Walk information

DISTANCE - 4 miles (6.5 km).
MINIMUM TIME - 2.5 hours.
ELEVATION GAIN - 73 m (239 ft).
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY - Easy.
PATHS - Farmland with livestock, farm tracks and fields.
STILES - 7 stiles and 6 ladder stiles.
PARKING - Demesne Mill Picnic Area. Nearest postcode DL13 3DB.
PUBLIC TOILETS - At the junction of Market Place and Angate Street.

This leaflet was prepared by the Wolsingham Wayfarers, an independent voluntary group, dedicated to monitoring, looking after and promoting the 140 miles of designated footpaths in the Wolsingham Parish.

Please follow the Countryside Code

Prepared on behalf of the people of Wolsingham by the Wolsingham Wayfarers and Durham County Council.
About the walk

Newlands Hall and the ‘Miles of Stiles’

If you’re a fan of stiles, this is the walk for you. This relatively simple, four mile walk takes you out to the farm at Newlands Hall and brings you back across farmland where evidence of the medieval strip farming system can still be seen.

The route is known locally as the ‘Miles of Stiles.’ We’ve counted thirteen stiles and ladder stiles along the route with ten of them appearing in quick succession along the ‘Miles of Stiles.’

When you’re not climbing over stiles, make sure you take time to look around at the beautiful views of the valley.

Welcome to wonderful Wolsingham

This is one of a series of walk leaflets produced by the Wolsingham Wayfarers, created to showcase Wolsingham’s extensive public footpath network. With more than 140 miles of designated footpaths, most of them interlinked, there are plenty of opportunities for creating your own circular walks. A map showing all the footpaths in Wolsingham Parish can be found on the wall of the Town Hall in Wolsingham Market Place, opposite the Post Office. Walks from Wolsingham are covered by OS Explorer maps 307 and OL31.

Wolsingham’s parking and facilities

Ample parking for walkers is provided at Demesne Mill Picnic Site (off the B6296 Tow Law road) and at the Recreation Field (off the A689 Stanhope road). Visitors are asked to keep the market place in Wolsingham clear for local shoppers and library users. The amount of time you can park in the market place is also restricted. For information on public transport ring Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.

Several tea shops, cafes and pubs are shown on the map below. They offer good food and a very welcome drink at the end of a long walk. A few also offer accommodation.

The Wolsingham Wayfarers run regular free guided walks, a great way to discover new paths and routes. Check out our website and social media pages for up-to-date information on walks and activities (information on back page).
A The walk sets off from the picnic area at Demesne Mill off the B6296 (Wolsingham to Tow Law Road). From the car parking area follow the path that runs alongside the beck into the picnic area, turning left up the hill when you reach the fork.

B At the top of this path turn right. After a short while stay on this path as it turns left, ignoring the kissing gate in front of you. At the end of the path pass through the kissing gate into the field, keep left and through another kissing gate which leads you on to Leazes Lane (Tunstall Road).

C Cross the road and go onto the farm road opposite (signposted Leazes Farm). Continue on the farm road and stay right as you go past the farm buildings.

D Stay on the farm road as it turns left towards the buildings at Lason Field (ignoring the kissing gate on your right, which would take you into the field).

As you pass the buildings at Lason Field go through the gate on the right and continue up the track between the two fields.

E At the end of the track go through the gate and head straight over the field to a ladder stile taking you over the stone wall ahead.

F Head straight over the next field and through a gate. Keep to the left of the field next to the fence and after the next gate keep on the track to the right of the field and then through another gate into Newlands Hall.

G Turn left down the farm drive and, after 100m, turn left again on to a track taking you across the centre of the field towards a gate (look for the yellow arrow painted on a stone) and back towards Wolsingham.

Go through the gate and continue straight on through the field with the fence to your left.

Go through the next gate and stay right along the boundary of the field. Follow the boundary as it turns right and go through the gate into the next field.

H Keep right into the corner of the field, through the gate and turn sharply left around the gate post to follow the fence on your left side.

You are now following the route known locally as the ‘Miles of Stiles’, returning you through gates and stiles to Leazes Lane in an almost straight line, crossing on the way a series of long narrow fields, relics of the medieval strips which formed West Field, from which the modern farm (out of sight below on the road) takes its name.

I Through the next gate, head straight over the field towards a stile through the stone wall. It’s then straight across to a ladder stile and then straight over the next field to another ladder stile, with a handy stile through the wall next to it.

The next ladder stile has a door to keep adventurous sheep in place. Continue straight over to a stile over a fence and through the gap in the wall to the next field.

Go through the next gate and straight over the field to a stile in a wall. Head slightly right over the next field to another wall stile and again over the next field, then straight over to yet another wall stile.

J Go over the next ladder stile and slightly right across the next field towards two gates. Take the gate on the right and head across the field to a ladder stile. Go straight across the field and through the kissing gate. Follow the path and over one final stile back onto Leazes Lane.

K Turn right onto Leazes Lane and then turn left towards the school (signposted Community Sports Hall). Follow the public footpath to the right of the gates. Turn right into the church grounds and follow the path keeping left towards a kissing gate. Head diagonally left across the field and take the stone steps down the bank. The kissing gate at the bottom takes you into the car park at Demesne and the end of our walk.

Lason Field

The parish church of St. Mary & St. Stephen, which dates back to Norman times but was largely rebuilt in 1848.