

## Willoughby-on-the-Wolds – village circular walk

A walk taking in most of Main Street and footpaths skirting the northern side of the village. Distance: 1¾ miles.

1. From the village crossroads head westwards downhill on Main Street. Follow the road past the village school, over the brook and up to the T-junction. Turn right along West Thorpe.
2. At the end of West Thorpe where the houses give way to fields, pass the village name sign by the garden wall



on your right, then look for the stile on your right, on the left of the farmgate behind the small lay-by beneath the trees. Cross the stile into a small field.

3. Walk straight ahead and cross a second stile on the right of the farm gate into another field, then follow the line of the hedge round to the right, to a double stile in the corner. Cross the stile and walk diagonally down across the field to the waymarked footbridge over the brook. Cross the brook and take the path ahead between the wire fence on your left and hedge on your right.



Cross another stile into the churchyard.

4. Follow the path through the churchyard, passing the south door of the church on your left, and exit through the gate onto Church Lane. Turn right and in another 25m turn left on another arm of Church Lane following the public footpath sign. Vehicles are barred after a short distance. Follow the tarmac footpath uphill, emerging at the next corner onto the other end of Church Lane.
5. Just round the corner, take the tarmac footpath on the left of the lane through the metal barriers. In about 50m, keep to the tarmac footpath where it turns to the left through the gap in the fence, ignoring the old footpath in the corner which leads straight ahead between gardens, and go through the gap in the next fence into Willoughby Community Park. Walk diagonally up to the right,

past the play equipment, through the handgate and cross the car park on to Widmerpool Lane. *Look out for the new village sign by the entrance, incorporating the name of the Roman staging post which was situated nearby on the Fosse Way – Vernemetum.*

6. Turn left away from the village for about 100m and take the stony track to the right called Mill Lane. Where the track bends to the left after about 150m, look out for the footpath sign and cross over the stile to your right. Take the footpath leading more directly ahead into the narrower end of the field to cross a stile to the right of a brick outbuilding next to the farmgate. Cross another stile next to another gate ahead of you and follow the track out on to Main Street.



7. Turn right and walk down the street for about 170m to reach your starting point at the village crossroads.