

EASY COUNTRYSIDE TRAIL: FREERS BANK AND FRYTON MOOR



A 3.5 mile (6km) circular walk (can be shortened to 2.2 miles) around the countryside near Terrington in North Yorkshire.



Moderate Terrain

**3.5 Miles
1 to 1.5
hours**

090417



The route follows a beautiful high ridge through woodland and then with superb panoramic views. The short version of the route returns along the same ridge, while the full version of the route performs a loop down into the valley bottom. This walk is part of the Howardian Hills Easy Countryside Trails collection, published through a collaboration between iFootpath and the Howardian Hills AONB Partnership, with the aim of providing countryside access for all in the Howardian Hills.

There is one bench along the route, just a simple large log set on the ground, which is located at the turning point of the short version. There are no facilities on the route. If you are looking for refreshments, you will find Terrington Village Stores and Tea Rooms (which has indoor and outdoor tables) in nearby Terrington village. This walk follows public rights of way through public and private land. Please show respect for landowners and other visitors and remember the Countryside Code. OS Explorer Map 300: Howardian Hills and Malton.



Get the iFootpath App for a smarter walking experience. Hundreds of walking guides in the palm of your hand with live maps that show your progress as you walk. Say goodbye to wrong turns!



iFootpath.com

Access Notes



- 1. The short version of the route (2.2 miles there and back) follows a compacted stone vehicle track which is generally well-made with just the odd pot hole and some shallow surface mud. The track has only gentle slopes for the most part (estimated maximum gradient of 1:20 or 5%) with one 10 metre stretch that has a moderate slope (estimated gradient of 1:12 or 8%). There are no stiles, gates or steps on this version of the walk and it should be suitable for rugged pushchairs and rugged disability buggies for most of the year.**
- 2. Breakfree Surface and Slope Rating B1 (for majority of track) and B3 (for a 10 metre stretch).**
- 3. The full version of the route (3.5 miles circular) follows a mixture of stone and unmade vehicle tracks, parts of which are deeply rutted. There are several long and steep slopes (maximum estimated gradient of 1:6 or 16%). You will need to negotiate two vehicle gates. You will cross one grass pasture which may be holding sheep so take particular care with dogs.**
- 4. Breakfree Surface and Slope Rating D5.**

Getting there

The walk starts and finishes at Freers Bank, a vehicle track and bridleway about 2 miles east of Terrington village in North Yorkshire. There is no public transport access. Being a rural start point, there is no exact post code for the parking area, which sits on the road between Terrington and Coneysthorpe.

The nearest post code, **YO60 6PN**, will take you to Terrington village. From here, head east for half a mile then turn left onto the road to Coneysthorpe. Continue for 1.3 miles. The parking area is a compacted stone pull-in area on the left-hand side, marked with a bridleway fingerpost and a small purple Castle Howard bridleway sign. There is parking for about 6 cars..

Walk Sections



Start to Waite Wood Junction



From the parking area, head along the compacted stone track, passing the bridleway fingerpost on your right and the small purple Castle Howard bridleway sign on your left. The woodland sloping down to your left is known as Freers Bank. At the first junction with a fingerpost, ignore the bridleway on the right (signed to Slingsby). Instead, keep ahead on the main track signed to Wath, Hovingham and Terrington.

Further along, the dense mixed woodland on your right ends and is replaced by a line of trees and a dry-stone wall. Through the gaps in this wall, you will have your first tantalising glimpses of the views to come. Beyond the wall, you will pass another small woodland on your right, known as Waites Wood. At the end of Waites Wood (and after another shorter section of wall on your right), you will come to a junction of tracks with a fingerpost on your left. The views are far-reaching at this point if you wish to pause a while.



Waite Wood Junction to Log Seat

Ignore the track on the right signed to Fryton Moor (this is the track that the full route will return by later). Instead go straight ahead on the main track signed to Hovingham 2.5 miles. The views ahead and to the right along this stretch are particularly beautiful.



A while later, the woodland on your left also ends meaning you are treated to panoramic views. About 270 metres later, you will come to the next fingerpost, at a staggered T-junction. This marks the junction with the Ebor Way long distance path.

Alongside the fingerpost, you will see a large log laid on its side, with a small Howardian Hills 25th Anniversary sign alongside. This is one of 25 log seats that were installed in 2012 at some of the most iconic viewpoints within the area, to celebrate 25 years since the designation of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Take time to sit and enjoy the views should you wish. If you are following the shorter version of the walk (that avoids the steep gradients and unmade paths), now is the time to turn around and retrace your steps back to the start.



Log Seat to Stream Crossing



For the full walk, turn right at the T-junction and follow the Ebor Way heading downhill. The track leads you down to the buildings of Howthorpe Farm. Bear right through the farmyard and pass immediately to the right of the open hay and machinery barn, joining the next stretch of vehicle track. The track leads you steadily downhill between two large crop fields and then crosses a stream in the valley bottom via a concrete slab bridge.



Stream Crossing to High Baxtonhowe Farm

Immediately beyond the bridge, you will pass a pretty pond on your left and then come to wide wooden field gates ahead. NOTE: You may come across sheep grazing in this next pasture. Pass through the gate to enter the pasture.

Officially, the line of the footpath goes diagonally right across the grass to reach the top corner of the pasture (where a bridle gate would lead you out to a vehicle track).



However, you will probably find it easier to walk ahead on the vehicle track for about 100 metres to reach the next set of gates. Pass through these (to leave the pasture) and turn immediately right to follow the vehicle track, with the wire fence of the sheep pasture running on your right.

Beyond the pasture, follow the track as it dog-legs left then right and then continues ahead between open crop fields. This area is known as Fryton Moor. You will pass the bottom boundary of a paddock and garden (on your right) and then reach a T-junction with another vehicle track. Turn right here and you will pass High Baxtonhowe Farm on your right.



High Baxtonhowe Farm to End



Continue on the vehicle track as it swings left and then right, leading you back down into the valley bottom. The track crosses back over the stream and then leads you uphill, with pretty woodland on your right. Stay with the vehicle track, leading you steeply uphill and passing Low Baxtonhowe Farm on your left along the way.

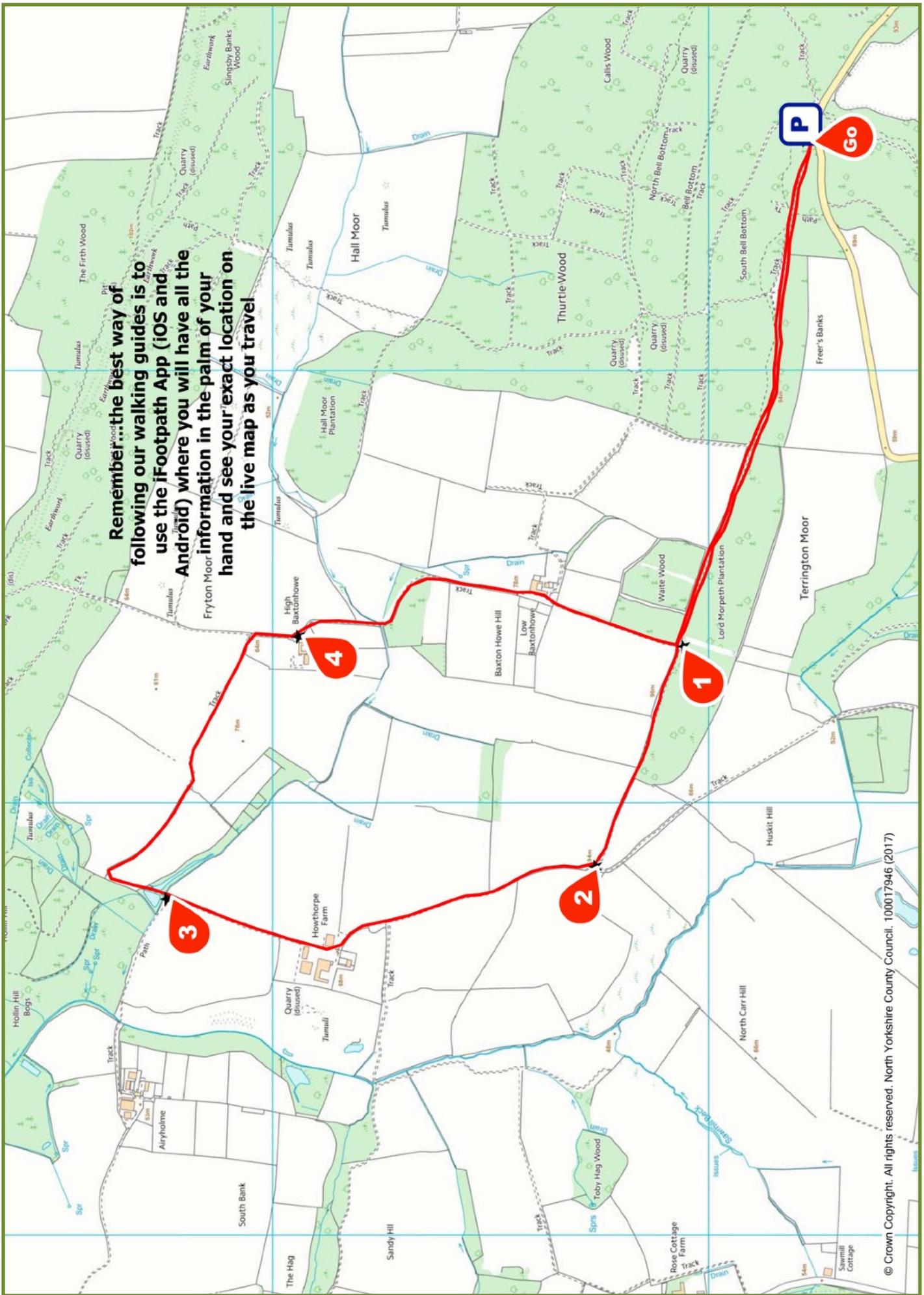
At the top of the hill you will come to a T-junction with the vehicle track that you followed on the outward leg. Turn left along this track, signed to Coneysthorpe 1.75 miles. Now simply keep ahead on this track, retracing your steps from the outward leg, and it will lead you back to the parking area where the walk began.

Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.



Remember...the best way of following our walking guides is to use the iFootpath App (iOS and Android) where you will have all the information in the palm of your hand and see your exact location on the live map as you travel

© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. North Yorkshire County Council. 100017946 (2017)