



Distance 6.5 miles

Time 3 hours

Level moderate

This route heads south-west, through sheep pastures, horse paddocks and the golf course to reach the tiny hamlet of Menethorpe before returning through fields and cattle pastures alongside the River Derwent.

The walk is relatively flat with just a few gentle gradients. The riverside path for the return stretch can be muddy throughout the year, so good boots are a must. Refreshments can be found in Norton-on-Derwent or Malton at the start or end of the walk.

The route

Standing with your back to Malton rail station, turn right along the pavement. Continue ahead along this road, with the rail line running on your right, and soon you are forced to swap to the left-hand pavement. At the end of the road you will reach the junction by the level crossing. Turn right and bear right into Welham Road. Continue until you reach the third turning on the right, The Avenue. Turn right into The Avenue for just a few metres and immediately after the first house on the left, fork left to join the narrow public footpath between fences. Emerge from the narrow footpath onto the first of two access drives. Cross over this and pass through the (narrow!) gap ahead to reach the second of the two access drives.

Access Drive to Golf Course

Take the stile directly ahead to enter the pasture. Walk diagonally right to reach the far right-hand corner. Cross the stile here to enter a paddock (which is likely to be holding



MALTON NORTON AND MENETHORPE

racehorses - often with foals in the spring and summer months). Walk diagonally right across the paddock, heading for the nearest bungalow. At the far fence line, bear right to pass the bungalow on your left and, just beyond it, leave the paddock via a stile on your left. You will emerge into the yard of a racehorse stable. Turn right along the stone access drive and continue as this becomes a stone and grass track, leading you to the gates for Holmegreen ahead. Turn left here to join a grass track between hedgerows, leading you past the car park for the golf course on your right. At the end, cross the stile to reach the entrance drive for Malton and Norton Golf Club.

Golf Course to Menethorpe Lane

Turn right into the car park and then bear left, passing between the club house on your left and the pro shop on your right. Join the tarmac track, which leads you through the heart of the golf course. At the fork in the track, keep left. Walk ahead through the first gateway and pass Welham Lake on your right. Cross the stone bridge over the waterways and immediately afterwards, turn right over a stile to enter a sheep pasture, cross the field.

At the far side pass through the pallet gate and stile combination to enter a second pasture. Turn immediately left and follow the line of the fence on your left, heading for the bungalow. At the top, cross the stile to enter a third pasture. Turn right along this pasture, following the line of fence on your right. At the end of the avenue, cross the stile to enter the edge of woodland. Follow the obvious narrow path through the pretty woodland, which soon climbs steadily to reach a stile at the top. Cross the stile and continue ahead on the path, you will then emerge out to a junction with a farm track and Menethorpe Lane.

Menethorpe Lane to Suspension Bridge

Go straight ahead to join Menethorpe Lane and follow this for some distance. At the bottom of the slope, stay with the lane which swings right. You will now see the Menethorpe Beck running within the meadow on your left. Follow the lane



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as it swings left, crossing the beck to reach the centre of the tiny hamlet of Menethorpe. Turn right and follow this as it climbs steadily. Where the road swings left, turn right onto the narrow tarmac footpath signed as the Centenary Way. Cross the small footbridge over the beck and a few paces later you will draw level with the beautiful suspension footbridge across the River Derwent.

Suspension Bridge to Stream Footbridge



Do NOT cross the suspension bridge, instead keep straight ahead on the public footpath, signed as the Centenary Way, with the River Derwent running on your left. The path leads you under the railway bridge to continue with the river running on your left and the railway running to your right. You will be following this riverside path through various kissing gates and fields until eventually you come to a small footbridge over stream which you then cross to head back towards Malton.

Stream Footbridge to End

Beyond this footbridge, continue ahead along the left-hand edge of a large crop field. At the end of the field, stay with the path which runs along a narrow strip of land between the river and the railway. You will emerge to a T-junction, turn left along the stone track and, just before it ends in a crop field, fork left across the grass. At the far end, pass alongside the field gate to join the grass avenue, with the flood bank running on your right. Follow the left-hand grass path leading you through the flood plain and you will emerge into the recreation ground. Keep straight ahead and join the access lane. You will come to a T-junction with Railway Street.

Turn right for just a few metres to reach the train station where the walk began. If you are looking for refreshments, it is just a short walk to either Norton (south of the river) or Malton (north of the river).

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