

Hills and Hamlets

A circular walk of 6 ½ miles from the historic town of Louth, to Tathwell, Raithby and back.

- 1** From St James' Church walk out of the town centre uphill, along Uppgate. Cross the traffic lights carefully and continue past Meridian View and the disused quarry. Turn right along the next track, which leads past several houses before becoming a grassy track.
- 2** Turn left just past a bungalow, over a gate onto the footpath. Cross a stile in a fence and continue on the path to the corner. Follow the path through the next field then over the footbridge and stiles on your left. Continue along the path as it crosses 3 fields to the bypass.
- 3** Carefully cross the bypass and rejoin the footpath as it crosses the small stream, then head for the left side of Brock a Dale plantation. Follow the path, keeping the plantation on your right, up the track, then aim diagonally left across the field. Cross the bridge, then continue on the footpath as it crosses diagonally the next 4 fields and emerges onto a lane and crossroads.
- 4** From the crossroads, take the road right, signposted to Louth (Raithby Road). This is a quiet road but please be careful, walking on the right hand side of the road and facing oncoming traffic. Once the road begins to descend, look down into the valley on your left where you will see a small uneven grass field.
- 5** After approximately 1 mile, you emerge onto the Horncastle Road. Cross carefully, turning left downhill, then turn right to follow the footpath past some trees. Follow the path over stiles and grassland. In the 2nd field, head left towards the left corner and over the metal footbridge onto the road. Turn left and continue to St Peter's Church.
- 6** Opposite the church, go through the gate and into the uneven grass field. Follow the bridleway as it crosses the field to the left of the brick pillars and over the stream, ignoring the footpath to the left. Ignore a stile leading to a private garden but continue to the small gate through the hedge.
- 7** Cross over the track, up a slight rise and turn left, keeping another hedge on your left as you walk along the grass bridleway at the edge of the field. Ignore the bridleway gate on your left, but continue to go over a stile on your left.
- 8** Cross the old railway line and go into a small area of woodland. Follow the path through the woodland and continue along the edge of the field. Near the bypass, turn left and head for the field gate and stile which brings you out onto the Hallington Road. Cross the road and turn right to walk under the bypass bridge and into Hubbard's Hills.
- 9** Follow the path along the River Lud through Hubbard's Hills, along Crowtree Lane and turn left into Westgate Fields with its wooden leaf sculptures created as part of Louth Art Trail. When you emerge into Westgate, turn right and continue to St James' Church, your starting point.



Key

- - - Route
- - - Greenwich Meridian Line

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