This walk uses just a few of our many rights of way to access and enjoy the countryside. A right of way is not owned by the council, it is a right to pass over private land. When you go out please remember that almost all the land you cross is in private ownership, and someone’s livelihood will depend on the crops and livestock there. Our countryside is not just a beautiful place, but a working environment, please play your part by keeping it tidy for the people who walk and work there tomorrow.

Take a responsible attitude into the countryside, leave only footprints and take only photographs.

Follow the Country Code, happy walking!

The Waleswood Walk around Rother Valley

How do I get there?
Aston has good bus links to other areas in the Borough, for up to date information call the Travepline on 01709 515151 or visit www.sypte.co.uk for timetables.

The walk starts at Rother Valley Park. From the bus-stop follow the access road into the park until you reach the visitor centre, this link puts about another hour on the walk in total.

Something to think about
Many of the paths to the north of Rother Valley are newly restored, up until recently the whole area was an open-cast coal site. Again the walk would not be possible without the abundant help and enthusiasm of landowners and local people.

Any enquiries please ring 01709 822168
Remember to keep a track of where you are in the description, occasionally waymarks get vandalised and we may not have had time to replace it.

Key
Walk No: 4
The Waleswood Walk around Rother Valley

All paths around Aston and Rother Valley Park are shown clearly on the OS Explorer Map 278 Rotherham. Why not pick up a copy at your local bookshop and devise your own walks.

Produced by the Rights of Way Team.

Doorstep Walk No: 4
The Waleswood Walk around Rother Valley

An easy way to explore the beautiful, local countryside on your ‘doorstep’.

Includes an Aston - Rother Valley Link Walk

Produced on Recycled Paper
Design & production by the Design Studio, RMBC 01709 823679

Produced by the Rights of Way Team.
**Rother Valley Park - History**

Rother Valley Country Park was first suggested in the 1970s as the areas of Hobhouse, Beighton and Sothall began to expand.

Open-cast of the 300 hectares site began in 1974, and removed a total of 1.7 million tonnes of high quality coal, the last being taken off site in 1981.

In total 480,000 trees and shrubs were planted on site and Bedgreave Mill together with its associated farm buildings, was restored to form a centrepiece to the park.

In 1960’s as the areas of Mosborough, Beighton and Sothall began to expand.

In total 480,000 trees and shrubs were planted on site and Bedgreave Mill together with its associated farm buildings, was restored to form a centrepiece to the park.

**Abundant Birdlife**

The park is abundant in woodland, grassland and hedgerow, ensuring a large amount of birdlife. Keep an eye out and you may see jay, sparrowhawk, woodpecker, little owl, green finch and goldfinch.

With 170 acres of open water within the park Rother Valley offers a large amount of birdlife. Keep an eye out and you may see jay, sparrowhawk, woodpecker, little owl, green finch and goldfinch.

To have a side trip to Aston where there are several shops, head downhill along Worksop Road until you pass Aston Junior and Infant School on your left. Here head left down Lodge Lane until you reach Mansfield Road, head downhill straight ahead up Lodge Lane where there is a pub and shops. Retrace your steps to return to the trail.

**Doorstep Walk**

Take a walk through the countryside at Rother Valley Park.

- This walk will take about 1¼ hours, and is almost entirely off public road. It also has a much shorter circuit and short-cut.
- The award winning Rother Valley Park is the base of our walk, this route links into the rolling farmland above the valley and has a link into nearby Aston where there are shops and pubs.
- You do not need to read a map.
- You do not need fancy equipment.

**Just follow the Doorstep waymark**

**The Waleswood Walk around Rother Valley Valley**

To join the walk from Aston start at the Aughton to Worksop Road junction (where there are several shops) head downhill along Worksop Road until you pass Aston Junior and Infant School on your left. Here head left down Lodge Lane until you reach Mansfield Road, head downhill straight ahead up Lodge Lane where there is a pub and shops. Retrace your steps to return to the trail.

**To the shortcut lookout for a path on your right**

More or less opposite the suspension bridge, follow this path uphill by the edge of the plantation and rejoin the main route at Point 4.

**Start at the Visitor Centre in the Rother Valley Park (see sidebar), head out onto the access road, go right and then cross the road bridge.**

Once across turn left and follow the broad path with the river immediately on your left. After a while you will see a large suspension footbridge ahead on your left.

**Turn right and follow the track, which heads straight ahead up Lodge Lane where there is a pub and shops.**

**Keep going straight and after a very short time the path levels out with the wood on your right.**

Soon you will come to a track. To have a side trip to Aston where there is a pub and shops, head left for about 50 metres, then right across a small arched footbridge. Then go straight uphill, crossing the railway and road via bridges, eventually you will reach Mansfield Road. Carefully cross this and head straight ahead up Lodge Lane where there is a pub and shops. Retrace your steps to return to the trail.

**Passing a farm on your right, the road turns right and slightly downhill before coming to a corner where there are a couple more houses.**

Just before these is a path on your right, follow this along a track, this heads gently uphill, then finally steeply downhill, back into the park. The visitor centre is to your right, just over the bridge.

**Keep following the path ahead, you are following part of the Trans Pennine Trail, a 350 mile route from Southport to Hull, this route forms part of a much larger European route called the E8 route which links the West Coast of Ireland to Istanbul. Some 20 miles of the Trans Pennine Trail crosses Rotherham, with many potential shorter link walks such as the one you are following.**

Stay on the path above the river until you see a wood ahead on your right, here the track joins an embankment and bends slightly left, just before this go right, down a very short bank and then immediately right again to follow a path which heads uphill.

**Cross the road bridge. Once across do not cross the road bridge at point 5 do not cross it, instead turn right and head along the track, then follow the path which eventually leads back to the arched footbridge.**

**Stay on the track…**

...but when you reach the road bridge at point 5 do not cross it, instead turn right and head along the track, then follow the path which eventually leads back to the arched footbridge.

**Find your way back to the car park**

The visitor centre is to your right, just over the bridge. Cross the road and railway via bridges, eventually you will reach Mansfield Road.

**To have a side trip to Aston where there are several shops, head downhill along Worksop Road until you pass Aston Junior and Infant School on your left. Here head left down Lodge Lane until you reach Mansfield Road, head downhill straight ahead up Lodge Lane where there is a pub and shops. Retrace your steps to return to the trail.**

**To Aston where there are several shops, head downhill along Worksop Road until you pass Aston Junior and Infant School on your left. Here head left down Lodge Lane until you reach Mansfield Road, head downhill straight ahead up Lodge Lane where there is a pub and shops. Retrace your steps to return to the trail.**

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**Allow about 2 hours for smaller children have suitable footwear.**

Can get boggy, please make sure children have suitable footwear. Allow about 2 hours for smaller children have suitable footwear.

**Great Britain**

The Waleswood Walk around Rother Valley Valley

This easy walk passes through rolling farmland and parkland and offers an interesting easy route away from the busy park. The short route should take about forty minutes. Part of the walk can get boggy, please make sure children have suitable footwear. Allow about 2 hours for smaller children have suitable footwear.

**A Family Friendly Walk**

This easy walk passes through rolling farmland and parkland and offers an interesting easy route away from the busy park. The short route should take about forty minutes. Part of the walk can get boggy, please make sure children have suitable footwear. Allow about 2 hours for smaller children have suitable footwear.

**For more details, downloads of alternative route descriptions and themed guides check out our web-page on www.rotherham.gov.uk**

www.rotherham.gov.uk

This easy walk passes through rolling farmland and parkland and offers an interesting easy route away from the busy park. The short route should take about forty minutes. Part of the walk can get boggy, please make sure children have suitable footwear. Allow about 2 hours for smaller children have suitable footwear.

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