



WALKS IN LONGDON PARISH

5. LONGER WALK

Continuing from where the short walk turned off to the left, go straight ahead across the field in a southerly direction and over a small stream. Then cross two fields keeping the hedge to the right. More stiles and a gate follow as you approach a large house (Gorton Green). At the last field the footpath is diverted to the left away from the house around the field.

6. STONEYWELL LANE

Exit onto the road (Stoneywell Lane). Turn left and walk along this quiet lane to the T junction at Stoneywell. Turn left and walk up the hill past farms on either side. Approximately 200 metres further on at a sharp right hand bend you have a choice of either continuing along this lane back to the starting point at Longdon Green or continuing straight ahead across further fields.

7. FIELD PATH

If fields are your choice then follow the direction pointed by the finger post keeping hedges to your left with good views of Longdon Hall in the distance. Climb a stile and proceed straight ahead over a further stile with Broomy Fields Farm on the right hand side.

Bear right down to the bridge and cross the small stream and then continue straight up the field keeping the hedge and farm track on the right.



8. SMITHY LANE

Cross the stile and exit into Smithy Lane, turn right and follow the lane to T junction by Hay Lane Farm. Turn left past the Red Lion public house and back to the start.

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 4
STONEWELL
WAY

STONEWELL WAY

Longdon Green • Smithy Lane • Gorton Green • Stonywell

LONG WALK DISTANCE:
3.2 miles (5.2 km) • Time 1 ½ hours

SHORT WALK DISTANCE:
1.5 miles (2.4 km) • Time 50 minutes

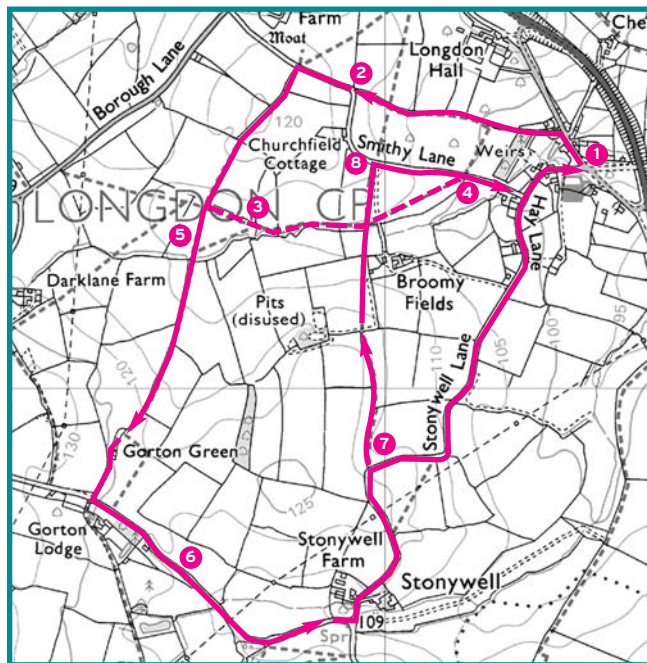
A circular walk to the south of Longdon Village designed for the more agile, with a number of stiles. Dogs may need to be lifted over some stiles. There is a mixture of fields with crops (some tall in summer), sheep, cows and horses.

Longdon Green is set in a conservation area, with a number of interesting houses and gardens in the vicinity. A stroll under the bridge (A51) into Lysways Lane is well worthwhile. The green is maintained by the Parish Council. The Red Lion Pub is around 200 years old.



1. START AT LONGDON GREEN

(Parking at the Red Lion may be available with the landlords permission). Starting at the cross roads on The Green (Church Lane and Lysways Lane), walk up Church Hill for approx 100 metres, turn left at the finger post adjacent to Park Cottage. Proceed between houses and follow over two stiles into fields. There are good views of Longdon Hall to your right. Follow fence on left to kissing-gate and into next field. Turn right at once and, keeping same fence now on right, follow path across three fields and out onto Smithy Lane.



2. SMITHY LANE

Bear right and follow this Lane for about 70 metres to fingerpost and turn left over stile, once more into fields. Follow path along right hand hedge through three fields. There are views of Beaudesert Parkland and Grand Lodge (the original gatehouse) from here especially at sunset. The last stile leads into middle of field, but path descends clearly straight ahead.

3. SHORT WALK

At the gap into next field, the longer walk carries straight on, but here turn left along the edge of field keeping the hedge to the left to new stile and stock-gate.

Path continues along right-hand edge of field, beside stream and over two more stiles to Broomy Fields farmhouse (on right). Follow path across the driveway and up the meadow (in line with an old oak tree ahead), looking out for a stile in the hedge approximately 60 metres from right-hand corner of field, exit onto Smithy Lane. (If you look across field ahead you will see start of walk and Longdon Hall once again.)



4. SMITHY LANE

Continue right along Smithy Lane to T junction by Hay Lane Farm. Turn left past the Red Lion public house back to the starting point.

