

The complete walk is approximately 3.5 miles.

Please be aware the woodland walks marked in red are not suitable for people with mobility issues, wheelchairs, buggies etc. These walks are easily bypassed if you just want to stroll around the villages.

Starting at St Peter & St Paul walk towards Thornton along Thornton road, it's approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to visit the deer sculpture, dedicated to a valued member of the Green group, John Cooper, here you can rest a while at a nearby bench.



Return up Thornton road until you reach Kell Gate Green on your right, where you can start one of the local Woodland walks, walk straight ahead to the field gate where you will join a short permissive path before turning left across the footbridge into the old quarry & woods, where you can sit for a while on the beautiful carved owl seat. The easy route is to the right or you can carry straight on up the woodland steps.

Turning right out of the quarry, you will come to the junction with Hemlington Road. Cross straight over to the Spinney, the path is good here until you reach the cross-paths. Head straight on through the woodland path. At the exit you will reach the dedicated path where you can choose to turn left and head back to the centre, turn right towards Hemlington across a footbridge towards Hemlington Lake, or using the kissing gate walk through to Maelor's Wood.



In Maelor's Wood the children can enjoy a wildlife hunt for the signposts, animal sculptures and even some fairy doors, there are also a couple of benches to rest a while.



Turning left out of Maelor's Wood onto Low Lane, you can either take the opportunity to visit the Olde Poste House for refreshments, or follow the woodland route through Low Wood.

You can exit Low Wood and carefully cross the busy Low Lane directly to the SUDS pond.

Alternatively from Maelor's Wood follow Low Lane and then turn left onto Strait Lane, turning immediately right, you can then follow the dedicated path to the Suds pond.

From the cross-paths, head up towards Clover Field Road, where you will find a children's playground and a bench.

You can choose either to head up a shortcut through another woodland path via a country stile, which will take you back to the church junction. Alternatively, you may prefer to follow Clover Field Road back to Strait Lane. Turn right, and you will shortly come to the village Badgers, where another bench is located by the bus stop.



Follow Strait Lane up to the centre of the village, here you will find the memorial Hall, methodist Chapel, The Old School & The Stainton Inn.



Stainton & Thornton Village Walk

**Approx.
3.5 miles**

Directions on
map inside

About the Villages

Mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086), Stainton has origins dating back to pre-Saxon times. Its name comes from Old Norse meaning "stone town," reflected in local names such as Meldyke and Kell Gate.

At the heart of the village stands St Peter & St Paul's Church (12th century, tower added in the 15th century), where the parents of James Cook were married in the 18th century.

Nearby you'll find:

- Stainton Memorial Hall (built 1844, later dedicated to those lost in WWI)
- The Stainton Inn (Grade II listed, dating from 1897)

Across the villages, look out for woodland areas, green spaces, and carved sculptures of local wildlife including deer, badgers, and squirrels.

Highlights Along the Route:

- Thornton Deer Sculpture (2024) – dedicated to local resident John Cooper
- Kell Gate Green – access point to woodland walks
- Stainton Wood Quarry – with picnic table and seating
- Maelor's Wood – wildlife trail with sculptures and fairy doors
- Low Wood (Woodland Trust)
- Suds Pond – peaceful rest spot
- Children's playground at Clover Field Road

Produced by The Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces

Stainton & Thornton Circular Walk

Dedicated footpath

Woodland Walk
(not suitable for wheelchairs etc)

St Peter & St Paul Church

Memorial Hall

Stainton Inn

Sporting Lodge

Montpellier Manor

Bus Stop

SQ - Stainton Quarry

KG - Kellgate Green

SP - Spinney

MW - Maelor's Wood

LW - Low Wood

FB - Footbridge



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Stainton &
Thornton Guide
& Photos



Stagecoach
Timetable