

Walks in York

BISHOPTHORPE

Useful contacts

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Public Rights of Way team:

Tel: 01904 551550
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York Tourist Information

Tel: 01904 550099

York Travel Line

Tel: 01904 551400



A summary of this information can be provided in your own language.


এই তথ্যটির সারাংশ আপনার নিজের ভাষায় অনুরোধ করে দেওয়া যাবে। (Bengali)

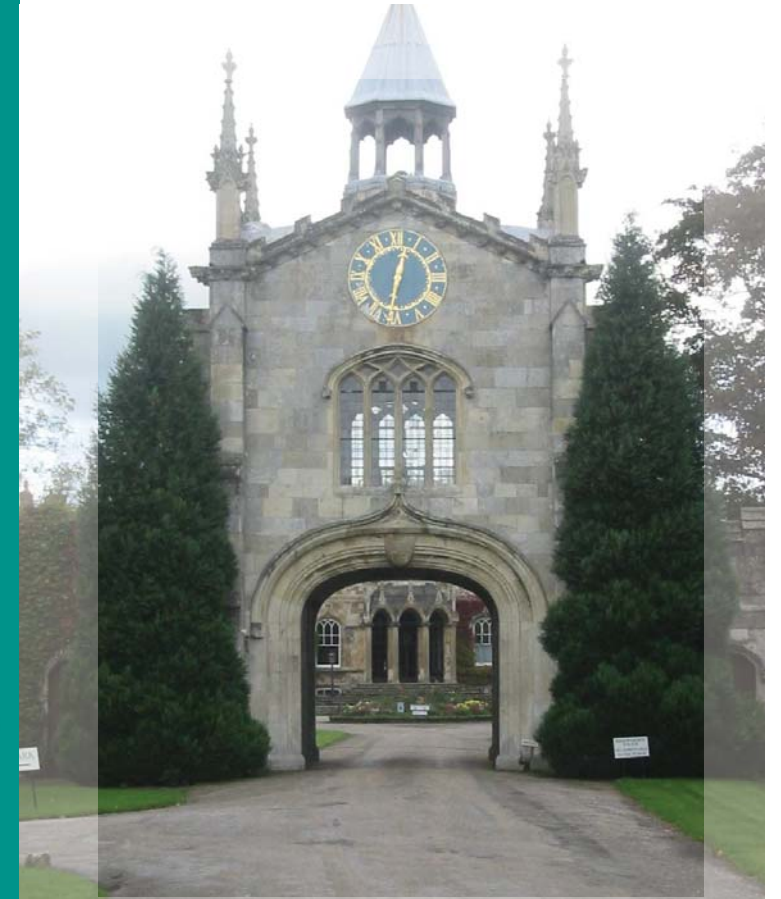
我們能以您的語言提供些信息的摘要 (Cantonese)

Streszczenie tych informacji może być zapewnione w Twoim języku ojczystym. (Polish)

Bu bilginin özetini kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

ان معلومات کا خلاصہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں بھی مہیا کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550



Walk 13

Bishopthorpe Via Middlethorpe and the Knavesmire.

Distance: 5¾ miles

Time: 2 hrs.

Shorter Route: 3 miles

Stiles: 2

Gates: 0

Parking: Bishopthorpe Main Street

Public Transport: Bus No.s 11 , 11A

A walk from the Village of Bishopthorpe taking in York's historic Knavesmire and race course, the listed buildings of the former Terry's Chocolate Factory and the impressive Bishopthorpe Palace, the residence of the Archbishop of York.



Bishopthorpe is located on the River Ouse about 3 miles south of York. There has been a settlement here for over a millennium, but the name "Bishopthorpe" dates from 1226 when Walter de Grey, then Archbishop of York, bought the entire Manor estate and began building what is now the Archbishop's Palace. The Archbishop of York still resides at The Palace and the building has been extended and altered by various Archbishops in residence over the years. The village has grown much in recent years and has a population of about 3500 although the centre of the village retains its historical character.

The Knavesmire is a large open space with historical public access forming part of Micklegate Stray. The Knavesmire is dominated by the famous York

Racecourse. Originating as a common used for pasturage in the middle ages, Micklegate Stray along with other Strays around the city, was allotted as grazing land to the Freeman of the City around the end of the 18th Century. The Strays were originally managed by the Pasture Masters who controlled the grazing rights over them. In 1947 the Strays, including Micklegate Stray were taken over by the York Corporation. An undertaking was made at this time that the Strays should be administered 'as an open space for the benefit and enjoyment of the citizens of York for all time.'



The Strays and Ways of York – York Group for the Promotion of Planning 1968
<http://www.genuki.org.uk>



Walks in York

BISHOPTHORPE

1 From Bishopthorpe Library, Main Street turn left to the crossroads. From the crossroads walk along Copmanthorpe Lane passing the primary school on your left and the Methodist Church on the right. The road curves to the left past the school grounds and at a dead end it meets a cycle path. Turn right and follow the track, between houses at first, and then across open country to reach a bridge carrying the A64 dual carriage way over the path.

2 Continue straight ahead from the bridge, ignoring a right turn until you pass under another road. This is Tadcaster Road, a main route in and out of York. Climb a curving slope to reach the road and then turn left to a pedestrian crossing. Cross the road via the crossing, then turn right and then immediately left at the traffic lights down a road called Sim Balk Lane. Continue until the road starts to climb and you reach a sports field changing room on the left.

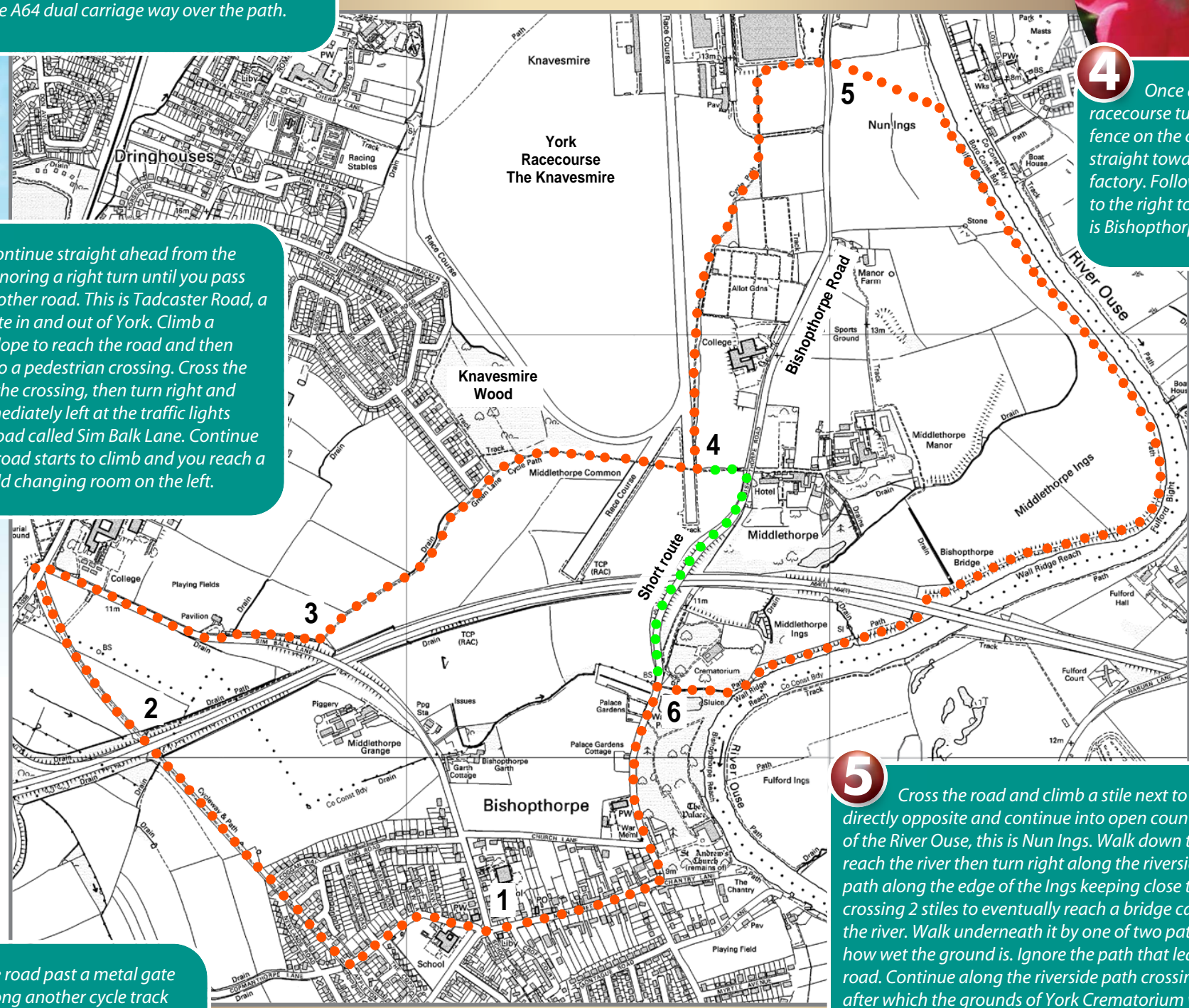
3 Leave the road past a metal gate and continue along another cycle track signposted as the Trans Pennine Trail. At a fork take the left hand option away from the A64. Follow the track past a wood on the left, this is Knavesmire Wood. Continue along the track across the York racecourse, the stands and the old buildings and clock tower of the former Terry's factory are visible on your left. (For the shorter walk continue on this path until you reach a road. This is Bishopthorpe Road, turn right here and continue over a bridge over the A64 towards Bishopthorpe. Pick the route up again at York Crematorium, No.6).



6 The path now turns away from the river to run between fences and emerges on to Bishopthorpe Road once more. Turn left and follow the road past the parish church on the right and then the entrance to Bishopthorpe Palace, the residence of the Archbishop of York, on the left. Follow the road round to the right to return to Bishopthorpe Main Street. Walk down Main Street and straight on to return to the library and the start of the walk.

5 Cross the road and climb a stile next to a wooden gate directly opposite and continue into open country along the banks of the River Ouse, this is Nun Ings. Walk down the grass path to reach the river then turn right along the riverside path. Follow this path along the edge of the Ings keeping close to the riverbank crossing 2 stiles to eventually reach a bridge carrying the A64 over the river. Walk underneath it by one of two paths depending on how wet the ground is. Ignore the path that leads up onto the road. Continue along the riverside path crossing another stile after which the grounds of York Crematorium will become visible on your right.

4 Once across the racecourse turn left along the fence on the cycle track heading straight towards the old Terry's factory. Follow the track round to the right to reach a road, this is Bishopthorpe Road.



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