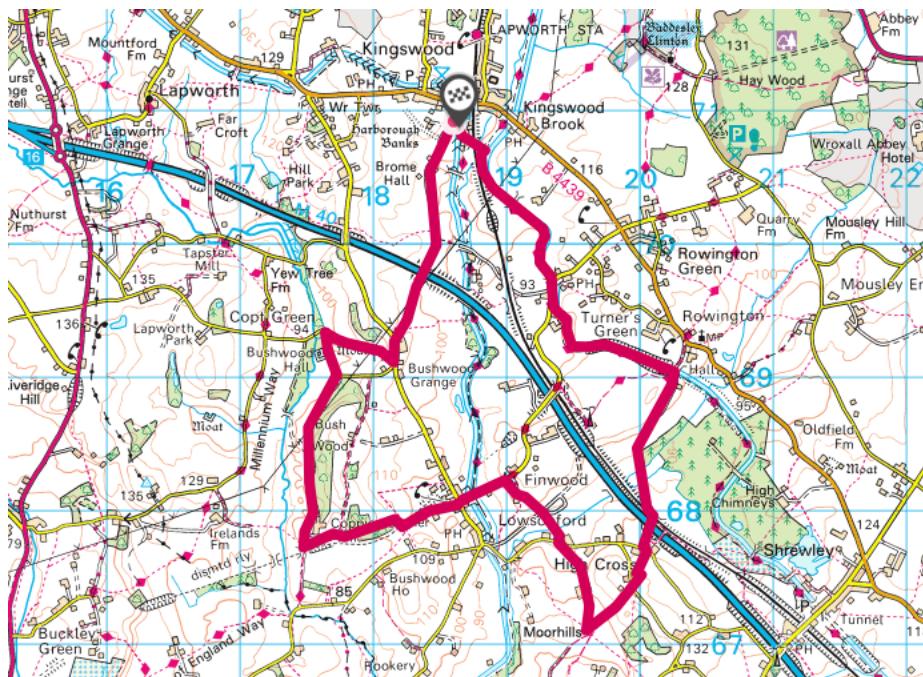


Lapworth to Lawsonford and Beyond

This walk is about 7.5 miles, gentle slopes, grassy paths and some canals. There are a couple of short sections on quiet roads. It starts from the canal car park in Broome Hall Road, Lapworth; from the Old Warwick Road from the Boot, it is just before the canal bridge on the right, after the village hall; the car park is just in the woods on the left.



1. From the car park, go through to the canal. Turn right and walk past the bridge. Turn right through the canal buildings across the tarmac car park and back to Broome Hall Road, turning left along it.

2. Follow the road to Brome Hall farm. As the road ends, there are farm buildings around, go straight on through the gate with the main farm to your left. You then follow a green lane between hedges for about a mile, ignoring side turnings, passing under the motorway. You eventually emerge onto a road on which you turn left.

3. As the road swings right and left, before the road junction, look for a path on the opposite side of the road. Cross the stile and follow the hedge on the left. As you pass under the power lines, there is a dip and the path crosses into the next field through this, continue now with the hedge on your right, and you eventually reach a stile onto the road. Turn left.

4. After passing a barn conversion on the left, the road climbs. Eventually before the brow there is a path through the hedge up the embankment. Go up this and then follow the edge of the woods, keeping them to your left.

5. Follow this line ahead until you see a farm house



and buildings ahead. Bear diagonally right in the small pasture by the farm and walk to the right of the farm following the marked path. Join a lane past some bungalows. As you descend, there is a field on the left and a gate in the middle, waymarked. Go through and follow the track which eventually swings left to a gate.

6. Go through the gate and turn immediately right. Follow the waymarked path, jinking left and right through the wood. Emerge from the wood and follow the right edge of the field and at the end turn right at the path junction. Follow this for a short way, passing a brick wall on the left (a remnant of an old railway bridge).



7. Just past the wall cross the stile on the left. Walk down the hill, then cross into another field. Follow a similar line and at the bottom of the field, cross the stile in the wooden fence on the right. Turn left on the lane down the hill. *Keep an eye to the left up the embankment as you go down the lane; you might spot a llama. Then in the back garden of the last house on the left you might see a zebra of sorts. If you want a break, the Fleur de Lys is a short walk down the road to the right.*



8. Cross over the road into Mill Lane opposite, passing the canal. Walk up the hill as it steepens. Eventually a lane appears on the right. Turn right along it and go to the end. Just before the end on the left, next to a large entrance gate, cross a stile into the field. Follow a path along the left hand edge of the field and at the bottom follow the waymarks ahead. Cross into a paddock and just before a garden, turn left then right into an enclosed path which eventually emerges at a road.

9. Turn left on the road, and a few yards, take a track on the right. This eventually swings right to a farm house, but go straight on through a gate. Follow the left edge of the field, going through to a larger field, still keeping to the left. Then in the next field, officially the path goes half right, but there is an open gate ahead so you might choose a short cut. In the next field, turn left and walk up the slope on the left of the field.

10. Go through the gate on the left and continue up the hill, the path going through into an enclosed path next to houses. You then get to a lane, and just opposite is a stile in the hedge which you cross. Follow the right hand of the field and you will then get to the bottom and reach another lane. Turn

left and just past the farm buildings on the right, go through the gate into the field. Follow the left perimeter of the field, turning right in the corner, and then you will come to a gate into a farm track. Turn left over the bridge over the motorway.

11. Over the bridge, turn left and then at the bottom of the slope take the waymarked path to the left, initially on a narrow field which opens out and you follow the hedge on your right. *There may be cows gathered here waiting to be milked, if you don't think it is safe, you could go into the next field and follow the hedge on the left, at the very bottom you can exit the field across a metal fence. This is not an official path, but you are allowed to make a reasonable diversion if your way is blocked.*

12. At the bottom of the field continue on the path, bearing right. You will eventually pass housing on your right, and then arrive at a bridge over the canal. Turn left behind the crash barrier and go down to the canal, which you will now follow for about a mile until you get to a canal junction (though you might have an urge to visit the Tom o'the Wood about half way along). Turn left just before the bridge over the canal branch, follow the towpath round to the right and then over the next canal back to the start.