

WALK 6.

From Christleton to Cotton Edmunds via the Baker Way & return via Plough Lane. Possible extension to Hockenhull Platts. 4.7km or 9.1km



Start at the entrance to Skips Lane at the end of Rowton Bridge Road and follow the Baker Way parish footpath as in Walk 1. At the end of Skips lane, a narrow path on the left takes you through a ruined stone stile to a kissing gate. Follow the path ahead of you diagonally towards the canal but take the route through another kissing gate, and then walk towards the canal. The footpath along this next section is very narrow, so please give way to other walkers when necessary. Go through a metal kissing gate and after 200m or so the path dips left away from the canal through a small copse to another kissing gate, and then follows the field boundary on your left towards a large marl pit, and a newly planted potato field. The main footpath then goes left and in a short time you pass through a kissing gate at the side of a 6 bar farm gate, and walk towards Brown Heath Road.

Immediately opposite, the Baker Way route takes you along a tree sheltered private road to Dolly Peg Hall. Take the narrow footpath ahead and left between the garage and the gated field with a caravan. This narrow path takes you to a metal kissing gate with a planked bridge. Continue along the field footpath ahead of you, around a large marl pit on your right to another metal kissing gate. Continue across two more fields passing through the gaps in the hedgerows via metal kissing gates, each with a small planked bridge. When you reach the farm track lined with mature trees, you will spot the new red sandstone Cotton Cross to your left, and Cotton Abbots Farm buildings in the distance on your right. Keep walking straight on into the next field, and take the diagonal path NE towards a large oak tree. Beeston Castle can be seen in the distance on your right. Go through another metal kissing gate and small planked bridge, at the side of the big oak tree** onto Plough Lane. You can then turn left (westwards) and walk along the length of Plough Lane back to Christleton via Cheshire View, the Plough Inn, Brown Heath crossroads, and The High School. The first section of this road has no footpath so keep right and take care. Once you get near to Cheshire View there is a footpath back to the village.

Extension to the Walk.

You could add more distance to your walk by turning right at the metal kissing gate ** when you reach Plough Lane, and follow the road to the right (east) for another 1000m or so to the Roman Bridges across the River Gowy at Hockenhull Platts. This is a delightful tree lined route along the ancient highway from Chester to London. After a stop, to admire the view, the historic bridges & the CWT Nature Reserve, return the way you have just walked and pick up the route along Plough Lane detailed above.

