

# DOORSTEP WALK

Short, Easy to follow and local

**Enjoy a short walk in the countryside around Laughton en le Morthen.**

- This walk will take about two hours, it has a small easy uphill climb of about 15 minutes, the rest is fairly flat.
- It passes an historic church and the remains of a castle before crossing rolling farmland, passing through a fine wood and finally along a valley with excellent views.
- You do not need to read a map.
- You do not need fancy equipment.

**Just follow the GREEN Doorstep waymark**

Laughton has some great walking country, this route is fairly easy, the time is based on an adult walking fairly slowly and having a few good rests. There is a short section which is seasonally muddy at Colonel's Holt, be sure you have boots, not trainers. Don't forget to dress for typical English weather. Roche Abbey lodge has pop and snacks but is only open from April to October.

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 Laughton are shown clearly on the OS Explorer Map 279 Doncaster. Why not pick up a copy 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?

Laughton has good 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. The walk starts at the Laughton en le Morthen - High Street School Road stop.

## Something to think about

This walk would not be possible without the help of local people and farmers. We would particularly like to thank Mr and Mrs Shepard of Old Hall Farm, Laughton for allowing us access onto Laughton Church battlements to take the cover photograph, which shows part of the walk as it passes along Brookhouse Lane.

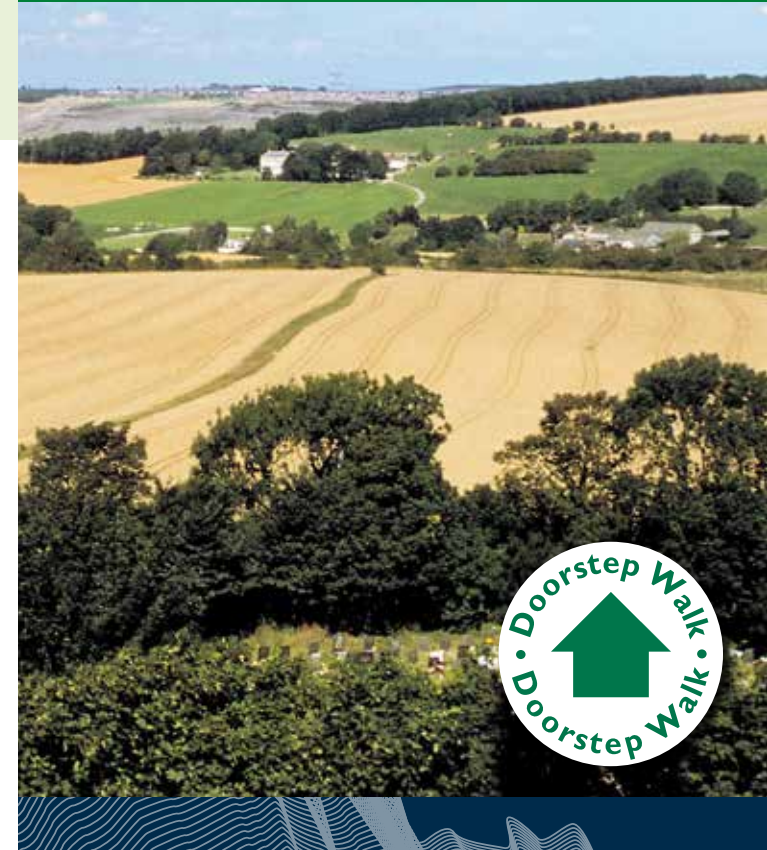
Any enquiries please ring **01709 336003** or email [streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk)

**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 1

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

## Laughton en le Morthen



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# DOORSTEP WALK Number 1

## The Spire Walk around Laughton en le Morthen (4 Miles)

### Roche Abbey...

...was a Cistercian monastery, founded in 1147 and was a working monastery until its dissolution in June 1538 under Henry VIII. At its peak the monastery would have housed around 175 people, including monks and lay-men to work the land.



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### All Saints Church, Laughton

This is a splendid village church with a beautiful tower and spire soaring 185 feet. The spire is one of the Boroughs most visible landmarks and on a clear day Lincoln cathedral can be seen from the battlements.



### 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

- 1 Start at the crossroads in the centre of the village at the junction of School Road, High Street and Hooton Lane, near the Hatfield Arms. Head down School Road. After a while you will see the school (Laughton Infant and Primary School), a large red brick building. Follow the narrow path up the steps by the far side of the school, and follow the path around the playing fields.
- 2 In the distance you will see All Saints Church (see sidebar), the spire is visible for miles around and is often seen on the walk. Stay on the path at the edge of fields and eventually you will come to a large stone wall, which runs alongside the path.
- 3 Cross the stile and keep going straight forwards, ignoring any side paths. Keep a look out to your right for a mound in the foreground, this is all that remains of a motte and bailey castle. Keep on the path at the side of the field, passing under some power cables before reaching Rotherham Lane.
- 4 The route now bears right uphill along the road for about 20 metres before heading left down Brookhouse Lane, take special care on this short section of road. Soon you will see a path on your right heading downhill, follow this past the Travellers Rest and, at the roadside turn right along the road, again take special care along this short section of road.
- 5 Immediately after passing a small group of houses on your left you will see a path heading alongside the houses, follow this uphill to the edge of the railway embankment. Turn right, passing outbuildings on your right and you will soon reach Hooton Lane. Carefully cross the road and follow the path opposite, behind houses and into fields. The path follows the side of the railway for some time before a sign points across the field and downhill, follow this path.
- 6a At the side of the brook turn left and follow the beautiful tree lined valley by Colonel's Holt (holt is a name for a coppice), cross a ditch and enter King's Wood. Follow the path by the side of the brook and then cross the bridge and boardwalk. Stay on the path as it heads slightly uphill and soon you will come to a fork in the route.
- 6b To take a detour to Roche Abbey (see sidebar) head left downhill and follow the path through the wood. Eventually you will pass a waterfall on your left and soon come to the abbey ruins. Although the footpath follows the edges of the ruins there is a charge for entering the actual site, follow the path around the site and pay your entrance fee at the visitor centre. Retrace your steps back through the wood to rejoin the walk.
- 7 At the fork head uphill. At the top of the hill the path enters a large field, head right following the edge of the field and keep to the top of the hill. Carry on along the path, crossing over a field boundary at one point. The path dips downhill, stay on the field edge, and soon the path enters a hedge lined track.
- 8 The track bears left and soon another open track appears on your right, follow this heading directly for the church spire in the distance. The path stays on field edges, keep heading for the church and soon you will cross a small field. Immediately after this the path enters a large field, turn left uphill. At the road turn right up the High Street, and soon you will arrive back at the crossroads.