

on, passing in front of the farm buildings. Head up the hill through the fields and at the second field boundary take the left-hand stile to head diagonally uphill to the top corner of the field.

10. Cross the stile and turn right along the field boundary. Cross the next field diagonally. Bear right and head across the next field, passing to the right of the green-domed water vent, to a stile. 20 yards (18m) downhill from the metal gate.

11. Carry straight on past the large oak tree and on through the stone squeeze stile. Turn right across the hillside, climbing slightly to a hidden stile.

12. Again head diagonally up the hill to a stile in the corner of the field. There is a good view of Heage windmill from here.

Heage windmill, built in 1797 and restored in 2002 is a Grade II listed building and the only working, stone towered, multi-sailed windmill in England. Flour milling may take place when the wind is favourable. The mill is open to visitors at weekends from Easter to the end of October. For details visit www.heagewindmill.org.uk

13. Head straight on across the field to cross a stile in the bottom hedge line. Follow this path across several stiles until you reach the road. Cross the road. (*Beware of traffic*). Turn left to the junction.

14. Turn left and re-cross School Lane. Carry straight on along the main road, cross Church Street and pass in front of the former pub. Continue until you return once again to the Eagle Tavern.

WALK TYPE Undulating Countryside, level along the canal

DISTANCE 5 miles (8 km)

TIME Allow 3 hours

BUSES Traveline on 0871 200 2233 (7.00am - 9.00pm)

TRAIN Rail Enquiry Services on 08457 484950 (open 24 hours)

WAYMAKING Routeway 5

OS MAP Landranger (1:50,000)
119 Buxton & Matlock
Explorer (1:25,000)
269 Chesterfield & Alfreton

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Be safe — plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

For further walks and visitor information go to www.visitambervalley.com

If you have any comments about this leaflet contact Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield & Mansfield on 01773 841566 (Registered Charity No. 1004253)

Produced by Amber Valley Borough Council in conjunction with Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield & Mansfield www.groundwork.org.uk/sites/creswell

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AMBER VALLEY ROUTEWAYS

HEAGE



Start - Eagle Tavern, Heage (Grid ref. SK372504)

1. Take the road Brook Street, opposite the Eagle Tavern. After about a third of a mile (600 m), just beyond the third bus stop on your left (opposite No.82), take the footpath on your left.

Heage takes its name from its position on a 'high edge' ridge.

2. Keeping the hedge on your right cross four fields. Bear left to cross the next field diagonally. Go through wicket gate in fence to hedgerow and continue in the same direction to the embankment. Cross the stile on the far side of the embankment and bear left diagonally across the field to another side. Cross the field and then follow the track to Upper Hartshay, keeping hedgerow on your left.
3. Cross the road. *Beware of traffic.* Turn left and follow the road for 100 yards (90m). Just before the corner turn right between the Yew Tree Farm Cottage buildings. Follow this surfaced track round a left-hand bend down the hill. At the gate, turn left into the field.

On a clear day Crich Stand is visible straight ahead in the distance. The monument is dedicated to members of the Sherwood Foresters Regiment who gave their lives in the two World Wars.

4. Head down the hill, keeping the hedge on your right for about 20 yards (18 m) and cross the hidden stile through the trees. Bear left and follow the field boundary downhill to a stile. Head straight across the middle of the next field, cross the stile and once again pick up the hedge on your left.
5. Turn left through a gateway to pass to the left of the white buildings. Turn right at the end of the path to join the driveway which leads you to the road near the former pub. Turn left across the bridge which takes you over the

disused Cromford Canal and immediately left again onto the path for about a third of a mile (600m) to Lower Hartshay.

The 14 ¾ mile long Cromford Canal was built by William Jessop and Benjamin Outram and ran from Cromford to Langley Mill where it joined the Erewash Canal. Limestone, coal and cotton were the main goods carried on the Cromford Canal, which opened in 1794. The canal attracts much wildlife such as dragonflies, butterflies and song birds like warblers and thrushes. The scrape, that can be seen through the hawthorn hedgerow on the right, attracts wildfowl and occasional waders. Ducks and lapwings can usually be seen here. Just before the point where the canal becomes totally filled in, the remains of an iron narrowboat can be seen amongst the vegetation.

6. Cross the road. *Beware of traffic.* Take the path opposite past the terraced houses and continue straight across the fields over several sites, crossing a brook on a sleeper bridge, still following the former route of the Cromford Canal.

The canal was abandoned in 1944. Today some of the route is still in water, some has partially silted up and some has been lost to opencast mining and agriculture, leaving little evidence of the once thriving waterway.

7. Pass to the left of Pear Tree Cottages and under the former canal bridge, known as Starvehimvaley Bridge.



The Bridge is a fine example of a stone canal bridge, typical of the ones that existed along the Cromford Canal.

Continue straight on for nearly a third of a mile (500m) into the rear car park of the Excavator pub.

8. Pass under the disused railway bridge and turn left along the front car park. Still following the filled-in route of the Cromford Canal, pass through the short tunnel and continue along the former towpath which runs parallel to the road for about three-quarters of a mile (1.2km). Pass behind the houses at Ladygrove until the entrance road to the Lockwood Group factories is reached.

9. Cross the entrance. (*Beware of traffic*). Go up the track and cross the four-arched bridge. Re-cross the factory road and carry straight