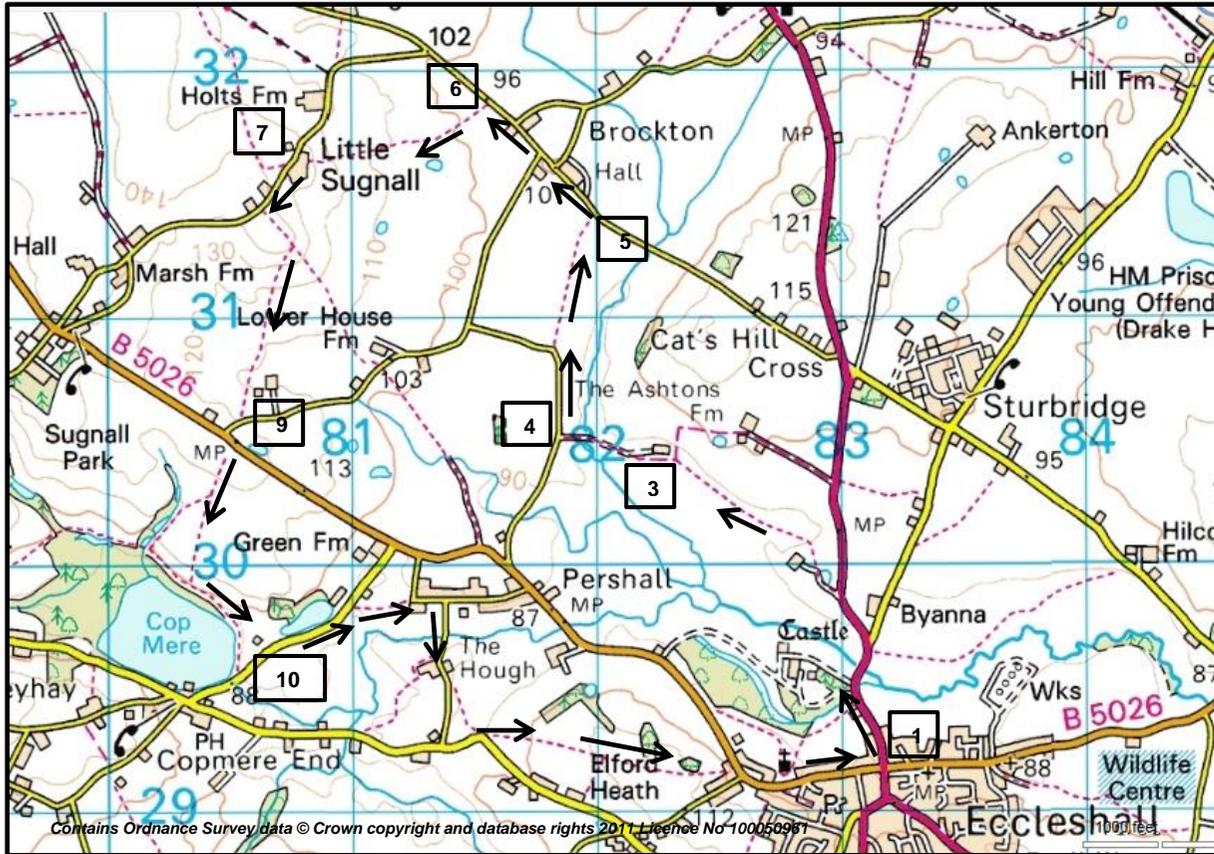


This route can be found on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 243, Market Drayton. You are advised to use this map in conjunction with the instructions.

WALK NO. 2 – ECCLESHALL – BROCKTON
- COPMERE - PERSHALL

WALKS IN ECCLESHALL PARISH



Enjoy your walk and remember the
Country Code.

Produced by Eccleshall Parish Council with support
and financial assistance from
Staffordshire County Council. Rev. 2018

WALK NO. 2.
ECCLESHALL - BROCKTON
- COPMERE - PERSHALL

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COPMERE - PERSHALL.

The walk is approximately 6.4 miles across gently undulating countryside with a few climbs. There are many possible variations, using the lanes shown on the map. The walk starts and finishes at the cross roads in the centre of Eccleshall. (Point 1, 831 291)

Each paragraph number relates to a point marked on the map and is followed by its map reference, found on Ordnance Survey Map 243.

1. (831 291) Walk along Castle Street onto the Newcastle Road (A519). After a short distance you will pass the gates of Eccleshall Castle. The Castle was the residence of the Bishops of Lichfield for over 700 years but is now a private home. About fifty yards past the river bridge, bear left on the grass verge of the main road until the road veers to the right.

2. (830 299) Turn left by the footpath marker post along a lane towards Pool House. After 150 yards turn right through a wooden kissing gate. Bear slightly left and walk along what appears to be an old green track to a gateway (829 301). Walk slightly left across the field to a galvanised kissing gate (828 302). Bear left and head for a further galvanised gate in the hedge-line (825 302). Go straight ahead along the concrete road with the hedge on your right, until you reach Springfield Farm. (3)

3. (823 305) Just beyond the farm and its outbuildings, go through the gate ahead. Turn left and follow the track over Brockton Brook to join Smithy Lane. (4)

4. (818 305) Turn right along the lane until the road turns sharp left, then go over the stile in front of you (818 309) and continue ahead. Cross the stile in the hedge (818 311) and head for the gate to the right of the large farm in the distance. This is Brockton Hall Farm (5) and in the early part of the last century it was the home of Oswald Moseley.

5. (820 314) Turn left along Brockton Lane until you pass the second turning on the right and Brockton Villa Cattery on the left. Take the first farm gate on the left. (6)

6. (816 318) Go straight ahead into the next field, aiming slightly right of the oak tree/telegraph pole (810 316). Continue uphill, veering slightly right in the direction of Little Sugnall Farm, then towards a bungalow on the right of the farm. Cross the stile into the lane. (7)

7. (808 316) Turn left along the lane for 200 yards and turn left into the first field entry, opposite Top Farm. Continue with the hedgerow on your right through another gate. From this point there is a magnificent view of the valley. Walk along the line of trees until you reach a pit hole surrounded by trees. There are several path markers here.

8. (808 312) Turn right diagonally across the field, passing between two pit holes to a secluded stile toward the bottom right-hand side of the field (807 311). Continue slightly left to a footbridge with a stile at either end (806 309). Cross the field in the same direction to a double stile leading into the grounds of Woodlands Farm. Please put your dog on a lead for this short section. Proceed uphill with the hedgerow on your right, crossing two stiles in the top corner. Turn right onto the lane to meet the B5026 Eccleshall - Loggerheads Road. (9)

9. (805 305) Turn left, cross the road with care and walk about 100 yards before turning right into a track and over a stile into Sugnall Park. Ahead of you lies the Sow Valley. Continue with the hedgerow on your left to another stile. Keeping the hedge on your left, walk down to Copmere (803 299). Turn left, then over stile and follow the hedge on your right, cross a stile by a gate, and continue round the Mere to a ladder stile, known locally as Jacobs Ladder. (10)

10. (805 295) Cross into Pershall Lane. The Star Inn, well-known to walkers for bar snacks and liquid refreshment, is about 100 yards to your right. The route, however, turns left, passing Pershall Pool on your left, to a stile on the right opposite some houses.

11. (810 298) Cross the stile and follow the hedge line on your left to a wooden kissing gate by an oak tree. Continue with the hedge line on your right about half way across the field. When the hedge veers away, follow the line of the telegraph poles to maintain your direction to the stile by a wicket gate near a cottage (812 299).

Walk towards Pershall Village but before the main group of houses, turn right into Hough Lane. Continue to Hough Farm.

12. (814 296) Just past Hough farm, as the lane swings right, go over a stile on your left. At the time of writing, (Sept 2017), the grazing land between here and Eccleshall splits into small paddocks. These are formed by electric cattle fences. Plastic handles form 'gates' that allow the walker to unhook the wire and walk through on the line of the path.

Turn immediately right through 2 electric fences then walk diagonally to cross stream by the hedge and over to the stile in the corner. (815 294). Cross into the lane and then immediately turn left through a galvanised kissing gate (815 293). Walk diagonally up the field in the direction indicated by the way mark on the post. Maintain this direction using the 'gates' in the electric fence. At the top of the field a kissing gate and field gate will come into view (820 292).

13. Walk ahead to pass two small copses of trees on your left. As you pass the lower copse Holy Trinity Church will come into view. Follow the hedge on your left to a galvanised kissing gate. Turn left and drop down behind the old National School, leaving the field by two kissing gates.

14. (826 291) Cross the road with care and walk towards Eccleshall past Holy Trinity Church. Join the High Street, and follow down to the cross roads where you started the walk.