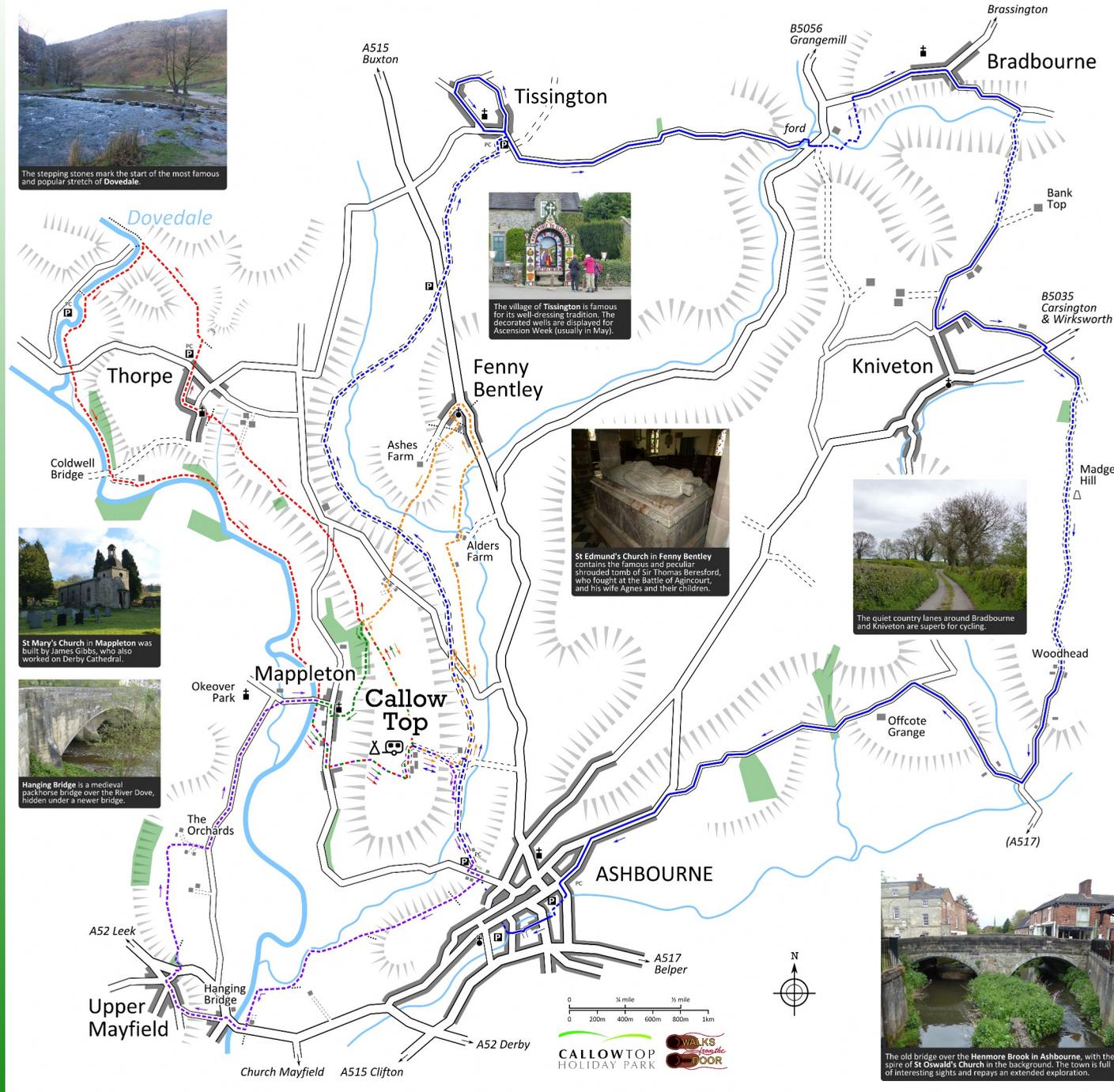


Tissington Trail Cycle (cont/d)

Tissington Hall and the parish church. Turn left at the green to return to the Trail car park. For the 8-mile route, rejoin the Trail and return the way you came. **5** To continue on the longer return route, cross the bridge over the Trail and follow National Cycle Network route 54A for 1½ miles to a ford (bypassed by a footbridge on the left). **6** Beyond, go up the short metalled path on the right and cross the road to a gate. **7** Follow route 54A (now off-road) down to a footbridge over the stream and then uphill to skirt a building and reach Mill Lane. **8** Turn right and ride uphill into Bradbourne. **9** Beyond the church, turn right (signposted to Carsington and Kniveton, and still on route 54A). **10** Descend carefully and when the hedges open out, before you reach the valley bottom, take a gravelly bridleway on the right. **11** Cross the stream and go through a gate, then ride or walk up the track on the other side. **12** When the track levels off and meets a road (with a farm entrance on the left), turn right. **13** At the end of this road, turn sharp left through a gate and up a narrow lane (easily overlooked) which climbs past a line of houses and then bends right and levels off before passing Standlow Farm. **14** At a B-road, turn right then immediately left. **15** Swing right at the top of the hill then take the right-hand fork ("Unsuitable for motor vehicles"). **16** Beyond the summit of Madge Hill descend a long hill (*loose surface*) past the houses at Woodhead then follow the lane beyond. **17** At a T-junction at the bottom, turn right across the stream and climb to another T-junction. **18** Turn left (signposted "Ashbourne") and ride down to cross a stream and up the other side, continuing until you meet the B5035 road. **17** Turn left then, beyond a zebra crossing, turn left again (Cokayne Avenue, signposted "Town Centre"), past a school and park. **19** At Madge's Corner, turn left, then dismount at the traffic lights and cross the road. **20** Walk through the car park and to the left of the Waitrose supermarket to emerge by the old bridge. **21** Follow King Edward Street opposite, to the left of Lloyds Bank, passing the bus station, then turning right to meet Station Road. **22** A few steps to your right, a gap in the railings opposite gives access to the Tissington Trail. **23** Join the trail, remount and turn right to pass through the Ashbourne Tunnel (350m, lit). **24** On emerging from the tunnel, pass the cycle hire centre and follow the Trail down the hill to Bentley Brook and up the other side. **25** After the bridge over the Callow Top entrance drive, turn left through a gate in the fence, go down the steps and then turn right up the drive to return to Callow Top.



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www.walksfromthedor.co.uk

ALLOWTOP HOLIDAY PARK
Buxton Road, Sandybrook, Ashbourne,
Derbyshire DE6 2AQ

Tel: 01335 34402
Email: enquiries@allowtop.co.uk
Website: www.allowtop.co.uk

Four Walks and a Cycle
from

ALLOWTOP HOLIDAY PARK

Mappleton & the River Dove
2 miles: Fairly easy

A quick stroll to the village with a brief riverside interlude.

Fenny Bentley
3¼ miles: Fairly easy

Along the Bentley Brook to an interesting village and church.

Hanging Bridge & Okeover Park
4¾ miles: Fairly easy

Valley and parkland views on either side of the River Dove.

Thorpe and Dovedale
6½ miles: Moderately strenuous

Above and along the Dove valley to a Peak District classic.

Tissington Trail Cycle
8 or 15 miles: Easy/Strenuous

Glorious mountain bike routes with long stretches off-road.

Mappleton and the River Dove

2 miles: Fairly easy

An easy stroll with numerous stiles, occasional mud after rain, and one short steep ascent. Allow 1–2 hours.

1 Leave the site past Reception and when the entrance drive bends right and starts to descend, look for a slightly concealed footpath opposite, on the outside of the bend. **2** Cross a stile and footbridge, turn right and follow the hedge on your right to another stile. **3** At the end of the next field go through a gate and cross the field beyond, with a brick-built barn away to your right. **4** Keep on over a series of further stiles until you pass to the left of a lone tree and reach a stile to the left of a gateway, in the corner of a field at the end of a wood on your left. **5** After this stile turn immediately left into the wood, and follow a descending path above Hinchleywood House. **6** When you reach open fields, walk diagonally down the hill to a gap in the hedge at the bottom of the slope on the far side. **7** Walk along the bottom of the next field, through another gateway, then look out for a stile on your right at the rear of the church. **8** Walk through the churchyard to emerge in the main village street in Mappleton. **9** Turn right then left along the road (signposted Okeover and Blore) and pass the brick-built Okeover Clergy House on your left. **10** Before you reach the bridge over the Dove, take a footpath on the left and follow the riverbank downstream. **11** After a stile, leave the river and cross the next field diagonally, aiming to the left of a cream-painted house. On reaching the road again, turn right. **12** Pass a bus stop then, opposite the sports field entrance, turn left (with an ivy-covered sign indicating “Public Footpath to Ashbourne”) and walk in front of the houses to a wicket gate. **13** Climb the slope beyond, over a stile and on uphill. **14** In the corner of the field go straight on through a gap in the hedge by a footpath sign and continue uphill. **15** At the top of the hill go through a gate and squeeze stile and cross the next field. **16** A fenced path leads past Field 5 and back to the road through the site.

Fenny Bentley

3¾ miles: Fairly easy

Mud after rain, numerous stiles and one moderate climb. Allow 2 hours.

1 Leave the site past Reception and follow the entrance drive right and down the hill. **2** Just before the old railway bridge, turn left up the steps and through a gate in the fence onto the Tissington Trail. **3** Turn left and follow the Trail for about half a mile, until you cross a road. **4** Beyond the bridge, leave the trail via some steps on the right and walk down the road to a white-painted house. **5** Take a footpath on the left and follow it along the contour, through a series of fields, keeping below and approximately parallel to the Trail on your left. **6** After passing a stone-built barn on your right, cross a stile by a gate then look out for a gateway on your right looking down on Alders Farm. **7** Walk down to the farm, through a gate by a slurry tank and then through the farmyard. **8** Beyond the farmhouse, go

straight on through a small gate and over a footbridge. **9** Walk through a series of water-meadows with the meandering Bentley Brook to your right, until you leave the stream within sight of the road bridge to reach a footbridge and meet the A515. **10** Cross over and turn left along the pavement through the village, passing the Coach & Horses pub and then Bentley Old Hall on your right. **11** Leave the main road onto Ashes Lane on your left. **12** Turn left into the churchyard. **13** In the far right-hand corner, leave the churchyard via a squeeze stile by a cottage and follow the footpath between houses, past the primary school and over a stile into open fields. **14** By a stone stile and footbridge cross a metalled driveway then aim for an isolated cottage, where the footpath passes through the left-hand corner of the garden. **15** Walk below Ashes Farm to a gate and then aim slightly right, past a waymark post, to a wicket gate in the far corner. **16** Head downhill to a footbridge over a stream and then climb the field beyond to meet the Tissington Trail. *(Turn left for a straightforward shortcut back to Callow Top.)* **17** Otherwise, go through a kissing gate opposite and walk uphill to a further gate. Aim slightly left towards the chimneys of the buildings at the top of the hill until you meet a road at a gate near the rightmost building. **18** Turn left and walk past the first house then turn right into the drive and over a stile to the left of a wood store. **19** Turn left and cross a track behind the buildings to a field gate and into a paddock, which you exit in the far right-hand corner. **20** Head half-right across this field to a stile in the corner, then walk down the right-hand edge of the next field towards the end of the wood. **21** In the corner of the field (before a gate and stile), turn left and aim to the right of an isolated tree, beyond which you meet a stile. **22** Follow the path in a similar direction along the top of the broad ridge, passing through a series of gates and stiles without losing height. **23** After passing a brick-built barn away to your left, walk through the last couple of fields to meet the Callow Top entrance drive near Reception.

Hanging Bridge & Okeover Park

4¾ miles: Fairly easy

May be muddy after rain, and in flood conditions the low-lying water-meadows near Bentley Brook may be impassable. Allow 3 hours.

1 Exit the site past Reception and follow the entrance drive round the bend and downhill. **2** Look out on your right for a gateway and leave the drive to enter a field. **3** Keep to the left-hand side of the field until a stile gives access to the Tissington Trail. **4** Turn right and follow the Trail downhill to cross a stream and then up the other side to reach the Mappleton Lane car park. **5** Leave the Trail before the tunnel and walk out to the road through the car park. **6** Turn left and walk uphill; by the 30mph sign take a footpath up some stone steps on the right. **7** Go through a wooden gate at the end of a hedged section and walk along the top of a series of fields with views over the valley of the Bentley Brook. **8** After the hedgeline kinks right then left to a gate, cut the corner to the next gate. **9** Leave the left-hand hedge and

descend the slope at an angle to a stile partway down the opposite hedge. **10** Cross a boggy field to a stile beside the Bentley Brook. **11** Follow the brook downstream for a few hundred yards, ignoring a footbridge about half the way along. **12** Leave the stream when it bends right, and join a path along the top of a floodbank. **13** Just before you reach the River Dove, turn left and walk along the edge of a couple of fields to emerge at the back of a hotel/restaurant on the main road. **14** Walk out to the road and cross over, then turn right to cross Hanging Bridge. **15** At the far side of the bridge turn left and look back to your left to see the medieval bridge concealed under the modern road bridge. **16** Turn right onto a narrow lane (Old Bank) which you follow uphill past some cottages and up a hollow way beyond. **17** At a road junction keep straight on into Upper Mayfield. **18** Pass the end of Slack Lane on your left, then turn right at a crossroads into Hollow Lane, to return to the main road. **19** Take a few steps to the right then cross carefully to join a bridleway on the opposite side. **20** This doubles back to the left and down into a shady hollow where it swings right into open fields. **21** Just before the meagre remnants of a small farm building, turn left across the field to a stile near the projecting corner of a series of hedged fields running down from the wooded slope on your left. **22** Follow the path beyond the stile along the bottom of four fields to a field gate and into the fifth. **23** Shortly before The Orchards farmhouse, turn right through a gate and follow the driveway (to the left of a brick-built farm) out to the road. **24** Turn left and walk along the road, hedged at first, to a cattle grid and into the grounds of Okeover Park. **25** Follow the unfenced road through parkland for half a mile until you reach the entrance drive to Okeover Hall on your left; turn right here and follow a footpath that cuts the corner to a ladder stile into the road opposite Okeover Mill. **26** Turn right and walk down the road and over the bridge spanning the River Dove. **27** At a footpath sign, turn right and follow the riverbank downstream.

Follow steps **11** to **16** of the **Mappleton and the River Dove** walk (*above*) to return to Callow Top.

Thorpe and Dovedale

6½ miles: Moderately strenuous

Some short steep climbs, occasionally rocky underfoot, and some sections may be muddy after rain. From the stepping stones you can extend your walk upstream into Dovedale if desired. Allow 3–4 hours for the walk as described here.

Follow steps **1** to **4** of the **Mappleton and the River Dove** walk.

5 Go through a second gateway by a pond (not into the wood) and turn right. **6** Follow this field path, cutting a couple of corners, until you reach a narrow lane. **7** In dry weather, simply take the path opposite; in wet weather a short diversion along the road right then left avoids a muddy spot, rejoining the field path via a stile on the left opposite Spend Lane Farm. **8** Aiming towards the prominent peak of Thorpe Cloud, a squeeze stile goes through the wall above a copse,

beyond which pass through a gate on your left and then swing right. **9** Aim for a gate in the far right-hand corner of this field. **10** Cross a farm track, still aiming in the direction of Thorpe Cloud, passing a round water trough and inspection hatch and then walking down a steep slope to a stile among trees in the bottom right-hand corner of the field. **11** Cross a small stream in the valley bottom, then climb the steep slope opposite, aiming to the right of the church. **12** Go through a gate in the wall and turn left. **13** Very shortly, turn back on yourself below the cemetery wall and then walk through the churchyard to the road. **14** Follow Church Lane and then keep straight along Digmire Lane at a junction by the village hall. **15** Follow the lane as it curves right and leads to a larger road. **16** Cross over, walk through the car park and follow the track beyond to a quarry. **17** Turn left here and follow the path down Lin Dale. **18** At the famous stepping stones in Dovedale, unless you wish to explore the dale upstream, turn left, staying on the near side of the river. **19** Follow the river downstream, passing a footbridge near the Dovedale car park (detour for toilets and refreshments) on the opposite bank, until you reach the road near St Mary’s Bridge. **20** Follow the footpath almost opposite, to cross a stile beside a field gate and then a small concrete bridge over a dip in the field. **21** Keep right through a gate next to a side-stream, which you then follow until it rejoins the River Dove. **22** Follow the river downstream, with woodland on your left, until you reach Coldwall Bridge, where you turn left briefly. **23** Turn right onto a farm drive to pass a squeeze stile by a gate. Continue to the farm, where you keep right through a clearly marked gate. **24** Follow the path beyond to rejoin the river. **25** Pass through a wooded section, before returning to a series of riverside fields. **26** As you approach the village of Mappleton, the path leaves the river briefly to bypass a meander then emerges on the road near Okeover Bridge. Take the footpath opposite and follow the river downstream.

Follow steps **11** to **16** of the **Mappleton and the River Dove** walk (*above*) to return to Callow Top.

Tissington Trail Cycle

8 or 15 miles: Easy/Strenuous

*This route is on roads and bridleways, so is **ideal for mountain bikes**, though not for road bikes, and inexperienced riders may choose to dismount for some steep or unsurfaced sections beyond Tissington. Busy traffic is likely on the section into Ashbourne. Allow 3–4 hours.*

*For an easy 8-mile ride, suitable for road bikes, follows steps **1** to **4**.*

1 Exit the site past Reception, and turn left onto the Tissington Trail just before the old railway bridge. **2** Follow the Trail for about 3 miles, passing through the Fenny Bentley cutting and crossing the A515. **3** A short distance further on, leave the Trail via the car park entrance at Tissington. **4** *For a short loop round Tissington village, turn left out of the car park then right into Chapel Lane. At the junction with Flatts Lane, turn left. On reaching the main village street, turn left to pass*