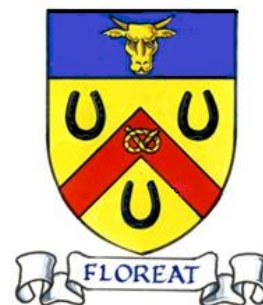


U WALK NO 5 – SPATH WALK



One of a series of local walks to enjoy our wonderful countryside.

Field paths can be a bit muddy and there are stiles. Keep your dog on a lead and take dog-poo bags and litter with you to the nearest bin.

Note: This is a field walk with some lane walking exploring the Uttoxeter area. It also covers some of the route of the old Uttoxeter canal, which the Caldon & Uttoxeter Canals Trust is seeking to restore (though the section on this walk is unlikely to be part of the route).



From Spath, at the "No through road" sign, take the footpath opposite the yard of a coach company/car wash. In the top left corner is a stile, this may be obscured by a parked coach. Proceed over the stile and head diagonally right on a stone track to find a stile in the hedge. Over the stile, proceed left along the old section of the canal.



Follow stiles across several fields passing a short sometimes watered section with trees on either side to reach a stream and a bridge. Do not cross it but turn right to follow a broken hedge line using a well-trodden path, keeping straight up the field to reach a gate. Through it to reach two gates in the hedge corner ahead. Go through the left gate to continue in the same direction with the hedge now on the right. Shortly to reach an enclosed track. Use the small gate to the left of a big gate.



The track soon reaches a road, go left here and soon it is right at the footpath sign into the field. Keep to the right passing a house, then through the right hand gate continuing straight on to reach a stile. Left into the lane. After a short distance turn right into a farm track, at the property sign Willow Stables. The track leads to Creighton Park Farm.

After a shortish distance and just past a stile on the right, it is left over the stile which is set back off the lane. Into the field and keep to the right with the hedgerow to a wooden bridge and two stiles. Over them left and keep straight on with the hedge on the left.

Over another stile to a gate, over this, to an often muddy enclosed track to a lane via a stile. Turn right and up the hill and along the lane. Pass Hollywood Farm high up on the left. As the lane climbs slightly look for a footpath sign and stile on the left as well as a wooden telegraph pole. Do not take this path, but immediately opposite is a concealed stile embedded in holly. Climb the steps and over the stile and follow the field edge to reach a gate and stile. Over this and diagonally right across the field to pass a pond on the



right encircled with barbed wire and trees. Continue to the stile in the hedge at the edge of the wood. Over this and follow the sunken track for a few metres to reach a gate. Through the gate and the woodland path and track to the edge of the wood. Continue with the wood on the right to join a usually muddy track. Do not go down to the gate ahead but look for a kissing gate setback on the left. Through this and follow the hedge on the right to a small bridge and stile. Over and diagonally left to reach another stile & plank. Over this with hedge on right to a stile in small woodland area. Over and left on an enclosed often muddy track to another stile.



Over and then turn right for a few metres to enter a field. Continue in same direction with broken hedge & tree lines on right to a bridge and stile. Cross & over and slightly left to another bridge stile through to a gap in hedge. Over next stile and continue along the path with obvious stiles and way markers to finally reach a path between houses. On reaching the road, Barnwell Close, it's left which almost immediately joins another road. It's straight on to reach the main road in Stramshall. Turn left and the footpath to Spath to return to the start.

This walk was originally contributed by Peter Matthews of the Staffordshire Area Ramblers Association and updated by Uttoxeter Town Council Footpaths Committee on 1 August 2023.

Difficulty: A fairly level walk but some of the stiles need long legs and maybe classed as a bit tricky. Follow route clockwise.

Distance: 4.8 miles

Time: 2.5 hours

Parking: Spath, just North of Uttoxeter (GR. SK 085 352)

Refreshments: None

Public Transport: Bus to start of walk (not Sundays)

'Look out for wildlife as you walk - please report sightings on the iRecord App on your phone, or by email to records@staffs-ecology.org.uk '

If you want to walk further and would like more information on joining Uttoxeter Walking Club, please see the following link <https://www.uttoxeterwalkingclub.co.uk>

[Published by Uttoxeter Town Council Footpaths Committee](#)