



# WALKS IN LONGDON PARISH

## 7. TRIANGULATION PILLAR

Follow the path ahead keeping the hedge to your right through a field gate. At the next gate before turning left, carry on forward for a short distance to the Triangulation pillar (114 metres, 375 feet) and enjoy the views ahead of Longdon Church and beyond to Cannock Chase. To the north east is the vale of the River Trent and beyond, on a clear day, the hills of the Peak District may be seen. Return through the gate, turning right and keeping the hedge to the right, climbing two stiles and then bear diagonally right across the field to a kissing gate.



## 8. ST. JAMES' THE GREAT CHURCH

Follow the hedge to your left and head for Longdon Church and locate the wicket gate in the south wall of the Churchyard. Walk through the churchyard and around to the left of the church down three stone steps by the Chancel door. The Norman church of St. James the Great is normally open during daylight hours and is well worth exploring. Continue around the tower to the gravel path leading to a further small gate out of the churchyard.

## 9. GLEBE FIELD

Follow the gravel path down the Glebe Field and continue in a straight route through another gate between two houses, cross Church Way and proceed ahead down Mill Way and back to the start at the Swan with Two Necks.

## 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 5  
HILL TOP  
WAY**

## HILL TOP WAY

Swan with Two Necks • Borough Lane • Smithy Lane • Longdon Green • Hill Top • St. James's Church

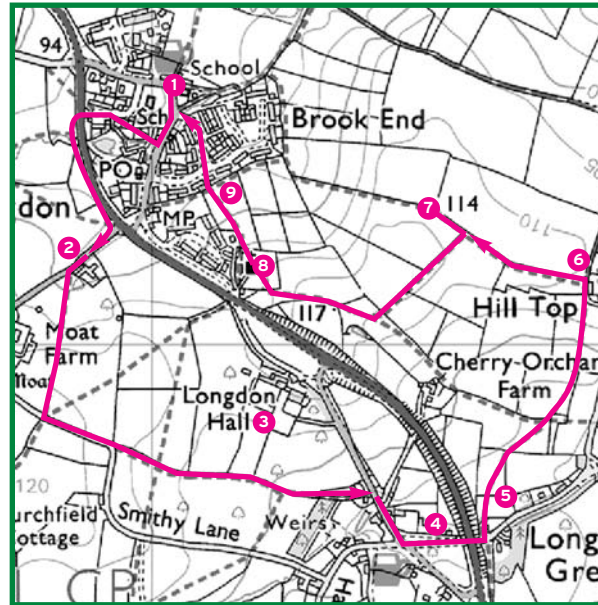
**WALK DISTANCE:**  
2.25 miles (3.5 km) • Time 1 ¼ hours

This walk takes a circular route to the south and east of the village using a mixture of metalled roads and open farmland. Gentle elevation.



### 1. START AT LONGDON VILLAGE

Starting at The Swan with Two Necks (parking may be available with permission of landlord), walk forward along Brook End passing the Village Hall which used to be the old Village School. Opposite the black and white timber framed houses, turn right and walk up the gravel drive between houses to the right and the grade 2 listed Mill House, an old watermill. Carry on up the narrow path and exit into The Croft. Turn left and at the top of The Croft cross the main road at the traffic light controlled crossing. Turn left and proceed along the footway past stables and turn right up Borough (formally Berrow) Lane.



### 2. ALMS HOUSES

Just past the Alms Houses (trust set up in 1819 by Miss Cotton, there were originally 11 tiny cottages. The modern buildings date from 1964) on the left pass through a small gate into the field and passing an old oak tree walk directly up to a stile exiting onto Smithy Lane. Turning left proceed until coming to a sharp right hand bend in the lane.

### 3. LONGDON HALL

Carry straight on, climbing the stile into the field. Continue in straight line passing Longdon Hall to your left, over a number of stiles and a kissing gate towards the path between gardens, climb two stiles and exit onto the road (Church Hill). Turn right down to the cross roads at Longdon Green. Note the Red Lion on the Green public house, some 200 years old.



### 4. LYSWAYS LANE

Turn left along Lysways Lane under the main road (A51) bridge and at the first house on your left, (Chapel House which gets its name from a nearby chapel demolished when the bridge was built) climb the stile and follow path alongside driveway exit into field. Note the old gravestone on the bank.

### 5. FIELD GATE

Go through the field gate and walk diagonally right across this field to a stile and immediately following, another stile on the left. Continue up the field over a further stile making to the right hand of the large white house in the distance.

### 6. HILL TOP

Pass through a metal kissing gate onto a lane at Hill Top noting some fine old houses and farm. Turn left and continue up hill along the stone track for a short distance to a field gate and climb the stile on the left.

