

and over a stile at the track end.

10. Where the stone wall ends, turn left and go diagonally left across a field to the bottom right-hand corner. The line taken here is almost directly towards the East Mill which is clearly visible ahead of you. Continue down a stone path, and cross three fields to turn left at the wicket gate just before the River Derwent.

11. Keep the river on the right and go through one field. At track turn left and then immediately right to cross over a bridge.

Just after the bridge, on your right, there are small gaps in the stone wall. These are designed to allow floodwater escape.

Travel up two fields with stone wall on the right. Join a track at a Severn Trent pumping station. Follow the lane running parallel to the River Derwent to join the main road again at the river bridge beside Strutt's North Mill, home of the Derwent Valley Visitor Centre. Cross road (beware of traffic) and turn right, follow the road as it bends round. Go left at the traffic lights, to return to the start of the walk.



WALK TYPE	Hilly countryside with several steep climbs
DISTANCE	7 miles (11 km)
TIME	Allow 3 1/2 - 4 hours
BUSES	For up-to-date information call Traveline on 0871 200 2233 (7am-9pm)
TRAIN	National Rail Enquiry Services on 08457 484950 (24 hrs)
WAYMARKING	Routeway 14
OS MAP	Explorer 259 (1:25,000) Derby Landranger 128 (1:50,000) Derby

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Be safe — plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

For further walks and visitor information go to www.visitambervalley.com
If you have any comments about this leaflet contact Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield & Mansfield on 01773 841566 (Registered Charity No. 1004253)

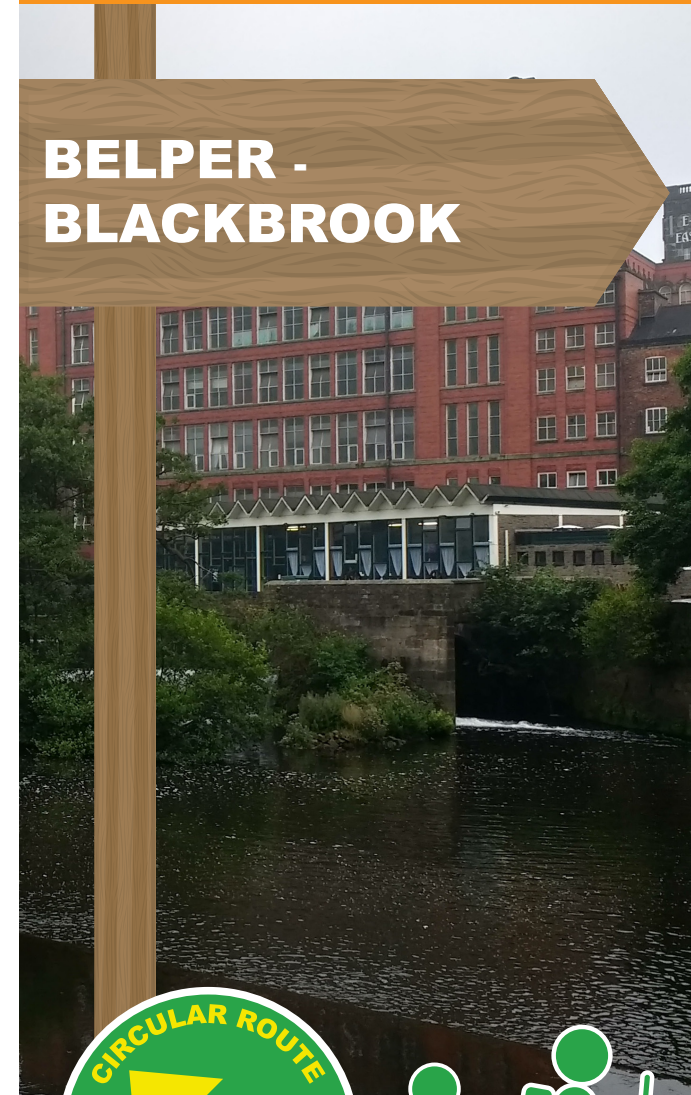
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AMBER VALLEY ROUTEWAYS

BELPER - BLACKBROOK



This walk provides a wider view of the influence and heritage created by the Strutt family in Belper. Starting and ending with close views of the cotton mills, much of the walk passes through farmland previously owned by the family. The farm produced fresh meat, milk and vegetables for employees to purchase, through the employer, to help maintain their health.

Start: Belper River Gardens car park (pay & display), A6 Belper. Grid Ref SK 24/34 345 483

1. Turn right out of the car park towards Belper, turn right at the traffic lights into Bridge Foot, go over Belper Bridge crossing the River Derwent then up Belper Lane, taking the first turn right onto Wyver Lane.
2. After 1km go past the sign at the start of Wyver Lane Nature Reserve and then take the next left onto the bridlepath up to Wyver Farm. Follow the field boundary, keeping the wall on your left, until you reach the farm.

Wyver Lane Nature Reserve is managed by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and provides an excellent local example of an increasingly rare habitat - inland wetlands. With fringing reeds, grassy banks and trees, it attracts a wide variety of bird and insect life. On the track up to the farm you will be rewarded with some excellent views through to Crich Beacon and Broadholme on the A609 behind you

Follow the track through several gates and through the farm buildings and keep straight ahead so that the tall wall is immediately on your left-hand side. Go through the gate between the high wall on the left and the cowshed on the right.

3. Go through the next 2 gates(close together) and continue straight ahead with the field boundary (hedge then stone walls) on the right, through 4 fields and into Belper Lane End hamlet joining the public road beside Chapel House. Turn right along the road (beware of the traffic) towards the former Bulls Head public house. At the public house turn right and take the left-hand fork signposted to Shottle. At Gorses Farm (after about 150 metres) turn left between the house and farm buildings up a track. This bends right and after 100 metres becomes an uphill footpath between stone walls. This track is known as Narrow Lane.
4. At the top go straight across down Wilderbrook Lane to a stile about 100 metres on the left (if you reach a footpath sign on the right you have gone too far!). Go through the squeeze stile and down a track between 2 stone walls. Keep the hedge on your right and continue straight ahead over a stile in a stone wall. Pass through a squeeze stile and cross a field and then over another stile into Hillside Farm.
5. Keep close to the stone wall on the right and after 25 metres go through a squeeze stile on the right. Cross the next field, keeping the field boundary on the left. Pass through a squeeze stile and cross an area of scrubland to reach Wilder Brook. Cross carefully over the stepping-stones. The path now heads uphill, to pass a large oak tree and then goes between two hedges. At the top of the field, cross a squeeze stile to enter an area of scrubland. Cross the scrubland, with the barn to your right, heading for the left corner. At the next stile continue through 2 fields with stone walls on the left. At the top of the second field pass through the squeeze stile (on your left) by the gate opening. Continue uphill to the top of the field, with the wall on your right. Turn left just before the gateway, and head down the field, keeping the wall on the right. Pass through gap at the bottom right-hand corner of the field to

follow the track, with the wall now on your left. Continue down the track, through two fields, to a gate at a bend in the road.

6. Do not go through the gate to the road. Turn left just before it to follow the path towards the wood. Follow the track as it bends left, and pass through a gate into the woods. After 200 metres, turn right down the track. Follow the path to cross Black Brook. Bear left, climbing steeply uphill through the pinewoods.
7. At the top of the hill go through gate in wall, head straight across two fields to squeeze stile. At the next field turn right and follow the field boundary, keeping wall on right. Pass the pond on your left and continue straight ahead through two fields until you reach a sandy track. Turn right and follow this track all the way down to join the A517 at Blackbrook.
8. Cross the road (beware of traffic) and turn right. After 100 metres turn left into the bridleway and cross over Lumb Brook by the wooden bridge next to the ford. Follow the lane up the hill for 500 metres to Lumb Farm. Then continue straight ahead and after 30 metres take footpath (by gate) on the left to follow part of the Midshires Way. At the next stile, go almost straight on towards a stile at the edge of the woodland.
9. Continue straight ahead up through the wood to a large stone wall with steps. Climb the steps and follow the path as it turns left and along the edge of the field. Climb the two stiles close together and continue straight ahead up the track to the road. Cross the road (beware of traffic), turn right and then take the first track on the left to pass by Chevin Mount. After the sharp right-hand bend turn left through a squeeze stile (leaving the Midshires Way) and go steeply down two fields with stone walls on the left to join the road. Turn left at the road and after 100 metres turn right onto the track