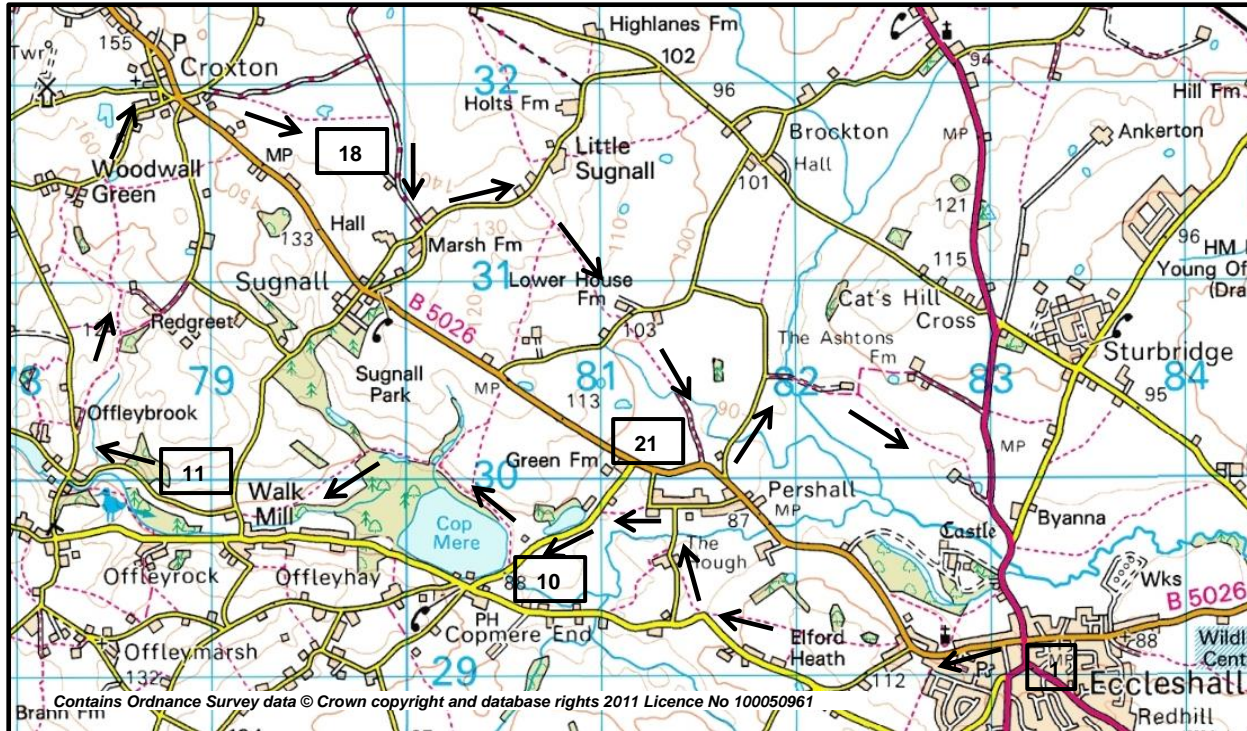


This route can be found on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 243, Market Drayton. You are advised to use this map in conjunction with the instructions.

WALK NO. 10 - ECCLESHALL TO CROXTON AND RETURN VIA SUGNALL

WALKS IN ECCLESHALL PARISH



Enjoy your walk and remember the
Country Code.

Produced by Eccleshall Parish Council with support
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WALK NO. 10.
ECCLESHALL TO CROXTON
AND RETURN VIA SUGNALL

WALK NO. 10 - ECCLESHALL – TO
CROXTON AND RETURN VIA SUGNALL

The walk takes in some very attractive corners of the parish. The full walk is quite long at approx. 13 miles. It is, however, well worth undertaking for the beauty of the green lane near to Croxton (***) and the extensive views of Hanchurch Hills, Cannock Chase, The Wrekin and the Welsh Hills that can be enjoyed on a clear day from the Leys (*) and from Sugnall (***). The route can easily be split into two separate walks or can be amended to your requirements. In this regard please see walks 1, 2, 4 and 6. Good quality bar snacks are available in Eccleshall and Copmere. Each paragraph number relates to a point marked on the map and is followed by its map reference, found on Ordnance Survey Map 243.

1. Parking is available on the Stone Road car park for a charge. Limited parking is available in High St/ by Church but beware the time limits in some areas.
2. Walk along the High Street on the B5026 towards Loggerheads. Pass the church on your right. Immediately after Kerry Lane a footpath is signposted to the left (825 291).
3. Follow the path through 2 gates and onto the kissing gate at the top of the field.
4. Note – the 2 fields are portioned with electric fences. Turn right and follow the line of the hedge. The hedge swings right but continue straight on up heading for the small wood, continuing onto the kissing gate and follow path ahead to left-hand corner (via trough, look for chevron sign) to kissing gate.(820 292).
5. Turn immediate right to stile into next field.
6. Follow the hedge on the LHS and over the stream then head diagonally to the far right-hand corner of the field (813 295). Leave by the stile. Turn right onto the lane and head for Pershall.
7. At the 'T' Junction turn left. After 200 yards take the stile next to Newton Villa.

8. Go diagonally to stile in opposite corner by an oak tree. Go over a stile, then right and over another stile onto the lane (809 298).

9. Turn left and walk towards Copmere End. Turn right over a stepped stile (805 295).

10. Follow the path anticlockwise around Copmere and then through the fields and over stiles to Walk Mill. Do not turn right towards Sugnall (801 300).

11. The path leaves the field opposite Walk Mill Villa (791 298). Turn right onto the lane and after 30 yards turn left towards Jackson's Coppice and Offley Brook. At the cross-roads (783 300), turn right and walk up the hill (783 302). Turn right onto a track and through the cattle gate into the valley. Keep the hedge on your LHS until you see a farm gate and stile at the far end on your RHS(**).

12. Cross a stile, the farm lane (785 307) and a second stile into a narrow copse of trees, bushes and bracken. Keep the sheep fence on your left. Towards the far end of the copse climb up slightly to a stile. After walking through undergrowth you will see another stile on your left, which goes into the field.

13. Walk to the RH corner of the field and over a stile.

14. Walk across the field, keeping two small clumps of thorn on your left. Once past the two small clumps head up the bank to your left to two stiles that lead through the fence on your left (785 312).

15. Follow the RH fence and hedge to a stile in holly hedge towards the RH end of the field (785 314). Turn left onto the unsurfaced track, which leads to the Stone Private Fishing Club pool.

16. Turn right onto the road and follow it down to Croxton. Bear right at the first junction and carry onto the cross-roads.

17. Cross the B5026 WITH CAUTION and follow the lane (789 319) (SP Chatcull and Standon) for 100 yards, then turn right along a farm track marked by a FP sign. After 100 yards or so bear right in the direction indicated by the way marker towards the RH end of a copse. Take the stile and bear right through dense undergrowth to a wooden bridge and stile. The path crosses a large field to the furthest corner and passes through a small copse and a small field by a series of stiles. When you emerge follow the RHS hedge (***) and cross another field to a hedged lane (799 318).

18. Turn right and walk to the 'T' junction at Marsh Farm, Sugnall (800 312).

19. Turn left onto the lane and walk as far as the entrance to Hill Top Farm, Little Sugnall (806 314). Turn right and follow the RHS hedge. Where the field opens out walk straight ahead ignoring a path to the right (***). Keep the pit on your right and go downhill to a large oak tree (808 311). Cross the stile and head to the RH corner of the garden/sheep paddock facing you. Follow the garden hedge almost parallel. The exit stile is about 30 yards from the LH corner of the field.

20. Cross the lane to stile opposite. Go straight on to stile opposite by oak tree then walk diagonally right to a stile in Spring Lane. ***Note Spring Lane can get very wet.**

21. Follow Spring Lane to the B5026 and turn left towards Eccleshall. At the football ground turn left onto Smithy Lane. Walk about half a mile along the lane and then turn right (818 305) (FP sign) along the farm track. Just before Springfields Farm turn right through a galvanised gate. Follow more or less parallel to the LH hedge onto a short cattle lane thence along a lane and through a kissing gate into a field.

22. Walk straight ahead to second kissing gate then turn immediate right to a farm gate into Pool House Farm. (828 299). Walk ahead to drive down onto the A519. Turn right and follow the road into Eccleshall. If you wish, it is possible to turn right by the Lower Lodge and walk across the Town Meadow into the church yard.