

## CROFT CIRCULAR WALK

This walk uses a combination of Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths which may not be shown on ordnance survey maps.

Starting from the Red Lion car park, turn left and follow road over Thurlaston brook and up to the Quarry nature trail on the left. Go through kissing gate and follow path immediate right (no need to go up steps). Follow the path up to the quarry fence at the top and turn right along the edge of the quarry.



Turn away from quarry through trees to cross stile into Croft Hill field. Continue ahead with fence on right all the way round to the other side of the hill (going up and over the hill is the energetic option !). At the other side go through the kissing gate by the cattle trough.

### **0.7 miles.**

Turn right down to the path that follows the course of the road. Turn left here and walk through trees until path turns left away from road to emerge in the Quarry Office car park. Pass the office building to exit on to the road by St. Michaels and All Angels Church.

### **1.0 Miles.**

Turn left in front of church and follow path across grass in front of The Heathcoat Arms.



Cross road and follow road over the river Soar bridge turning left at the picnic site by the river. Cross the stile in the corner and walk alongside river to cross a footbridge into the meadow. *This short path alongside the river may be overgrown in the summer. If so, go back to the road and a few yards further on the left is a path through the trees to the footbridge.* This is owned by the quarry and allows access to walkers. Walk to the far side of the field and cross another footbridge continuing under the railway to the road. Turn left and cross the road to the Sports Ground. Cross the cricket field to the yellow post in the corner by the quarry road.

**1.7 miles.**

Go up the steps and through the gate. At the road turn left along the fenced footpath going over the railway and through another gate. Do not cross the road. The path now descends and takes you under the road and alongside the railway and the quarry works. Follow this track until you cross a footbridge and turn left alongside the stream.



Follow this path to cross the River Soar at the next footbridge. You might see a kingfisher here.

**2.1 miles.**



Follow the nature trail path to the right and onto the boardwalk until the path reaches the lake.



Continue around and past the picnic tables.

**2.6 miles.**

Follow the trail below the bank back to the road. Turn right through the kissing gate and walk back along the road to the Red Lion Car Park.

**Total Distance 3.2 miles.**