

SHADWELL (VIA FISHPONDS) WALK

Start Point: Main Street Thorner. LS14 3DX



Walk approximately 4.5 miles.

- (1) From the starting point take the signed public footpath between the houses and what was the Village Stores - the Chapel Footpath. Follow this footpath between the stone walls of the properties, and past the houses at Virginia Terrace, towards a metal kissing gate. Continue through this and a further two gates to emerge on to Carr Lane.

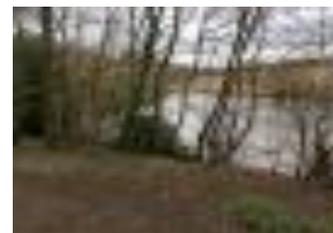
- (2) Now turn left passing 'Kirklands' a former Methodist Chapel, now converted into residential apartments, on your left. As the footpath ends, cross the road diagonally to a stile on the right. Continue over the stile and up a good farm track to a kissing gate at the top of the rise.



- (3) From here the path runs diagonally left across the middle of a field towards a stile and steps. There are impressive views over to Scarcroft Hill and the grand house at Oaklands Manor.

- (4) Continue over the stile and down the stone steps, and head diagonally left across the field to a wooden gate at a gap in the hedge at the edge of Kidhirst Wood. On reaching the wide track through the trees, turn left heading towards Kidhirst Fishpond.

- (5) The pond – through which flows the Scarcroft Beck - is said to be based upon medieval fish ponds created by monks who lived and worked at their grange at Eltofts, half a mile to the south-west near Eltofts House.



- (6) As the track forks, take the right hand path over a stone bridge. The track leads uphill – the original track has suffered storm damage in recent years, and is badly rutted, but there is a walkable path to the left of the damaged area. Another track that has been walked, leading off into the woods on the left, is not a right of way, and will not bring you out at the stile at the top, where you need to be.



- (7) If you stick to the track you will reach a fence with a stile to the right. Over the stile take the broad track off to the left. This wide track eventually emerges into a field.

- (8) The path continues along the top edge of this field, with the hedgerow to your right. It leads, eventually, to two short parallel wooden fences, and then to a narrow track between

a wall on the left, and a fence and beyond that a field, to the right. This section of the path can become a little overgrown.



- (9) Eventually the fence on the right becomes a stone wall. You continue on this enclosed path, until it emerges onto a wider made up road, which in turn leads you to the A58 Leeds – Wetherby Road.

- (10) Cross the Wetherby Road with care, and walk to the left, as far as the Footpath sign at Wood Farm.





(11) The path is clear from here, with a hedge on the right, and fields with horses to the left. The track becomes a field track, leading to a stone step stile, next to a gate, leading out onto Bay Horse Lane.



(12) A new gate and way marker directly opposite, indicate where the path continues.



(13) After another gate, the path continues, and follows the field edge. This field edge path ends at a stile leading out onto Brandon Lane, opposite Riverside Nurseries. The continuation path is signed, and is just to the left of the entrance to the Nursery.



(14) The narrow path, running down the side of the Nursery, emerges into a small wooded area. The path meanders through the wood, ending at steps which lead down onto the road – Brandon Crescent. Turn to the left and walk down the road.



(15) After approximately 600 yards Brandon Crescent meets Bay Horse Lane, by Brookdale Cottage.

(16) Bay Horse Lane is a busy road. The walk takes us right, round first a left hand bend, past Bay Horse Farm and Cottage, and then round a bend to the right. Take care as the road is narrow, and there is no pavement.

(17) After the right hand bend, take the road off to the left (Stoney Lane), which leads to the A58 Wetherby Road.



(18) Opposite the bus stop, on your left, take the signposted track, on the other side of the road (crossing the busy road with care) which goes up towards Eltofts. This unmade track goes uphill, to join another tarmac track at the top. Turn left here and follow the track past Eltofts Farm.



(19) As the road levels out follow it to the left, past Eltofts House and Eltofts Grange.



(20) The signed path across the field takes you down to Kidhirst Wood and Fishponds, but our route continues on the road, which very soon becomes an unmade track, and starts to run downhill. Where the track swings to the right, down towards Carr Lane, take the steps on the left up to the clear track running along the side of the hill (Scarborough Walk)



(21) At the end of this level track, the route crosses the next field to a stile in the far right hand corner. This stile leads directly onto Carr Lane. Walk carefully down the tarmac road (no pavement), as far as Kirklands and down the footpath back to the starting point.