

Walk Number 5

Wild West Figure of Eight

Coal Lane - Stotfold Moor - Embleton Circular

Distance approximately 6½ miles

This walk is through farmland, mostly through fields, with sections on farm tracts and a road verge. There are a good number of stiles to cross and moderate ascents and descents.



Corn Bunting

The Countryside Code - Respect Protect Enjoy

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

For further information on Public Rights of Way in Hartlepool please contact the Countryside Access team on: Tel: 01429 523524 Email: rightsofway@hartlepool.gov.uk
Please ask us if you would like this leaflet in another language or format.



Illustrations by Audrey Sanderson Tel: 01642 478661

A SANDERSON 2013

Wild West Figure of Eight

Coal Lane - Stotfold Moor - Embleton Circular

Distance approximately 6½ 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 farmyard 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 veers 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 **10** 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 **11**.

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.

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.

With the house with a red roof **13** 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 **15** 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.

