

Mickleover Circular Walk 7

Start and finish: The Square, off Etwall Road, Mickleover.

Grid reference of start and finish: SK30639 34149

Distance: 3½ kilometres, 2¼ miles.

Time: Allow 1¼ hours.

Terrain: Park paths, footpaths, pavements and minor roads, taking in part of the Mickleover conservation area, declared in 1975. On the most difficult parts of the route in dry weather you will encounter uneven surfaces and quite gentle slopes. There will be easier sections. There are two sets of steps on this walk.

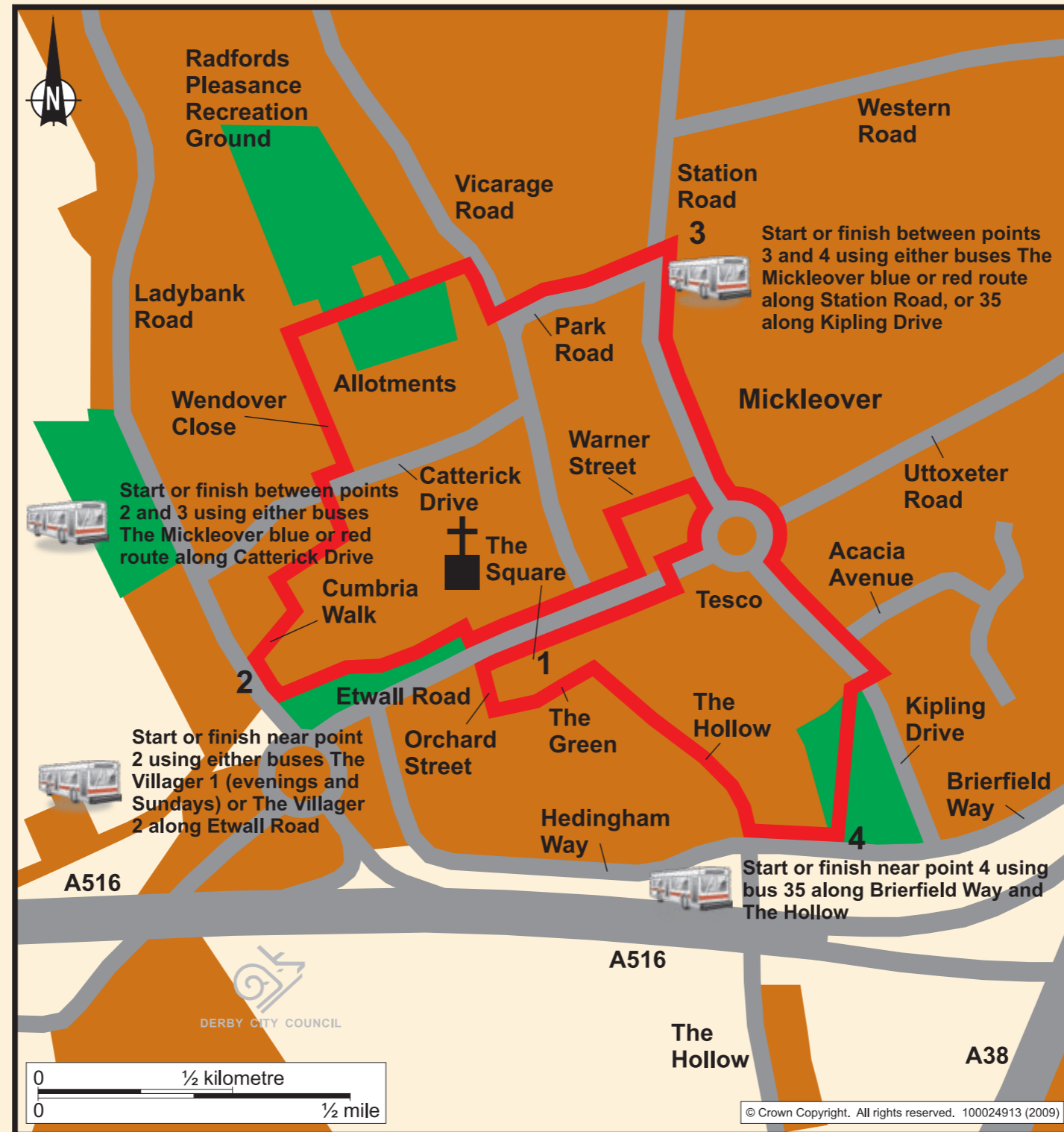
Nearby bus routes: 35, The Mickleover blue and red route, The Villager 2 along Uttoxeter Road. Ring traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.traveline.org.uk for details of these services.

Parking: Limited free parking in The Square, otherwise on-street parking.

The walk

This walk was originally produced by the Uffa Magna Ramblers as an entry in the Derbyshire Countryside Service, Design A Walk competition in 1997. In the Domesday Book, Mickleover was called Uffa Magna, later Uffa Magna.

1 The Square, next to The Mason's Arms, was originally known as the market place and was the hub of village celebrations. It was also a stopping off point in the early 19th century for coaches travelling through Mickleover to Newcastle under Lyme. The Mason's Arms, an old coaching inn, was built in 1724.



From The Square, walk along the main road, away from The Mason's Arms.

Cross the road at the zebra crossing. As you cross the road, the building in front of you used to be the National School for Boys and Girls. Opened in 1881, it was considerably rebuilt and enlarged by J W Horton in 1907. In daily use for over 100 years, it is now a popular community centre and tea room.

Turn right towards the traffic island.

Just before the island is another interesting inn, called The Vine. It used to boast a living sign, when a vine grew in the garden and across the front of the building.

Turn left at the traffic island into Station Road, then next left into Warner Street. Continue to the top of the street and then turn left into the car park. Keeping to the right of the community centre, walk down the steps onto Uttoxeter Road. Turn right towards the Church of All Saints, Mickleover.

The Church of All Saints, Mickleover is a medieval stone church, dating largely from the 14th century. Much of the building was renovated by H I Stevens in 1858-9. Just past the church entrance is a memorial to the First World War.

Just beyond the memorial, turn right through an entrance way in the wall and up the steps. Turn left at the top of the steps, into the grounds of the Old Manor House.

Built in 1852 in wooded grounds, the Old Manor House was last used as the Woodlands Hospital, closing in 1989. Today, the building is used for residential purposes and housing has been built on some of the grounds.

The wooded grounds are now used as public open space.

Walk through the former grounds, eventually coming out onto Ladybank Road.

2 Turn right onto Ladybank Road and then immediately right into Cumbria Walk. Follow the footpath through to Alverton Close, then bear right towards Sedgefield Green. Turn left and walk around the boundary of Sedgefield Green into Cromer Close. Turn left and walk up Cromer Close to its junction with Catterick Drive. Cross over Catterick Drive, turning right. Take the next left into Wendover Close. At the end of Wendover Close, take the footpath on the right towards Vicarage Road, passing in between Radfords Pleasance Recreation Ground and allotment gardens.

The community centre on Radfords Pleasance Recreation Ground now houses the plaque commemorating 50 years' service to the community of Thomas Radford in 1935. The plaque was originally located on the left hand side of the path.

At Vicarage Road, turn right. After a short while, turn left into Park Road. On the left, just before Station Road, is an old chapel, now a private house. It was built in 1852 for the Primitive Methodists. At the end of Park Road, cross Station Road to Mickleover Memorial Hall.

3 Turn right along Station Road. At the traffic island, cross the road with care and continue on down Kipling Drive, passing The Nag's Head on your left. After Acacia Avenue on your left, look out for a gap in the hedgerow, on the opposite side of the road. Cross the road, go through the gap and walk diagonally across an area of public open space. Looking back, you will see a large white, early 19th century villa, called The Limes.

The undulations in the public open space are the remains of the medieval agricultural practice of strip ploughing.

4 On reaching Brierfield Way, turn right.

At the junction with Hedingham Way, turn right into The Hollow. Walk up the hill, passing Brookfield Primary School on your right.

After a short while, on the left, you will see a plain stone horse trough in stone surround. The trough probably dates from the late 18th, early 19th century.

Further along on your right, the timber framed Old Hollow Cottage, 4 The Hollow, dates from the 16th or 17th century.

Near the top of the hill, turn left into The Green. At the far end, the cottages on your left, numbers 13 to 18, date from the early 19th century.

At the junction with Orchard Street, you will find another timber framed house, The Old Hall. Dated 1649, there is the following inscription above the porch 'nisi deus frustra 1684'. This is an adaptation of the opening lines of the psalm 'Unless the Lord build the house they labour in vain who build it'.

It is thought that Oliver Cromwell stayed here during the English Civil War, when he stormed Tutbury Castle.

There is reputed to be an underground passage linking The Old Hall with Old Hollow Cottage.

Continue on, walking up Orchard Street. At the junction with Etwall Road, the B5020, turn right back to The Square to finish the walk.

Location of walk



© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. (100024913) (2009)

Walk: Mickleover Circular.

Distance: 3½ kilometres, 2¼ miles.

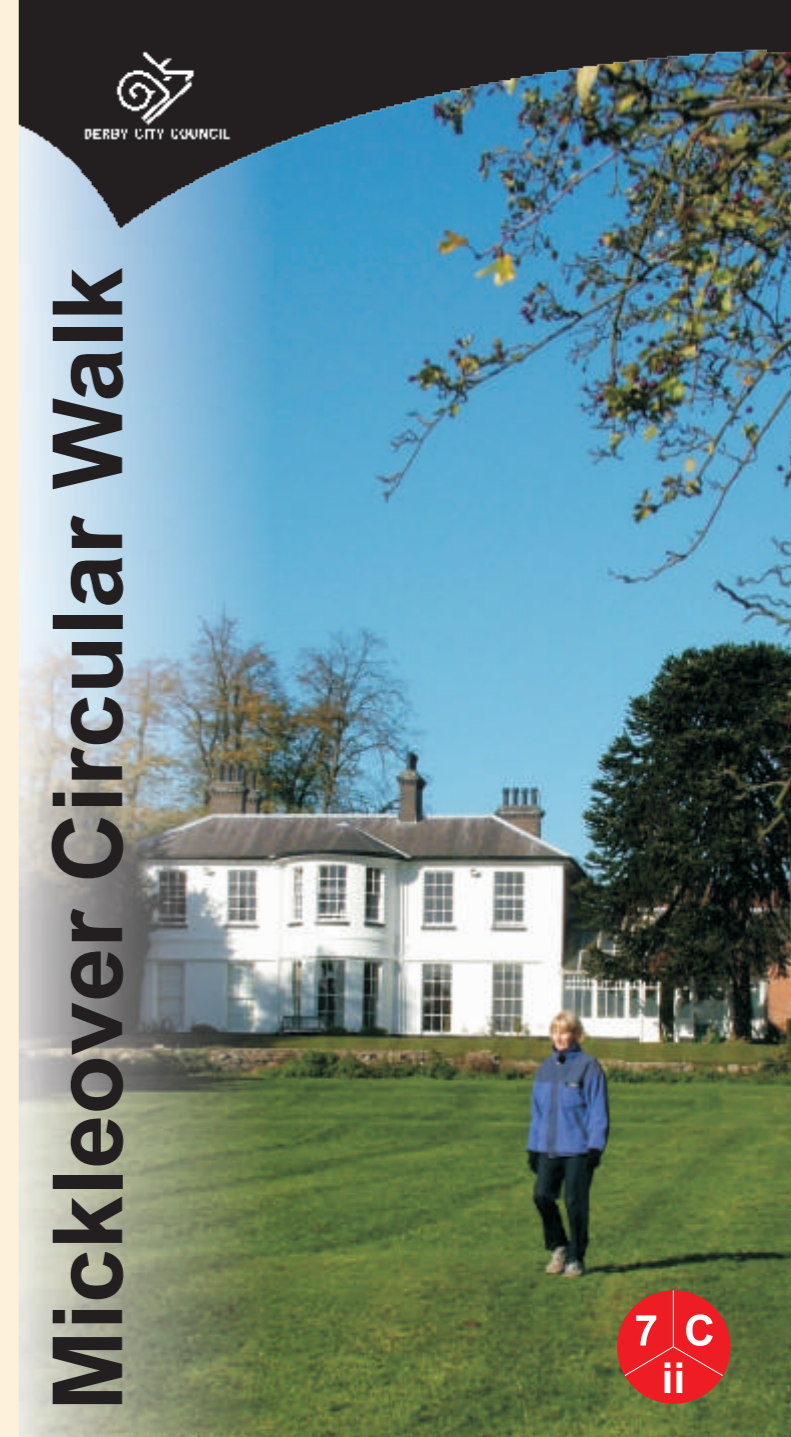
Time: Allow 1¼ hours.

Timings based approximately on 1.6 kilometres, one mile every 30 minutes.

Further information

Rights of Way Officer
Derby City Council
Regeneration and Community
Roman House
Friar Gate
Derby DE1 1XB

Telephone 01332 255024
Minicom 01332 256666
Fax 01332 255989
email rightsofway@derby.gov.uk
web www.derby.gov.uk



Mickleover Circular Walk



Derby City Partnership