

Walks Around Kegworth Country Lanes

WALK 5

OPTION 1: 4.7 km (3 miles)

OPTION 2: 7 km (4.25 miles)

OPTIONAL EXTRA: 2.5km (1 mile)



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Walks around Kegworth country lanes

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- A choice of level walks all starting down Long Lane, over rural farmland and either returning to Kegworth via housing estate or going towards Redhill Lock returning along the river/canal bank.
- Cows are also sometimes grazing in the fields towards the Marina. Take care There are also some high stiles to climb so not suitable for those with limited mobility.

1. Start from Kegworth Market Place.
2. Facing the Church, turn left and cross the A6 at the pedestrian crossing.
3. Walk down the steeply sloping road, Dragwell keeping the chemists on your right.

Dragwell and the original Co Op Shop

Dragwell is thought to be so named because it was a long drag to fetch water up from the well which was situated halfway down the hill in the archway in the stone wall of a building. This building was known as 'Top School' and the next building was known as 'Bottom School' The Bottom School was built in the 1830s to be used as a local village school under the sponsorship of the Church of England authority. The church school was for children of both genders aged 4 to 11 years. The 'Top School' was added in the 1860s to be used specifically for boys. These schools were superseded in 1939 when a new County Primary School was built by the Leicestershire




Education Authority on High Street. The lower building then became a private house and the higher building was used as a Church Hall. This was sold in 2019 and is now a School of Dance. Observe the plaque on No 9 Dragwell marking the site of the original Co-Op shop 1895 – 1903, and look upwards when passing No 15, this was the site of the Co-Op from 1903 until 1969 when the current store was opened in the Market Place. This building was used as a Community Centre paid for by Leicestershire Education Authority until 2015 when it closed and was converted to private housing.

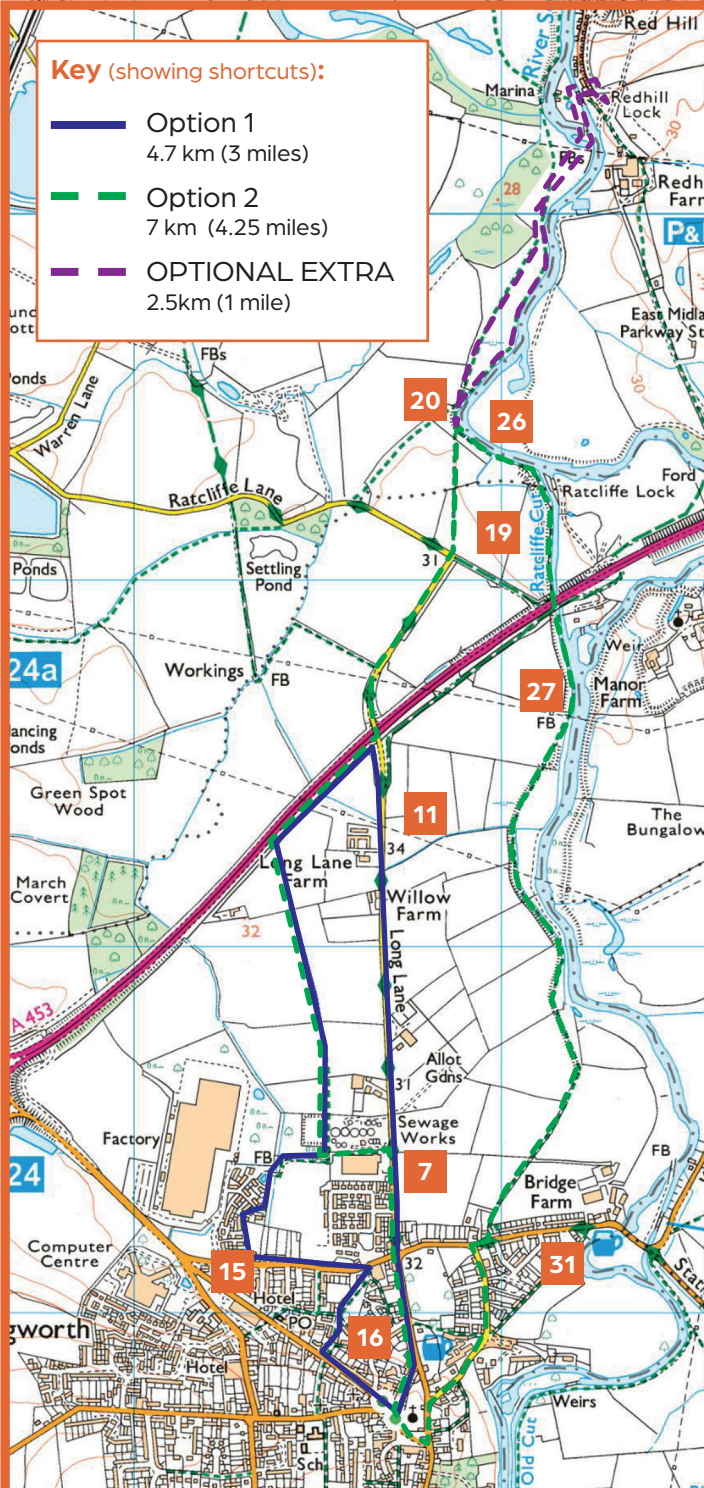
4. Turn left at the bottom of the hill at the junction with Nottingham Road and keep walking past the bowls club on your left and King George V playing field on your right.
5. On reaching the crossroads (Four Turns) cross straight over to Long Lane. Note a finger post on the right marked Midshires Way.

Midshires Way is a 225 mile long distance footpath and bridleway which runs through middle England, connecting the Ridgeway Path south of Aylesbury with the Pennine Way and Trans Pennine Trail at Whaley Bridge in the Peak District.

6. Continue along Long Lane passing the Old Bakery, also on the right.
7. After the large factory building on the left, and immediately before the sewage works, take the signed footpath to the left. Follow this gravelled path until it turns left.
8. At that point, take the right fork and continue between two chain linked fences with the sewage works on your right (path sometimes overgrown). Exit into fields over a stile.
9. Following the way markers, cross the first field, pass through the gate and continue towards the A453 across three more fields until you reach a kissing gate and a tarmac driveway.

Key (showing shortcuts):

-  Option 1
4.7 km (3 miles)
-  Option 2
7 km (4.25 miles)
-  OPTIONAL EXTRA
2.5km (1 mile)





10. Turn right and follow the drive back to Long Lane (through an kissing gate) and a bridge over the A453.

The A453 – Remembrance Way was made into a dual carriageway in 2015 and was named for the 453 military personnel who lost their lives in Afghanistan.

You can now choose option 1: 4.7 km (3 miles) or option 2: 7 km (4.25 miles)
For option 1, turn right.
For option 2, turn left and pick up your walk again from point 18.

11. Turn right and continue straight down Long Lane, past the sewage works on your right and then turn right onto the gravel path which you took earlier (at the point labelled 7 on the map).
12. Follow this path past houses and cross a wooden bridge over a ditch.
13. Turn right, then bear left into Wood Drive.
14. At the T junction turn left onto Citrus Grove with the play park on your left.
15. Turn left onto Side Ley. Taking care, cross the road and continue towards Side Ley Park on your right.
16. Cross the park and exit onto the middle of 3 paths leading up to Hollands Way.

- 17.** On reaching Derby Road turn left and walk along to the Market Place crossing at the pedestrian crossing by the church gates returning to your start point.

**OR OPTION 2 : 7 km (4.25 miles) with the
OPTIONAL EXTRA 2.5km (1 mile)**

to Redhill Marina

- 18.** Turn left and walk over the bridge and continue along the road until a sharp left-hand bend is reached.
- 19.** At this point **ignore the footpath to the right** and follow the waymark over a stile through the field straight ahead. Cross the stile and follow the waymark diagonally left across the field and through a gap in the hedge.
- 20.** Bear right across another field and a stile to meet the riverside path.

Across the river you can see Radcliffe on Trent Power Station (due to be decommissioned late 2024) and East Midlands Parkway station.

**AT THIS POINT YOU CAN TAKE THE OPTIONAL
EXTRA 2.5 km (1 mile) DIVERSION TO REDHILL
MARINA by following points 21 to 25 OR RETURN
TO KEGWORTH by picking up your walk from
point 26.**

OPTION TO VISIT REDHILL MARINA:

- 21.** Turn left onto the riverside path and walk along the river bank.
- 22.** After passing through a wooden gate the buildings of Redhill Marina can be seen on the opposite bank.
- 23.** Crossing a footbridge over the original bend in the river you reach a packhorse bridge that was built in the late 18th century. This gives access to the Marina.

Redhill Lock Bridge (No 47)

The canal was built to save the boats having to navigate the long curve in the river.

- 24.** Cross the bridge and turn right into the Marina along a block paved way to the Café on your right. There are toilet facilities in another building.
- 25.** After your refreshment stop, retrace your steps across the 2 bridges and along the riverbank until the original waymarked path is met on the right then follow the instructions back to Kegworth.

OR RETURN TO KEGWORTH

- 26.** With the river on your left walk along the bank through 2 kissing gates towards Ratcliffe Lock.
- 27.** Follow the path with the canal on your left and pass under the A453 and past the canal/river junction. The path keeps close to the bank until a waymarked path on your right leads over a footbridge (45B) over a ditch. Cross the bridge.
- 28.** Turn left along an elevated footpath to a stile and then cross the next field on the flood bank to cross another stile and along a path with hedging on your right.
- 29.** Go through 2 metal gates.
- 30.** Follow the path through the fields towards the houses.
- 31.** Passing under an archway between cottages Station Road is reached. Turn right and cross the road with care noting the heritage Barton bus stop outside no 54.
- 32.** Turn left onto Mill Lane.

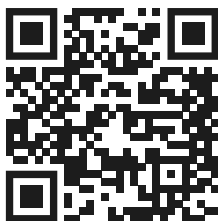
Where there is a bend in the road the grass area on the left is known as The Flash as it is low-lying and was prone to flash floods. The Osiers on the left is on the site of reed beds where there was a thriving basket making industry until about 1950.

- 33.** At the top of the hill turn left onto Nottingham Road noting Harrison House directly in front of you.

Harrison House

An Elizabethan house where a free school was founded in 1575. At the turn of the 18th century it was inhabited by John Heathcote who invented an industrial lace machine and whose work, among others, spelled the end of the cottage framework industry and eventually led to the Luddite Riots.

- 34.** Cross the road to pass by the church wall and continue along until the pedestrian crossing is reached to cross back to your starting point in the Market Place.



Scan this QR CODE for links to refreshment stops and other places of interest.

Kindly hosted by One Kegworth:

www.onekegworth.co.uk

Thanks to David Jones and David Buxton whose original "A Kegworth Walk Guide" inspired and informed this new series of walking guides.

All distances are approximate and information correct at time of going to print. Published 2024.