

Wheaton Aston & Lapley Circular Walk

The walk begins in the archetypal English village, Wheaton Aston, and goes across some of the finest farmland in the county. The walk continues through the beautiful splendour of Lapley village, passing the rolling fields and ending with a walk along the historic 'Shroppie' canal.

Distance:

7.5 miles.

Duration:

3 ½ - 4 hours

Terrain:

Easy farmland and tracks but walkers may encounter some difficulties on the slightly graded wooded track above the canal

Parking:

The Village Hall car park, Hawthorne Road in Wheaton Aston

Refreshments:

The Hartley Arms, Wheaton Aston, The Vaughan Arms, Lapley

Map:

OS Explorer 242

Bus Route:

Route between Lapley and Walsall. Route of Service 6



Longnor Farm, Lapley

1 On entering Wheaton Aston pass into Hawthorne Road, following signs for the Village Hall. Park in the Village Hall car park.

2 Walk back down Hawthorne Road until you meet the main Wheaton Aston through road. Turn right here and follow the main road, passing The Hartley Arms, for approximately ½ mile before crossing over the Tavern Bridge.

3 Immediately after crossing the Tavern Bridge take the road opposite that veers left, passing Fern Cottage on the right. Walk along the road for approximately ½ mile until you meet a T-junction.

4 Cross the road and take the footpath opposite, which is just to the right of a metal farm gate. Climb the stile and enter a large field. Walk around the left hand boundary of the field until you meet a gate by the road.

5 Go through the gate and turn left down the road. Follow the road through the hamlet of Longnor before turning left up a footpath opposite Longnor Hall Farm.

6 Go through the gate and follow the middle track between fields before going through another gate directly opposite. Continue along the track and cross through a third gate on your right as the track veers left.

7 Head half right across the field aiming for a bridle gate in the middle of the hedge boundary. Go through the gate and turn right down the secluded lane, following it until you meet the main road.

8 Take the road directly ahead and follow it for 1 mile into Mitton. Soon after entering Mitton you pass an old cottage on the right. Turn up the second track on the right after the cottage, joining the Staffordshire Way.

9 Follow the track up the large field for just over ¼ mile and go through a gap in the top hedgerow. Follow the hedgerow on the left down to the field corner where you cross a footbridge on the right, going over a stream.

10 Walk left and then right walking through Bickford Meadows Nature Reserve Go through the bridlegate at the end and follow the field boundary around to a stile by a bridle gate on your right.



Church at Wheaton Aston



Bickford Meadows

11 Climb the stile and walk along the field before crossing a stile next to a gate in the hedgerow on your left. Turn right along the field boundary and follow the hedge around the field, passing Longnor Farm on your right.

12 Keeping the hedge on your right cross two stiles and continue up the field until you reach a large oak tree in the hedgeline on your right. At the oak tree, bear half left across the field and walk through two bridle gates.

13 Turn left along the bottom of the field and walk through a gap in the hedge. Immediately after going through the gap, turn right along the hedgerow and walk through two large fields before passing through a metal bridlegate at the top of the second field.

14 Keeping the hedge and then the houses on your right, walk down into a secluded covert at the rear of Lapley Church. Climb the stile and enter the churchyard, walking past the magnificent All Saints Church on your right.

15 Leave the churchyard through the gate at the far end and walk left along the road (For visitors wishing to visit The Vaughan Arms stay on the road into Lapley village). Where the road bends left, take the footpath on the right following the hedgerow on the left down to a gap in the corner.

16 Turn right along the road and then cross to go down the farm track. After ½ mile go straight through the farmyard and bear left to a track between hedgerows.

17 Turn right and walk down to join the towpath. Walk along the towpath before leaving it at the next bridge.

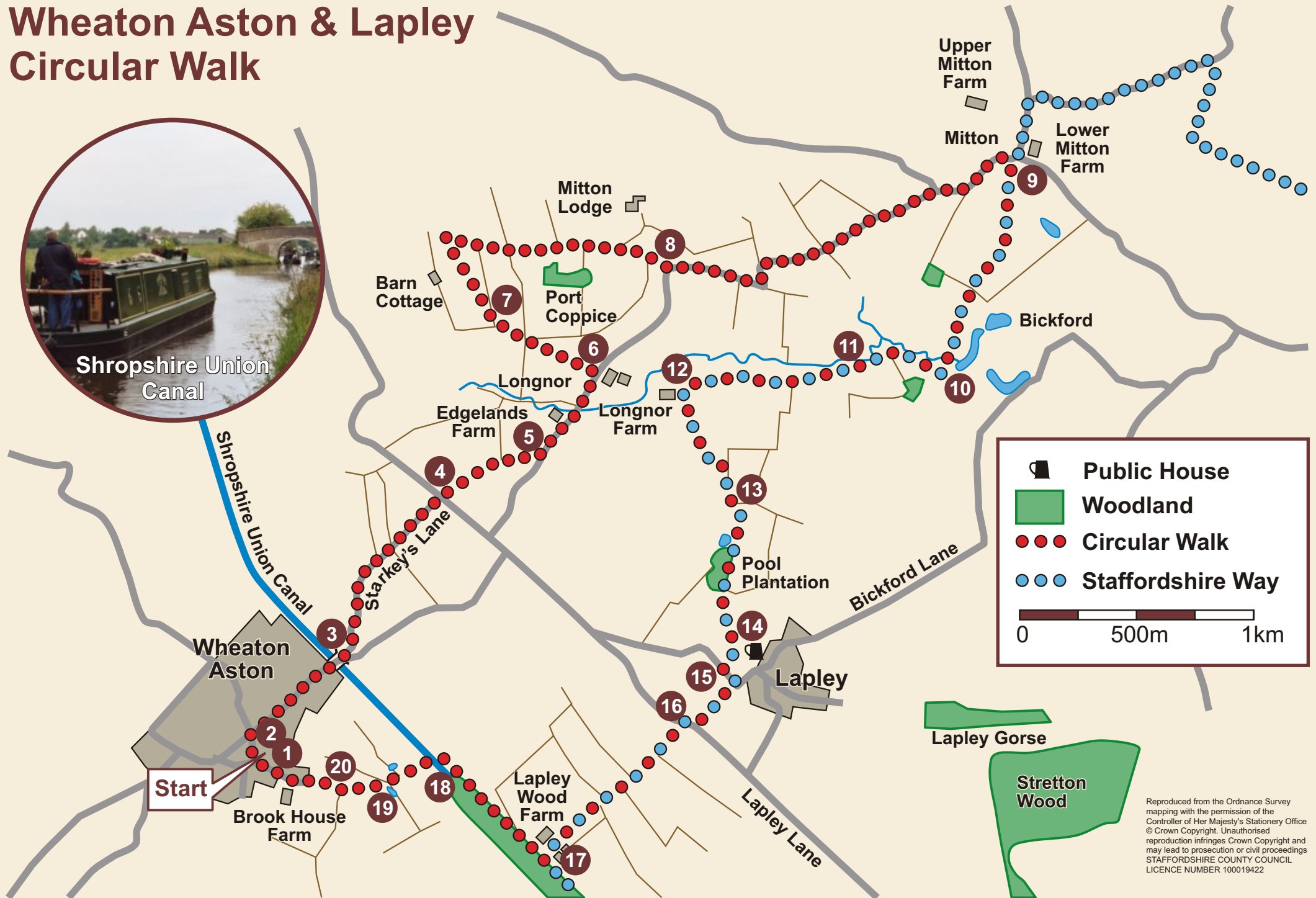
18 Cross the bridge and then two stiles onto a farm track. Cross the farm track and the stile and go straight across the field, between two ponds to another stile.

19 Cross the stile and walk diagonally right across the field, heading toward a large farm. Go through the gateway and turn right up the track.

20 Continue up the track and then the metalled road and head back to toward the church at Wheaton Aston. Turn right just before the church and return to the parking area.



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	Public House
	Woodland
	Circular Walk
	Staffordshire Way

0 500m 1km

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