, as well as invertebrates and mammals. The Common holds much historical interest including the relics of the once thriving medieval salt industry. ridge and furrow field systems and old sea wall. Across the golf course you will find Seaton Dunes, one of the largest dune systems between Lindisfarne and the Humber, providing a rich and varied habitat for many plants and animals including Purple Milk Vetch and Curlew.

