

Walks in York

WHELDRAKE

Useful contacts

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


এই তথ্যটির সারাংশ আপনার নিজের ভাষায় অনুবাদ 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 6

Wheldrake Via Wheldrake Lane and Benjy Lane.

Distance: 6 miles

Time: 2½ hours

Stiles: 1

Gates: 1

Parking: Off Road parking, Broad Highway.

Public Transport: Bus No.24

Broad Highway is a quiet lane linking Wheldrake Village with Wheldrake Woods and Elvington airfield. To reach Broad Highway travelling from York and Crockey Hill, proceed along the main road through Wheldrake Village and turn left just before the pub and church. Take the first left and the next right after passing the school. Parking is available after the houses where Broad Highway continues into open country.



Wheldrake lies a short distance from the east bank of the river Derwent about 6 miles south east of York. The first element of the name Wheldrake may refer to the historical presence of wells or springs that occur on the site of village. This idea is supported by mention in historic text of a now abandoned village nearby called Waterhouses.

East of the village of Wheldrake is the River Derwent. Wheldrake Ings, part of a series of flood meadows in The Lower Derwent Valley, supports a rich diversity of plant species and

outstanding populations of breeding and wintering birds. In light of this, the reserve has been declared a Special Protection Area and a Ramsar site recognising its importance as a habitat for birds.

Wheldrake Wood, at the top of Broad Highway, is a Forestry Commission plantation of predominately pine trees. The wood is established on what was formerly lowland heath and areas of the wood, which still maintain the underlying heath land characteristics, are being actively managed to support this habitat.



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1 Follow Broad Highway and after about a mile, look for a finger post on your left at the entrance to a series of farm buildings and houses. Leave Broad Highway and follow the track around the front and then side of the houses, reaching a stile.

Cross the stile and continue through a metal gate to eventually reach a track along the edge of a wood. This is Hagg Wood. Follow the track along the edge of Hagg Wood. If you are lucky you may see a deer or fox which can often be seen around this area.

After the end of the wood, the path doglegs right and then left. Follow the waymarking post pointing the way. Continue along the field edge. You may notice the shooting platforms attached to trees along this route.

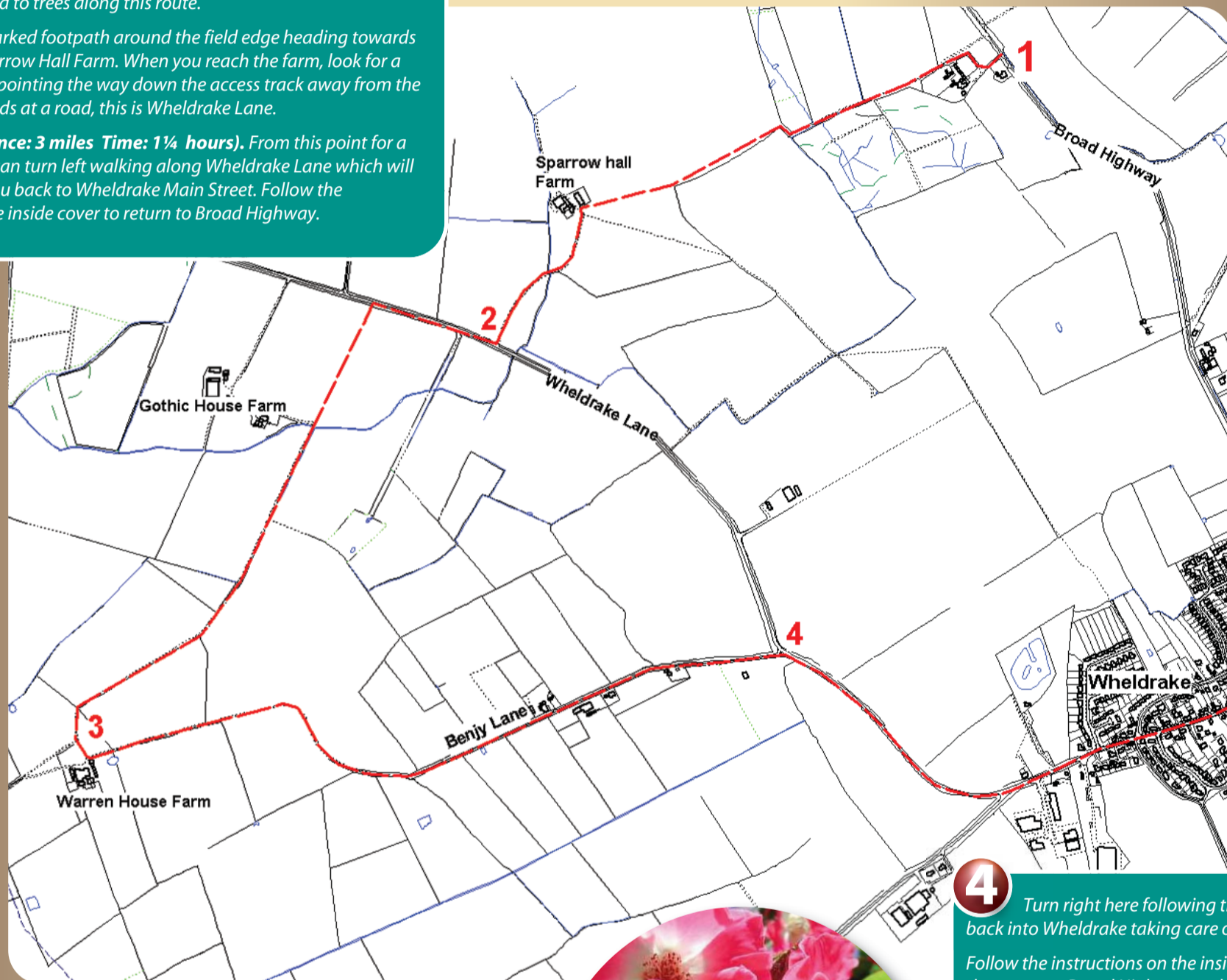
Follow the waymarked footpath around the field edge heading towards a farm. This is Sparrow Hall Farm. When you reach the farm, look for a wooden signpost pointing the way down the access track away from the farm. The track ends at a road, this is Wheldrake Lane.

(Short Cut; Distance: 3 miles Time: 1¼ hours). From this point for a shorter walk you can turn left walking along Wheldrake Lane which will eventually lead you back to Wheldrake Main Street. Follow the instructions on the inside cover to return to Broad Highway.



3 After passing the plantation, you will come to Warren House Farm where the bridleway forks, one route leading right towards the village of Escrick, the second leading back towards Wheldrake via Benjy Lane. Take the latter option, a waymarking post points the way.

Follow the path towards the farm, turning left at the buildings. After passing through open fields, Benjy Lane gradually becomes a more prominent track, enclosed in places by large trees, and serving as vehicle access to the farm and cottages. Pass through a gap to the side of a metal gate after which the lane becomes surfaced and after passing houses on the left and right eventually joins Wheldrake Lane.



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2 **(Cont. Circular walk)** Turn right and walk along the road taking care of traffic. After about 300 metres, follow a bridleway finger post on the left down a grassy track.

Continue along this bridleway as it leads across a large open field with Gothic House Farm on your right. The path joins up with a track, continuing along the field edge passing a small plantation on the right.



4 Turn right here following the road back into Wheldrake taking care of traffic.

Follow the instructions on the inside cover for the return to Broad Highway and the start of the walk.

