

Two starting points are available on the main circuit: **Branston Water Park** or **Shobnall Leisure Complex**.

Points of interest along the walk:

1 Branston Water Park was created when gravel extraction ceased in the early 1950's. Rather than being filled and returned to farmland, nature has been allowed to reclaim the site. Look out for bird life on the water and in the woodland and hedges.

2 Tatenhill Lock is one of 76 locks on the 93 mile Trent and Mersey Canal. Designed by James Brindley and completed in 1777 to carry industrial goods, the canal now offers pleasant boating, angling and walking.

4 Battlestead Hill is reputed to be the site of a bloody battle between the Angles and Danes. Look out for primroses, bluebells and violets in the spring.



5 East Hill Wood and the adjacent **Pool Green Wood** include areas left open to safeguard the remnants of a Roman road, ridge and furrow agricultural systems and ecologically important anthills in old meadows.

7 Woodland wildflowers such as bluebells, dog violets, celandine, dog's mercury and yellow archangel all thrive in **Oaks Wood**.

Percy's Grove was named after a children's book character. It was planted in partnership with the publishers Harper Collins, who donated money for every copy of the Percy the Park Keeper books sold. Local schoolchildren have planted wildflower bulbs among the trees to add colour.

10 Shobnall Marina basin is all that remains of the Bond End or Shobnall Branch Canal and was used by the breweries, until it went out of use in 1870.

11 The Bridge Inn dates back to at least 1843 and was a regular stopping point for working narrowboats.

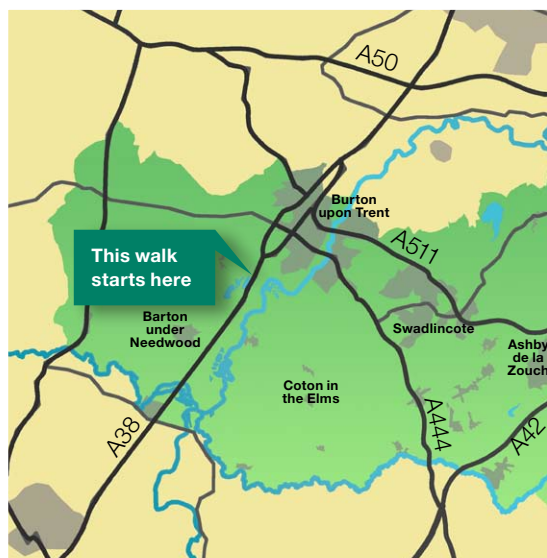


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This leaflet can be used in conjunction with OS Explorer 245 (The National Forest) and Landranger number 128 (Derby and Burton upon Trent).



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Monks & moorings

6½ mile medium walk



Monks & Moorings

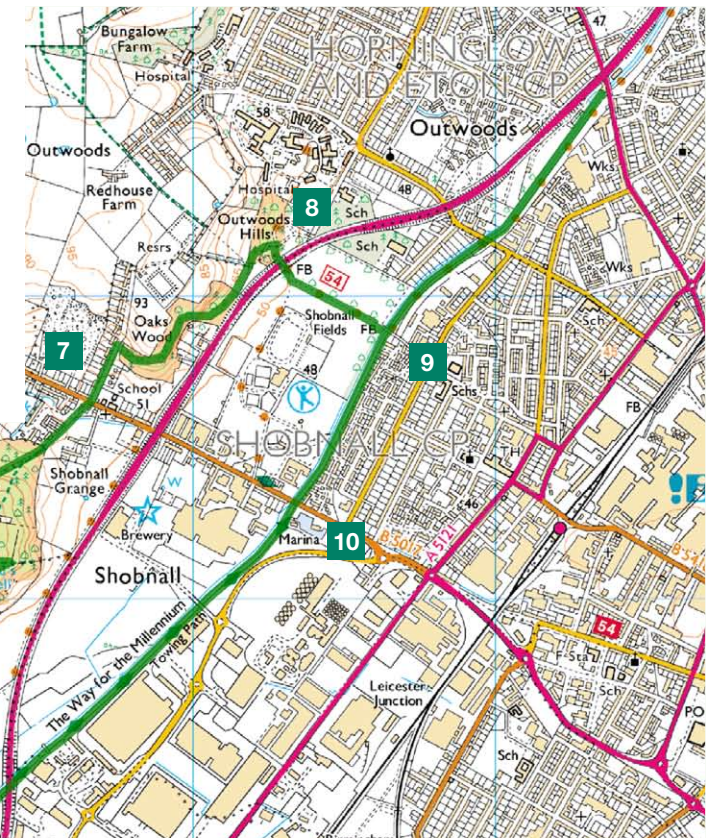
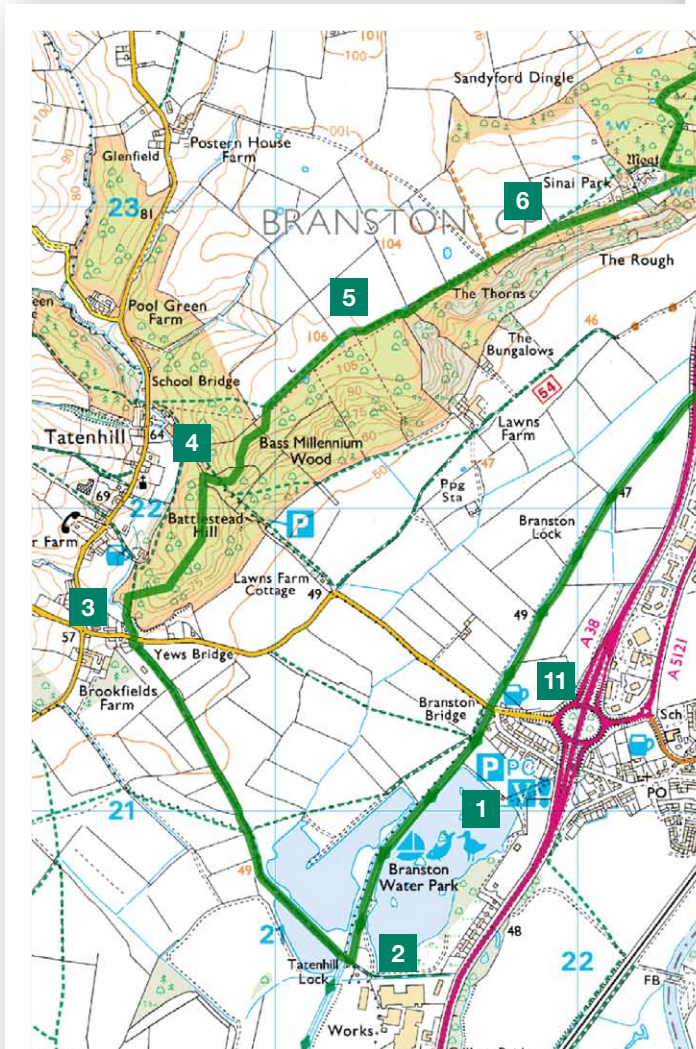
By following this 6½ mile walk, you will encounter the past and future of Burton and the surrounding area. You will pass historic Sinai House, enjoy wonderful views, pass through ancient woodlands and new woodlands planted as part of the developing National Forest.

- 1 Follow the footpath from the top of Branston Water Park's car park around the edge of the lake. Join the canal towpath through a gap in the hedge, turn left and along the towpath to Tatenhill Lock.
- 2 Cross the bridge and follow the footpath between two lakes. Continue along the grassy farm track to reach farm buildings. Cross the second bridge on your right to reach the road at Yews Bridge.
- 3 Cross the road and follow the footpath to a stile. Over the stile bear right on a grassy path uphill to a solitary tree. Continue ahead and then drop down towards a mature wood. Follow a grass path down through young trees to reach a metal gate and stile.
- 4 Turn right to find another stile at the bottom corner of the road, signed 'Battlestead Wood'. In the wood, bear right climbing gently. Turn left just before a set of steps and reach a further set of steps. Climb these and continue along the edge of the wood to a stile. Cross the stile and turn left.

Climb gradually through the trees to reach a gap in the hedge. Go through the gap and turn right. Continue ahead, with a hedge on the right and wire fence on the left, to a stile.

- 5 Over the stile, continue for 20m to reach a stile on the right. Cross the stile, over a footbridge and double stile, then turn left. Continue with a hedge on the left and trees on the right and cross two stiles to reach Sinai Park Wood.
- 6 Continue ahead on a grassy path for about 300m on to the 'The Friars Walk', with existing mature woodland on the right and Sinai Park on the left. Follow the grass path between the trees to meet the drive to Sinai Park at a stile and gate, follow the drive to Shobnall Road.

- 7 Cross the road and walk up Reservoir Road until you reach a kissing gate on the right leading into Oaks Wood. Follow the path to climb up through the wood, descend by a flight of timber steps, through a timber gate and follow the surfaced path to reach Outwoods Park, (with Percy's Grove on the left).
- 8 Leave Outwoods Park by the footbridge over the A38 to enter Shobnall Fields Recreation Ground. Go along the avenue of lime trees to the canal bridge.



- 9 Cross the bridge and turn right to follow the canal towpath towards Shobnall Marina.

(At the canal bridge you could extend the walk by about 2.5km, by turning along the towpath to Horninglow Canal Basin. Then retrace your steps and continue towards Shobnall Marina).

(If you parked at Shobnall Leisure Complex, follow the paths across the fields or alongside the canal to the canal bridge, cross this and turn right along the towpath towards Shobnall Marina).

- 10 From Shobnall Marina continue along the canal towpath, over a small hump-backed bridge towards The Bridge Inn at Branston.
- 11 Continue on the towpath past The Bridge Inn until you reach the entrance to Branston Water Park Visitor Centre and car park.