



WALKS IN LONGDON PARISH

8. LONGER WALK

Turn right at the cross roads up Church Hill and in a short distance find on the left a narrow footpath adjacent to Park Cottage. Proceed along this path, which runs between gardens and over two stiles.



9. LONGDON HALL

Exit onto fields behind Longdon Hall. Carry on forward for a short distance keeping the field fence on the left. Pass through a kissing gate to the other side of the fence by a large oak tree, and continuing in the same direction, now with the fence to the immediate right, through grazing fields and over further stiles set within wire fencing and an older stile beneath an old oak tree. A few yards further on turn right over stile by finger post and head diagonally across the field sighting slightly to the left of the church in the distance. This path is not always clearly marked but aim for the top right hand corner of the field, climb a further stile and follow the hedge on the immediate left to a further stile.



10. MAIN ROAD

Cross over the stile down the steps onto the verge of the main road (A51). Take great care crossing this road and enter the church car park on the left through a five barred gateway.

NOW FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS SHOWN FOR THE SHORT WALK STARTING AT POINT 7.

LONGDON LOCATION

Longdon is midway between Lichfield and Rugeley on the A51 road with Longdon Green on one side (signposted) and Longdon (Brook End) on the other.

HISTORY

The name Longdon is derived from the Saxon "Langandune", meaning long hill, located in the old Offlow Hundred.

The Bishops of Lichfield held the manor of Longdon up to 1546 when it was surrendered to Henry VIII. In the same year the king granted ownership to Sir William (later Lord) Paget, an ancestor of the Marquis of Anglesey. He was one of the principal Secretaries of State.

In 1563 Longdon was recorded with 102 households which grew to 178 by 1665. Today the population is around 2000, occupying approximately 1850 hectares.



REMEMBER THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow signs
- Consider other people
- Leave gates and property as before
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control

Leaflet 10 pence - when purchased

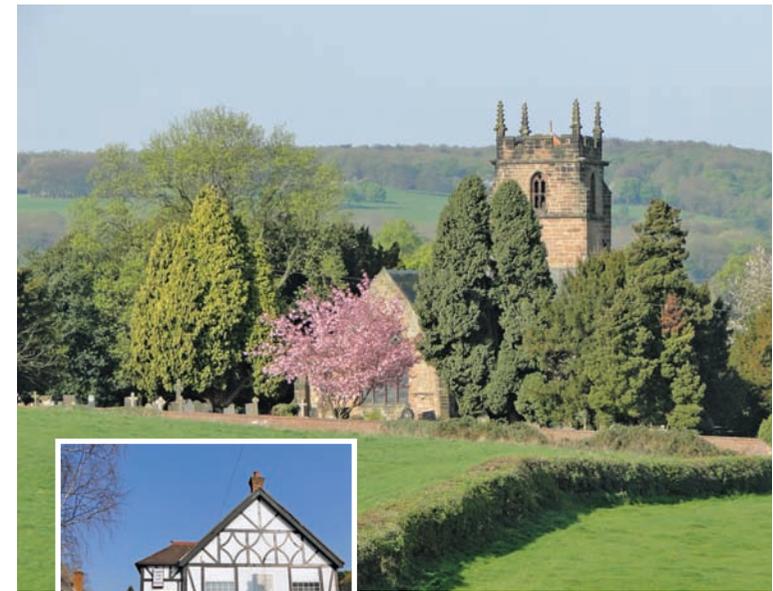
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**NUMBER 1
LONGDON
WAY**

LONGDON WAY

Swan with Two Necks • Post Office • Memorial Hall • St. James' Church • Hill Top and Longdon Green

LONG WALK DISTANCE:
2.5 miles (4 km) • Time 1 ¼ hours

SHORT WALK DISTANCE:
2.3 miles (3.65 km) • Time 1 hour

This walk takes a circular route to the south east of the village, mainly across open farmland with some sections along country roads. Gentle elevation.

1. START LONGDON VILLAGE

Starting with the Swan With Two Necks public house where parking may be available with the landlords permission, proceed past the Village Hall and the old Black and White cottages on the left. Pass the Post Office on the right, and continue to the Memorial Hall (erected 1919) and turn left up the driveway. Keeping the hedge on the left continue through the kissing gate into the Glebe Field.



2. ST. JAMES' THE GREAT CHURCH

Turn right up the gravel path towards St. James' the Great Church and into the churchyard. (Dogs should be kept on lead please). Pass the west door at the base of the tower and follow round the church passing the south porch. Note the avenue of ancient yew trees to the right. The Church is normally open during daylight hours and is well worth further investigation or for just a few quiet moments. Continue keeping the Church to the left and find three stone steps by the chancel door up to the Churchyard. At the end of the building turn right towards the wicket gate in the wall at far end of Churchyard, thence out onto rising land towards the telegraph pole on skyline. Once past the pole, ignore field gate and use the adjacent kissing gate on the right. Cross the field diagonally towards a stile in the hedge. Climb stile and proceed forward keeping the hedge to the left and climb over a further stile.



3. TRIANGULATION PILLAR

At the far end of the field the route turns right but before continuing, take a short detour left through the gate to the triangulation pillar (375 feet, 114 metres) to enjoy views of vale of the River Trent and the distant Peak District to the north, Rugeley Power Station to the north west and Cannock Chase to the west.



4. HILL TOP

Return through the gate and proceed forward along the ridge keeping the hedge on the left over two stiles and exiting onto a wide stone track and turn right past grade II* listed Hill Top Thatched Cottages and Hill Top Farm. (Note listed gates & pillars). Bear right and carry on along the lane losing height, to its junction with Lysways Lane. Turn right along this lane noting the small stream running along on the left.



5. LONGDON GREEN

Pass beneath the main road (A51) into Longdon Green. There is a bench nearby for a welcome rest. Note the Red Lion public house.

**AT THIS POINT CHOOSE LONGER
OR SHORTENED WALK**

6. SHORTER WALK (avoiding fields)

Walk may be slightly shortened at this point by turning right at the cross roads and continuing up Church Hill to the main road, turn left and cross over the A51, taking great care, to St. James' Church, enter the church car park to the left through a five barred gateway.

7. CHURCH HOLLOW

At the far end of the car park take the path leading down into Church Hollow. This being the line of the old coach road to Chester before the A51 was realigned to its current course in the 1960s. At the end of Church Hollow the route joins a metalled road, St. James Close. Carry on in same direction, bear right into Brook End with the Longdon Memorial Hall now to the right and continue through the Village back to the Swan With Two Necks.