

Get Doncaster Walking

Fishlake Walk

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| Distance | 5.3 miles |
| Time (Approximately) | 2 to 2.5 hours |
| Accessibility Information | <p>A circular walking route around the village of Fishlake and the surrounding mosaic of ancient hedgerows, green lanes and meadows that make up the countryside in this area.</p> <p>Most of the walk is off road, along rural footpaths. Some of the path surfaces are uneven and can be muddy even in summer. Sturdy footwear is recommended all year round. There are several stiles and gates to negotiate along the route.</p> |
| Start Point | The Landing, Main Street, Fishlake |
| Grid Reference start point | SE654131 |
| Car Parking facilities | Limited parking is available alongside the Landing in the centre of Fishlake |
| Walk Description | <p>From the landing head towards the church passing the stone cross on your left. Follow the path through the church yard, past the vicarage and continue along the footpath, over the stile and bridge.</p> <p>At the road junction cross the road and continue along the footpath directly opposite. At the end of the path turn left and follow the causeway, passing the cricket club on your left.</p> <p>Continue along the causeway until you reach the bend in the road. At this point cross over (taking care!) and head along the footpath on the opposite side, walking alongside the mushroom farm tunnels. Go over the stile and cross the field heading towards the big tree. Go over the next stile and walk alongside the hedge until you meet the lane.</p> <p>Go over the stile, turn left and walk along the lane until you meet the road. Turn left and walk along the road until you reach the Byway (signposted Byway). Walk along the Byway following it round to the left and past the house.</p> <p>At the end of the Byway turn left and head down the road to the next bend. At this point head down the footpath that looks like a grass track. Take care when crossing the road.</p> <p>At the end of the track turn right and immediately right again. Walk along the grass verge. At the old mill take the left turn and head back towards Fishlake. Turn right at the next junction and head towards the second stone cross.</p> <p>At the stone cross take the track heading behind the houses, signed Far Bank Lane. At the next crossroads turn left, continue along the path towards the road. At the road junction turn right and walk along the pavement heading towards Stainforth.</p> <p>Just before the road junction, cross the road (taking care!), go over the stile and up onto the barrier bank, signposted public footpath. The footpath runs close to the river at this point, alternatively follow the path on top of the bank and head back towards Fishlake village. Go over the stile and continue to follow the path, through the kissing gate and behind the houses. The path will return you to the starting point.</p> |
| Toilets | No |
| Bus Routes | Bus Route 69 |
| Additional Information/Points of interest. | <p>1. The Landing – when Fishlake became an inland port, the quayside was situated on the landing. The landing was once known locally as ‘Cuthbert’s Haven’ in memory of the spot where St. Cuthbert’s body was landed in the 9th century. A man of prayer and a man of action St. Cuthbert travelled widely taking the Christian message to the people in the North of England. After his death in 687, his faithful monks carried his bones for seven years over a wide area between the Humber and Tweed in order to escape the Danish pagans. Years later, when his coffin was opened it was found that his body had not decomposed. This was seen as a miraculous sign.</p> |

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| <p>Additional Information/Points of interest (continued)</p> | <p>2. Limestone crosses – there are two limestone crosses in Fishlake village, each have the base and a portion of the shaft still remaining. It is possible that these late medieval crosses have taken the place of earlier Anglo Saxon ones. Two theories exist as to their purpose. One that they were preaching crosses, marking the spot where the bones of St. Cuthbert rested. The other is that they were market crosses.</p> <p>3. St. Cuthbert’s Church - St. Cuthbert’s Church reflects the former prosperity of Fishlake Village. Built by the Normans in the 12th Century and dedicated to St. Cuthbert, it was reputed that his body rested here on its way to burial and his final resting place at Durham Cathedral.</p> <p>The southwest doorway is the pride of the church and perhaps is the most lavishly decorated in Yorkshire and is famous throughout Europe. The tower belongs to the reign of Edward IV (1461-83) who is represented in the two badges on the south side , one a rose surmounted by a royal crown and the other a falcon standing on a fetter lock. The figure of St. Cuthbert is represented on the west side in the canopied niche, with the head of St. Oswald in his hand.</p> <p>4. Quaker burial ground – Fosterhouses, once an outlying settlement, had, by the 17th century, become a settlement of non-conformists, in particular the Quakers. Although no purpose-built meeting house was ever established, the Fishlake Quakers buried their dead in a cemetery along ‘Burial Place Lane’. It was still in use in the 19th century, but the site was cleared of its memorial stones and ploughed up after the Second World War.</p> <p>5. Thorne Watersides, Oxbow and Ings - This land forms part of the floodplain of the River Don, which is tidal in this area. The majority of this interesting site is cattle-grazed grassland with areas of open water that grade into swamp. This habitat is home to aquatic plants and insects, while birds such as snipe, skylark and barn owl may be seen in this very rural part of the Borough. Plants of local significance including Dwarf Gorse, Meadow Barley and Golden Dock.</p> |
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Fishlake Walk

Doncaster
Metropolitan Borough Council

Distance: 8.62KM (5.36 Miles)

Start/End Point: Fishlake Landing

Public Facilities: Parking Bus Stop

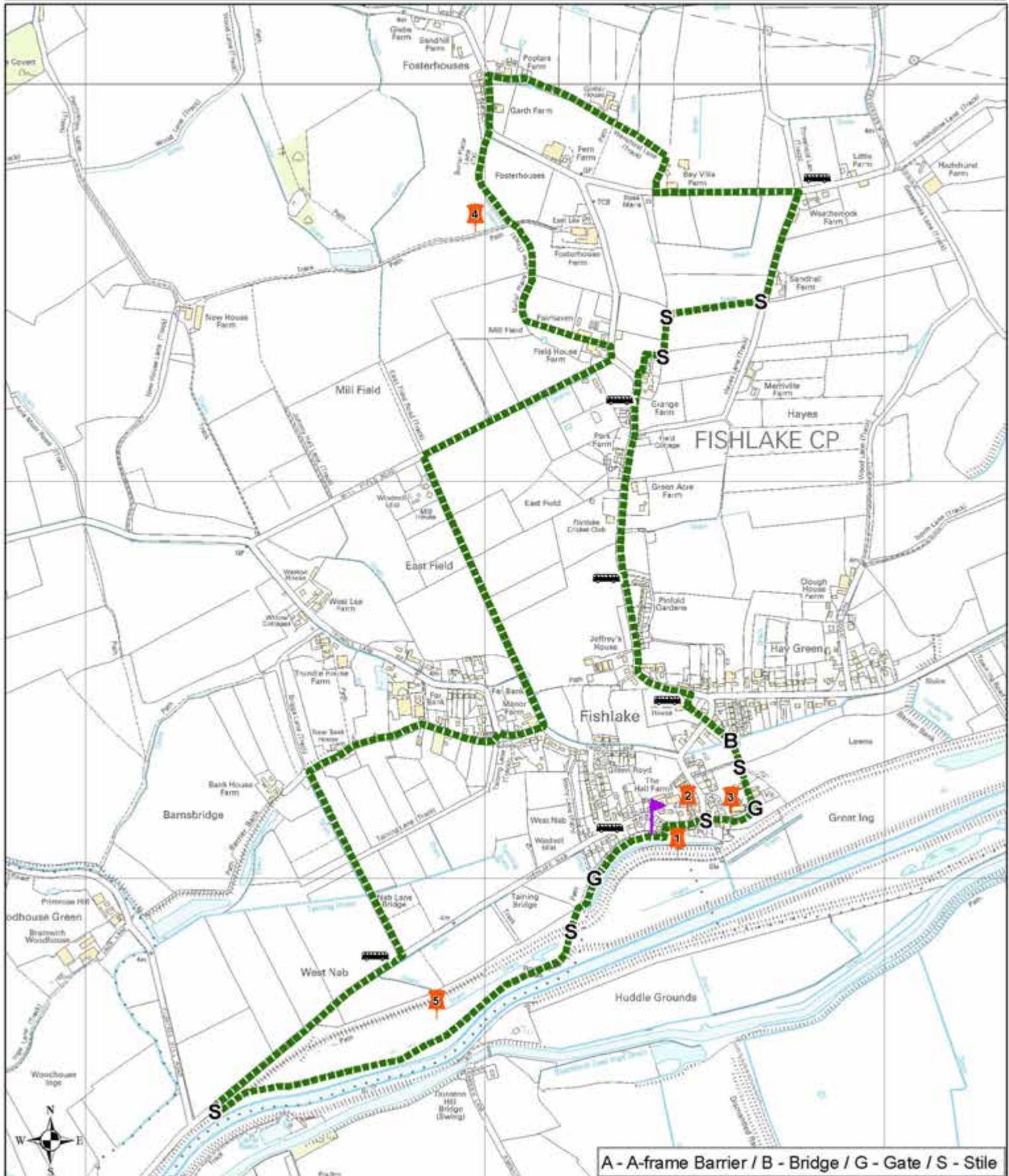


Toilet



Refreshments

Points of Special Interest: See text for information



A - A-frame Barrier / B - Bridge / G - Gate / S - Stile