



Walking in the Vale

From wooded hillside to peaceful canal paths, there's a wide variety of walking to be found in the Vale of Belvoir.

We have created three beautiful walks that offer something for all abilities - from a gentle stroll to one of our local country pubs, or a good stomp across the fields where you can enjoy fantastic views of Belvoir Castle. All three walks are circular, starting and finishing at the Engine Yard. Why not stock up at the Fuel Tank before you head off? On your return, enjoy a refresher in the Balloon Bar. It's walking with rewards!

Belvoir Castle perches on top of the ridge of the Vale and can be seen from miles around. It's a great vantage point from which to get your bearings. Belvoir Castle's history dates back to the eleventh century. It is the ancestral home of the Duke of Rutland, where the family has lived in an unbroken line for almost a thousand years.

The Engine Yard is a collection of charming Victorian buildings. Originally used by specialist tradesmen, the workshops produced furniture, windows and doors during the construction of the present Belvoir Castle in the early 1800s. Now these beautiful buildings have been lovingly restored to create a unique rural retail village.

Walking in the Vale

strenuous

Walk out the rear of Engine Yard overflow car park. Follow track to trees. Turn right, follow path downhill. Take path on left. At stile on right pass over. Cross fields following waymarkers. At the main road turn left. After 400m take stile on right. Follow waymarkers to Barkestone. Climb stile, follow lane onto Chapel Street. Turn left onto Town End. Turn right on Fishpond Lane. First right onto lane. Through gate and left across fields. Follow waymarkers to Long Lane. Cross to stile opposite. Follow waymarkers across fields, pass through gates, over stiles and bridge over stream before heading to trees. At a small brick building, head across field. Rejoin original path at waymarker, turn left to return to the overflow car park. Enjoy a tasty treat at The Fuel Tank.

6.2 miles/9.9km
289ft ascent
Duration: 3.5 hours
14,500 steps

Barkestone le Vale

moderate

Walk out the Visitor car park and turn right. Follow Woolsthorpe Road into open country. At a small group of trees on your right, turn right down a track. At the far side of the first field, turn left along a marked footpath following the field margin. Cross a small bridge, head left and onto a small road. At T-Junction, turn right onto the main road through Woolsthorpe. Walk through the village. Just before the final row of terraced houses on your right, turn right onto a small road marked as a dead end. Continue past the gate on the farm track and at the start of the trees, turn right onto a marked footpath. Follow the waymarkers until you reach the small bridge you crossed before, then retrace your steps to the Visitor car park. Then enjoy a tasty treat at Cafe Allez!

3.9 miles/6.6km
325ft ascent
Duration: 2 hours
7,200 steps

Woolsthorpe by Belvoir

easy

Walk out of the Visitor car park and turn left. Follow the road up and around the bend where there are trees on both sides. Soon, fields open up on your right and on another bend in the road, turn right off the road up a fence line, following the footpath sign. Follow this path over the hill until you reach a crossroads beside Reeded Cottage. Turn right down the hill, first through the woods and then out into open countryside. When you reach the woods at the bottom, turn right (ignoring the public footpath sign which suggests heading straight on) and follow the track across open country, back to the Visitor car park. Then enjoy a tasty treat at Cafe Allez!

2.5 miles/4km
312ft ascent
Duration: 1 hour
4,100 steps

Woodlands Walk