

Newark to Cotham - Railway Ramble - Linear Walk

Distance	Approx. 9.6 miles (15.4km) (return)
Gradient	Level and wheelchair accessible - also used as a cycle route
Severity	Easy
Approx. time to walk	3 hours 30 mins
Stiles	0
Maps	OS 271 Newark
Path description	Surfaced path/disused railway track
Start point	Northgate Railway Station, Newark, NG24 1LS
Grid ref	SK 8046 5448
Parking	Newark Northgate Station (check prices). There are also other car parks in the vicinity
Dog friendly	Yes, but keep on a lead, and don't forget to take your poop bags!
Public toilets	Northgate Station, Newark
Refreshments	Newark or take a picnic

There is also the option to make this a circular walk - see Newark to Cotham Village Church - Railway Ramble - Circular Walk



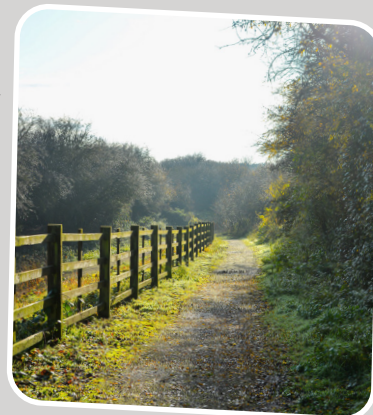
As we begin this super walk at Newark Northgate Station, it's worth taking a look at the lovely architecture of the station buildings. It opened quite unceremoniously on the 15th July 1852, and is now on the East Coast Main Line, between London and Edinburgh. This humble little station also has claim to Royal fame. As on the 9th July 1928, King George V and Queen Mary arrived at Northgate Station from Kings Cross, where they were received by the 6th Duke of Portland - known as William Cavendish-Bentinck, who was Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire from 1898 to 1939. The Royals were visiting Nottingham for the opening of the new University of Nottingham and the Royal Agricultural Show.

This delightful route follows the track bed of the old Newark to Bottesford railway, making it a perfect accessible route, taking in the delights of the pretty Nottinghamshire countryside along the way. It's an environmental haven too, the track sides attract an abundance of wildlife, flora and fauna during the Summer months.

Our destination is Cotham, a small village which lies on the east bank of the River Devon, overlooking the beautiful Vale of Belvoir. It has a staggered history, and once had an impressive Manor House which was said to be one of the largest in the area.

Its little church of St. Michael is definitely worth a visit too. Dating back to around the 14th Century, it is now decommissioned and part of the Churches Conservation Trust. This splendid little church is open daily and has many surviving features of interest. A lovely place to enjoy a few moments rest before your return to Newark. (Not easily accessible for wheelchair users).

A railway walk is perfect for all seasons, and a great way to get moving, it's traffic free and suitable for the whole family...a peaceful and easy way of connecting with the great outdoors!



Happy Ramblings ~ Sally

1 **START** - Starting at Newark Northgate Railway Station, head across the car park area, passing the front of the station, towards a wooden bench, and look out for the blue 64 Cycle route signs.



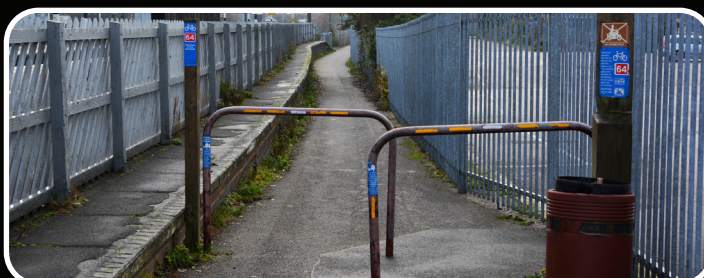
2 Proceed to the left corner or the carpark in front of the station, keeping the platform buildings to your left.



Did you know?

Part of the National Cycle Network, 'Route 64' is a Sustrans national route from Market Harborough to Lincoln.

3 Straight ahead you will come to a set of double metal posts where the footpath begins. The gap is wide enough for wheelchairs, pushchairs and bicycles. No motorised vehicles are allowed.



4

Continue to follow the disused railway path until its end at Cotham, where you have the option to explore at your leisure. There's a lovely little decommissioned church in the village. It can be reached by turning left at the end of the trackway, leading onto the road, and proceeding along for a short distance until you see the church to your left in a field. Access is over the stile.



5

Return to Newark Northgate Station by retracing your outward route.



Did you know?

Shire Horses were used to shunt carriages to the goods-shed at Newark Northgate Station.

Working shires pulled wagons on to the turntable, as there was not enough room for an engine to complete the task.

