

# Abbots Bromley and Bagots Park Circular Walk

*A walk through history would be the best way to describe this lengthy ramble through rural Staffordshire. The walk takes you to the historic village of Abbots Bromley, where many traditional activities still thrive, before circling the famous woodlands of Bagot Forest, now owned by the Forestry Commission.*

**Distance:**

18½km (11½ miles)

**Duration:**

5 - 6 hours

**Terrain:**

Fairly flat land and rolling fields. Can become slippery in winter and in rainy conditions, particularly between Dowry Farm and Kingstone Wood

**Parking:**

Parking at Hobb Lane just off the B5013, approximately 4km (2 ½ miles) after the Abbots Bromley Uttoxeter junction. Alternatively, you can park in Abbots Bromley and pick up the route from here (start at point 6)

**Refreshments:**

The Bagot Arms, The Royal Oak and The Goat's Head all in Abbots Bromley

**Map:**

OS Explorer 244 "Cannock Chase"

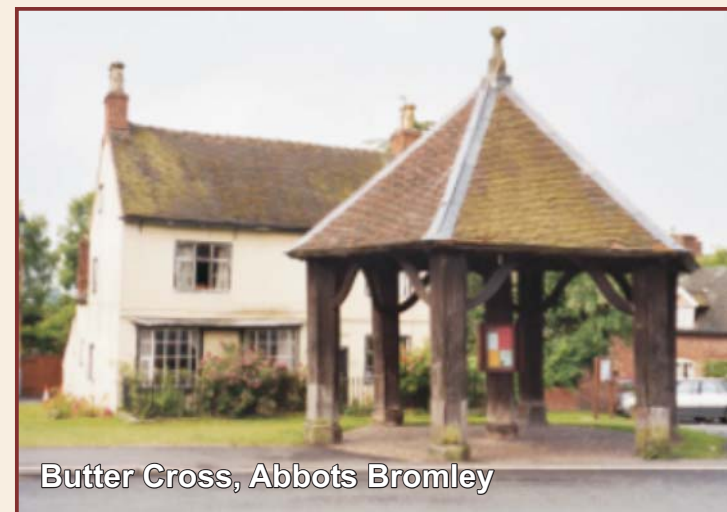
**Bus Route:**

Route between Abbots Bromley - Burton. Route of Service 403



Pond at Dowry Farm

- 1 After parking at Hobb Lane walk towards the power lines away from the B5013. On the road corner by Marlpit House Farm turn right towards the farm, and join the Staffordshire Way.
- 2 Go through the farm, crossing the stile at the right of the first gate. Continue up the farm track until you reach a tarmac road. Cross a stile by the field gate and continue up the road. As the road bends left toward the farm, you must continue directly ahead on a grassy track to reach a stile on the edge of Bagots Wood.
- 3 Enter Bagots Park and continue straight across the land to reach a stile by a field gate opposite a conifer plantation. Climb the stile and turn right down the bank following a clear track for almost 800 metres. Pass the plantation on your left and cross the footbridge over Story Brook.
- 4 Turn left along Story Brook until you meet a concrete road. Cross the road and continue along the brook to the field corner. At the field corner turn right along the fence line before climbing a stile and continuing through a thicket going up the hill. At the top of the hill cross a stile on the left and turn right along the hedge down to the field corner.
- 5 Turn left along the hedge until you reach a stile by the field gate. Climb the stile and then follow the field around its right hand edge to another stile in the hedgerow. Cross the stile and turn left, going up the hill. Cross the stile here and carry on along Hobfield Lane to emerge at a bend in the road.
- 6 Leave the Staffordshire Way here and turn right down the road towards Abbots Bromley. Follow this road all the way into Abbots Bromley. Turn right along Bagot Street and walk through the village.
- 7 Continue through the village before turning right up Harley Lane and follow for 1.2 km. When you get to the T-junction at the bottom turn left and walk along the road for 800 metres until you reach the B5013.
- 8 Turn right along the grass verge of the B5013 until you reach the unclassified road at a bend on your left (it is sign posted Newton 2, The Blythe 3 ¼).



9 Cross to this road and walk along it, passing Bagots Bromley Cottages on the right until you arrive at a stile next to the entrance of Bagots Bromley Farm. Cross a stile on your right and walk across the field, before crossing two more stiles, bringing you out by a large oak tree.

10 Walk diagonally left across the field and aim towards the large tree, which is the furthest tree to the right along the fence line. Cross the stile here.

11 Walk across the next field, heading towards the right corner where you pass through an open gateway. Cross half-right to the large oak tree in the protruding hedge corner. Walk directly across the field heading toward another oak tree, where you can see Blithfield Reservoir to your left.



View to Blithfield Reservoir

12 Continue past the oak and down the bank to a well-hidden footbridge over a stream. Cross the footbridge and then walk left around the field boundary before crossing another stile at the far end.

13 Walk across the field at the rear of Little Heatley Green Farm and cross the stile on your right behind the farm buildings. A few metres from this, take the well-hidden stile on your left into a field. Go diagonally across the field heading towards the telegraph pole then over a stile, crossing the tarmac drive.

14 Go over the well-hidden stile in the conifer hedge and cross the field to another stile. Cross the stile and then the field before crossing another stile to meet an unclassified road. Turn left down the road and carry on where it meets a bridleway, passing the farm on your left. Follow the bridleway down and take the right hand path heading across a field and passing a tree plantation on your right.

15 Go over the stile in the hedgerow at the bottom of the field. Head across the large field to a stile and a footbridge across Tad Brook. Go across the stile and walk up the hill to the hedge. Keeping the hedge on your left walk right, passing through two bridle gates and a farm gate to arrive at Upper Callowhill Farm.

**16** Continue along the farm track, passing a bungalow on your left until you reach an unclassified road. Turn right at the road and follow it until reaching Dowry Farm. Go through the yard, passing to the left of the farm buildings.

**17** Follow the farm track down the hill, passing a pond on the right. Stay on the path and walk up the hill on the other side, crossing three stiles and a gate onto the road into Kingstone Village.

**18** Turn right and follow the road down the hill. After approximately 200 metres take the bridleway on the right. Keeping the hedge on your right follow the path into the wood. Pass through the bridle gate and follow the muddy forest track until you arrive at a well-surfaced forest road.

**19** Turn left here and follow it until you arrive at a gate. Go through the opening to the right of the gate and down the track to a metalled road until you meet a sign posted bridle way on your right.

**20** Go along the bridle way, which runs alongside the hedge / fence on your left, until you arrive at a bridleway gate on your left after 200 metres. Go through the bridle gate and into the wood. After a short distance, cross the bridge on the right and go through the gate into a field.

**21** Go up the slope and head across the field to a large oak tree at the rear of Bloomfield Farm. Go to the left of the farm, through the gate and then through another gate into the yard on your right.

**22** Continue through the farmyard walking down the concrete drive to the B5013. Turn left up the road and then right soon after into Hobb Lane.



Pond at Dowry Farm



View from Kingstone

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