

Discover: Flitwick to Steppingley 3 miles. 1-1.5 hours Mostly flat with some short hills. Dry sandy soil.

## Parking

Kerbside Parking in Churchill Drive (please park considerately) Starts in Frognall Road/ Churchill Drive junction, Flitwick near Railway Bridge

## **Refreshments/Toilets**

The French Horn Steppingley <u>https://thefrenchhornsteppingley.co.uk/</u>

The Rendezvous Café, The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick <u>https://www.therufuscentre.co.uk/cafe/</u>

## **Directions and points of interest**

Follow the path with railway line to your right side. Turn left at the first junction. The recently planted woodland is on your right and you can see far reaching views to Steppingley ahead.

Follow this path to the end and round to the right, maybe take a seat on the bench and listen to the birds or count the line of old oak trees along the path.

At the end of the path, turn left and keep walking until you reach the road (Fordfield Road). CAUTION! Watch out for fast traffic!

Cross the road and to the left of the white railing is an opening and path across a small wooden bridge

Take the track towards the reservoir and then bear left up the path along the edge of the field.

Keep walking – this is uphill in some parts, and follow the path into the next field, over a small wooden bridge. Take time to enjoy the stunning views!

At the top of the hill, left and follow the path along the edge of the field. OR Turn right and stop to admire Steppingley Church. Built of local red brown sandstone it is good example of the Early decorated and perpendicular styles of 14<sup>th</sup> Century architecture.

Continue on until you come to an opening in the hedge where the path exits the field on to Flitwick Road, Steppingley . CAUTION! Cross the road and turn right towards Steppingley. Turn left up the track towards Flitwick Woods (slightly up hill). This is part of the John Bunyan Trail.

At the top of the hill turn left and follow the track down to Steppingley Road Flitwick. Flitwick Woods is on the right across the field and worth a visit if you have time.

The lower field is known locally as Steppingley Road Field and is the focus of a campaign by the Flitwick Local Action Group to stop 200+ houses being built here. (Visit <a href="https://www.facebook.com/saveflitwicksgreenspaces">https://www.facebook.com/saveflitwicksgreenspaces</a> or <a href="https://www.cprebeds.org.uk/news/save-steppingley-road-field/">https://www.facebook.com/saveflitwicksgreenspaces</a> or <a href="https://www.cprebeds.org.uk/news/save-steppingley-road-field/">https://www.facebook.com/saveflitwicksgreenspaces</a> or <a href="https://www.cprebeds.org.uk/news/save-steppingley-road-field/">https://www.cprebeds.org.uk/news/save-steppingley-road-field/</a> for more information)

Exit onto Steppingley Road. Turn left to visit The Rufus Centre Café or to return to the start point via Ryder Way.