

About the route

Starting from a striking neo-Gothic building this walk explores the countryside overlooking the Trent Vale, just a mile or so outside of Newark. On the way one passes a horse racing establishment and a delightful wooded dell. Gentle rolling country using footpaths, bridleways and minor roads. Care needed.

Walk Checklist:

Start point/parking

Kelham Hall, Main Street, Kelham.

Distance

Approximately 6.5 miles (10.5 kms).

Duration

3 hours + stops.

Stiles and gates

Yes.

Refreshments

Public House, Kelham.

Public Transport

By bus: Services Nos. 28 & 28A Newark-Southwell-Mansfield; No.29 Southwell-Newark.

OS Grid Reference

Walk starts at **SK774556** – Map OS Explorer 271 and OS Landranger 120.



The dots show the start points of all our 20 walk routes. Visit our website for more info.



Trent Vale



Trent Vale

Walk Route

Kelham Hills Circular



Kelham Hall.

Start Point: Kelham Hall, Main Street, Kelham

Route Length: Approximately 6.5 miles (10.5 kms)

Route Duration: 3 hours + stops

Route Type: Gentle footpaths, bridleways and minor roads



Trent Vale



LOTTERY FUNDED

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Kelham Hills Circular

1 Start. From the front of Kelham Hall, follow the path past the Dome to a little gate beside the lodge. Cross the A617 and go along the road opposite as far as the South Muskham road. Here turn left, pass through the gate and go straight ahead across the field and through a gate to a narrow road. Turn left; go round the double bend and through the signposted gate on the right.

The name Kelham means 'place at the ridges.' Kelham Hall was built in 1861 to replace an 18th century house destroyed by fire in 1857. It was built in the Gothic style by Sir George Gilbert Scott, who was also responsible for designing St Pancras Station – to which it bears more than a close resemblance.



2 Follow the track, but where it veers left continue to follow the hedge to the corner of Kelham Hills Wood. Pass through a gate and along the edge of the wood. Cross a fence and narrow ditch, then go round the right-hand edge of the first field, slip right and go round the corner of the adjacent field to join a track. Follow this to a road.



Kelham Hills sign post.

3 Take signposted path and bridge opposite across a narrow spinney. Cross a training track – part of Averham Park Racing Stables – and a large field beyond, then along a short-hedged

lane to reach a lane. Turn right and follow the lane round through the horse training area and stables, then past a row of cottages. After the last cottage, turn right along the edge of a field crossing a training track, then along the far side. Turn left along a further field edge to a road.

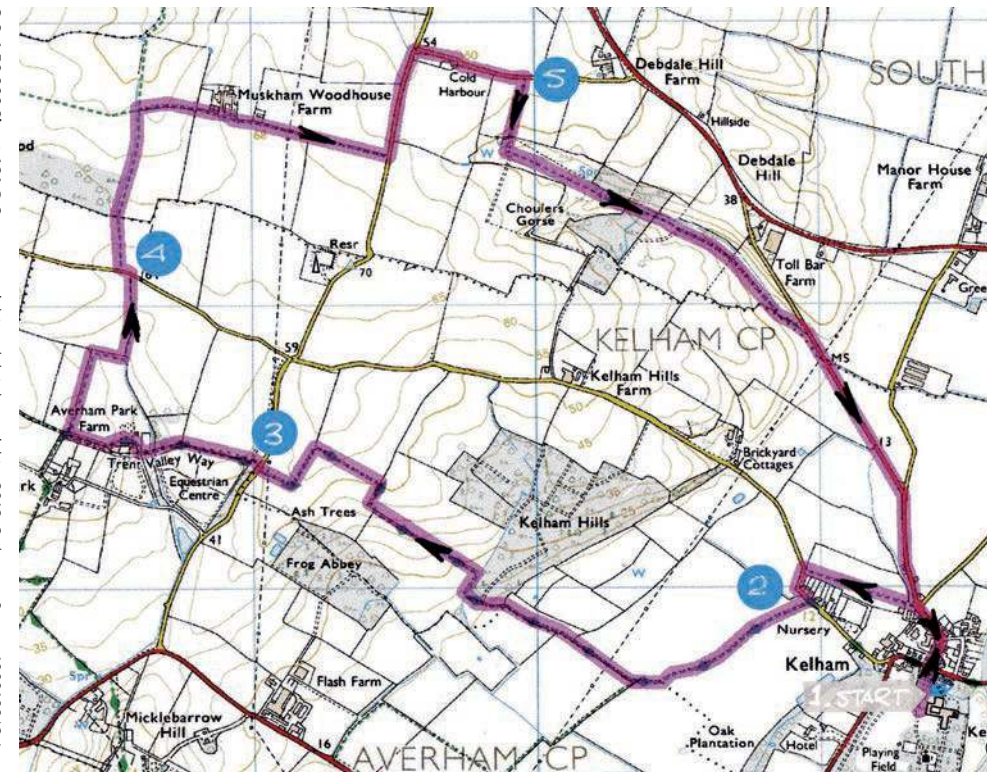


Averham Park training track.

Averham Park was built in 1723, by Robert Sutton the second Lord Lexington, as a hunting lodge for nearby Kelham Hall. Not far from this location a hoard of coins from the 16th and 17th century was found. The coins were from the reigns of Charles I, James I and Elizabeth I.

4 Go left a few metres, and then right through a hedge and across a field to the corner of Muskham Wood. Only two edges of the wood remain. Continue ahead past the wood and along a fence to a stile. Cross and turn right to pass Woodhouse Farm and forward to a road. Turn left, then first right, past the isolated Cold Harbour Farm and on to a gate set back from the road on the right.

5 Follow the track down the field and pass through a gate. Just to the right are the ruins of a house and in front, two aged oaks stand at the head of a delightful valley.



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Choulers Gorse.

Walk down the dell, Choulers Gorse, keeping just to the right of a tongue of woodland to reach a stile. Pass through a little wood, crossing a track midway, and cross another stile. You now walk down the edge of a meadow, followed by an arable field; round the bushes at the end veering left to a gate and road. Turn right along this road for 700m taking care then join a further road. Follow this to the A617 and continue to the start point.



Kelham Bridge (view of Kelham bridge from A617).

Kelham is also the village where Charles 1st surrendered to the Parliamentarian forces during the Civil War.