

BEFORE YOU SET OFF

- Wear suitable boots or sturdy shoes.
- Expect mud after wet weather.
- Carry water and sun protection in warm weather.
- Keep dogs under close control around livestock.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Follow the public footpath signs and waymarkers.
- Take litter home.
- Avoid walking through planted crops.
- Check local weather and venue opening times.

This leaflet provides general walking guidance. Paths, surfaces, access arrangements and local conditions change.

Follow signs on the ground, respect private property and take care near roads, livestock and farm machinery.

Produced by Norton Juxta.

Connecting our villages, countryside and rural businesses.



FOUR PLACES TO STOP

Gopsall Inn Farm Pub

Seasonal drinks, food and live music.

Turpins, Twycross

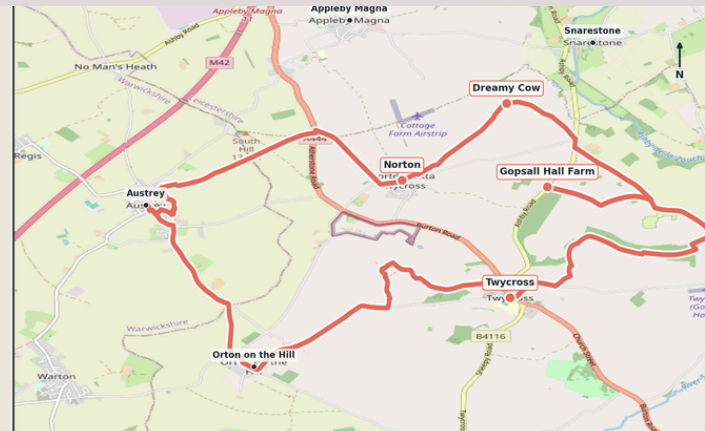
Coffee, drinks and meals.

The Bird in Hand, Austrey

Village pub serving food and drinks.

The Dreamy Cow

Farmhouse ice cream, milkshakes and coffee.



NORTON JUXTA



The Villages CHALLENGE

The big one.

A 15.2-mile circular walk linking Gopsall, Twycross, Orton on the Hill, Austrey, & Norton.

Six stops. Four villages. One full day outside.

Allow 6 to 7 hours, plus refreshment stops.

ABOUT THE WALK

The Southern Villages Challenge explores the countryside south and west of Norton Juxta Twycross. Start at Gopsall Hall Farm before heading towards Twycross and Orton on the Hill.

The route then turns north through Austrey, crosses the A444 and reaches Norton.

Finish the circuit through The Dreamy Cow and the farmland east of Norton before returning to Gopsall.

FOLLOW THE ROUTE

1. GOPSALL HALL FARM

Start at Gopsall Hall Farm and follow the mapped route south.

The farm pub offers drinks, live music and visiting street-food traders on selected seasonal opening days. A post-walk stop gives you something worth walking back for.

Check access, parking and opening details before setting off.

2. TWYXCROSS

Continue south-west towards Twycross.

Follow the signed paths and tracks into the village. Turpins Bar & Grill sits on Main Road and offers drinks, coffee, lunch and meals.

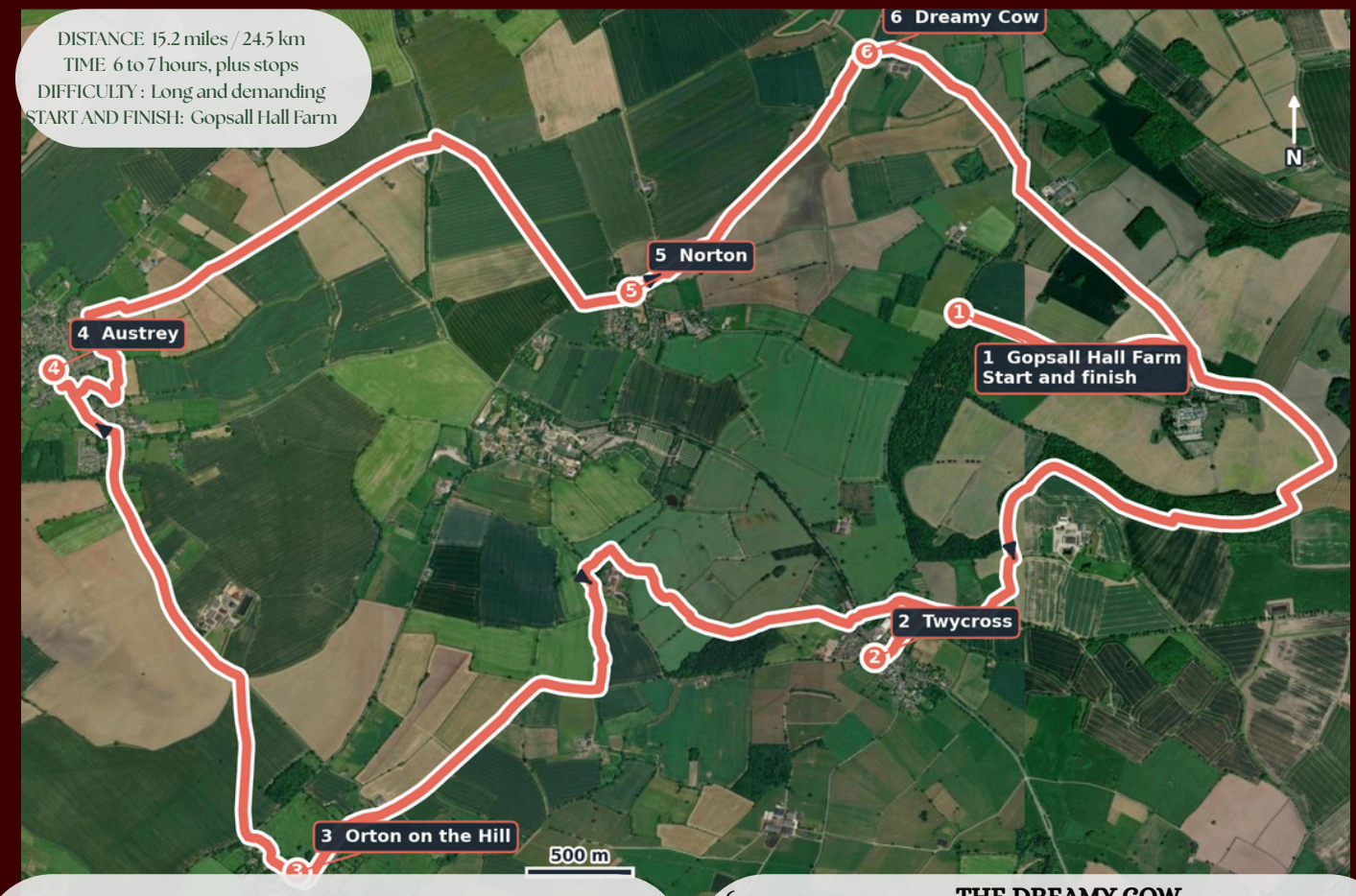
Drop in for a proper break, but remember you still have plenty of miles ahead.

3. ORTON ON THE HILL

Leave Twycross and continue south-west through the field-path network.

Follow the route into Orton on the Hill.

This point marks the southern end of the circuit. Check your route before leaving the village, then turn north-west towards Austrey.



4. AUSTREY

Follow the mapped paths and rural lanes into Austrey. The Bird in Hand sits beside the church on Main Road. Stop for food or a drink and give your legs a proper rest before the northern section.

From Austrey, follow the route north and east towards South Hill and the A444.

5. NORTON

Cross the A444 with great care.

Continue along the public footpath towards Norton. Follow the route into the village before turning north-east through the surrounding fields. You have completed the longest western section. The final refreshment stop now lies ahead.

6. THE DREAMY COW

Follow the field paths towards Culloden Farm and The Dreamy Cow. Stop for farmhouse ice cream, milkshakes, coffee and sweet treats.

At this stage, you have earned the largest ice cream available.

Leave Culloden Farm along the mapped route and continue towards Ashby Road.

7. RETURN TO GOPSALL

Cross Ashby Road carefully.

Follow the field paths and farm tracks south towards Gopsall Hall Farm.

Complete the circuit at your starting point. If the farm pub is open, go in. A 15.2-mile walk deserves a celebratory drink.