

# DOORSTEP WALK

Short, Easy to follow and local

**Enjoy a short walk in the countryside around Wentworth.**

- This walk is 4 miles long and will take around 2 hours. The route follows a gently rolling landscape and contains a number of short easy uphill climbs.
- The route starts and finishes in the picturesque Village of Wentworth. It also takes in the hamlet of Street, the Needle's Eye, Elsecar Heritage Centre and Kings Wood.

- You do not need to read a map.
- You do not need fancy equipment.

**Just follow the GREEN Doorstep waymark**

Wentworth has some great walking country. The walk time is based on an adult walking fairly slowly and having a few rests. The section through Kings Wood can be muddy during the winter, so it is advisable to take boots especially following wet weather. There are three pubs on the route, two on Main Street in Wentworth

and one at the end of Forge Lane at Elsecar. There is also a shop on Main Street in Wentworth.

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)

## 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?

Wentworth is served by a regular bus service from Rotherham. 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 Rockingham Arms, Main Street 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 Fitzwilliam (Wentworth) Estate for their help in planning this walk and also Melvyn Jones for Kings Wood Information. For further details of Elsecar Heritage Centre telephone (01226) 740203.

Public Paths in Rotherham are clearly shown on the OS Explorer Maps Nos. 278 and 279. Why not pick up a copy at your local bookshop and devise your own walks.

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 9

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

## The Wentworth Countryside Walk



REF: 85020/2020 Produced by RMBC Design Studio

# DOORSTEP WALK Number 9

## The Wentworth Countryside Walk (4 Miles)

### 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



### The Needle's Eye

The Needle's Eye was built by Charles, the second Marquess of Rockingham sometime between 1730 and 1782.

The folly was constructed on a private coach road which ran from Wentworth Woodhouse through Rainbrough Park to the Lion Lodges near Brampton Bierlow. Legend has it that the Second Marquis built the structure as a result of a wager that he could drive his horse and carriage through the eye of a needle.

### Kings Wood

Kings Wood is an ancient semi natural woodland which once straddled the ancient townships of Wentworth and Brampton Bierlow. Kings Wood and nearby Low Wood originally formed one extensive body of woodland until Low Wood was significantly reduced in size during the early part of the twentieth century.

The woodland has been an important resource for local industry for at least 400 years. There is a long history of coppicing in Kings Wood and much of the wood has been coppiced to provide charcoal to power local industry.

The main tree species in Kings Wood are sessile oak, silver birch, rowan, beech and holly. The Wood is also rich in bird life with great spotted woodpecker, tree pipit, willow warbler and black cap all recorded.



### Guy Canby

Mr Canby was the Estate Manager for Wentworth (Fitzwilliams) from 1985 to his untimely death in 2003. Although many who use this walk will not have known him personally you will be reaping the benefits of his hard work.

He was always a joy to meet and work with, balancing the needs of the working estate with the desire of the public to have greater access. His sense of humour, great local knowledge and above all consummate professionalism have shaped the countryside around Wentworth, making it one of our finest areas to walk and ride.

As you walk please think of the hard work Mr Canby put in to opening up the countryside and respect the land you cross, ensure that others who follow in Mr Canby's footsteps can be every bit as positive about access thanks to your example.

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- 1** Start on Main Street outside the Rockingham Arms. Facing the public house turn right and walk through the Village on the pavement by the side of Main Street. At the end of the village turn left onto the public footpath opposite the war memorial and follow the path across the field to Clayfield Lane.
- 2** On reaching Clayfield Lane turn right and walk along the lane, passing the converted windmill on your left, before arriving at Cortworth Lane. Turn left and walk along the pavement by the side of Cortworth Lane. After a short while you will get your first glimpse of The Needle's Eye through the trees on your left.
- 3** Continue along Cortworth Lane, carefully crossing over Coaley Lane, and you will eventually reach Cortworth House on your left. Follow the public footpath up the drive towards the house. At the top of the drive the footpath forks to the right and passes through a kissing gate. Keep following the footpath up the hill to the picturesque hamlet of Street.
- 4** At Street turn left onto Street Lane and follow the lane to Coaley Lane. Taking extra care cross over Coaley Lane and follow the footpath which runs down the right hand side of Stump Cross Cottage. After a short time you will reach the Needle's Eye, one of the Wentworth Follies.
- 5** The path then continues along the ridge with panoramic views of the Dearne Valley on your right and Wentworth Village and Wharnciffe Chase on your left. The footpath eventually descends into Elsecar, passing through farmland and an area of woodland before finally arriving at Forge Lane.
- 5a** To take a short detour to the Elsecar Heritage Centre carry on walking along Forge Lane. The Elsecar Heritage Centre is a History and Craft Centre, set in the former ironworks and colliery workshops of the Earls Fitzwilliam. After visiting the heritage centre retrace your steps back along Forge Lane. At the end of Forge Lane the track splits into two public footpaths. Take the right hand route following the path across the fields and rejoin the walk.
- 6** On arriving at Forge Lane turn sharp left and follow the waymarked path across the fields and through Kings Wood. At the far side of the wood continue along the winding track passing through Low Wood before eventually arriving at Barrow Field Lane. Turn left onto Barrow Field Lane and follow the roadside pavement towards Wentworth Village. At the bend in the road turn left onto the track marked as a public footpath and then left again along the hedged lane which is also marked as a public footpath. After a short while the track splits into two as it gently descends the hill. Follow the track on the right.
- 7** As the track steadily climbs up the hillside it soon turns into a footpath. Continue along the footpath keeping the hedgerow to your left. Turn right immediately after passing over the fourth stile and follow the fence line heading towards the Village.
- 8** On the edge of the village the path meets Clayfield Lane. Pass over the stile and continue straight ahead along Clayfield Lane to its junction with Main Street. Carefully cross over Main Street onto the roadside pavement and turn left walking along Main Street through Wentworth village back to the Rockingham Arms.