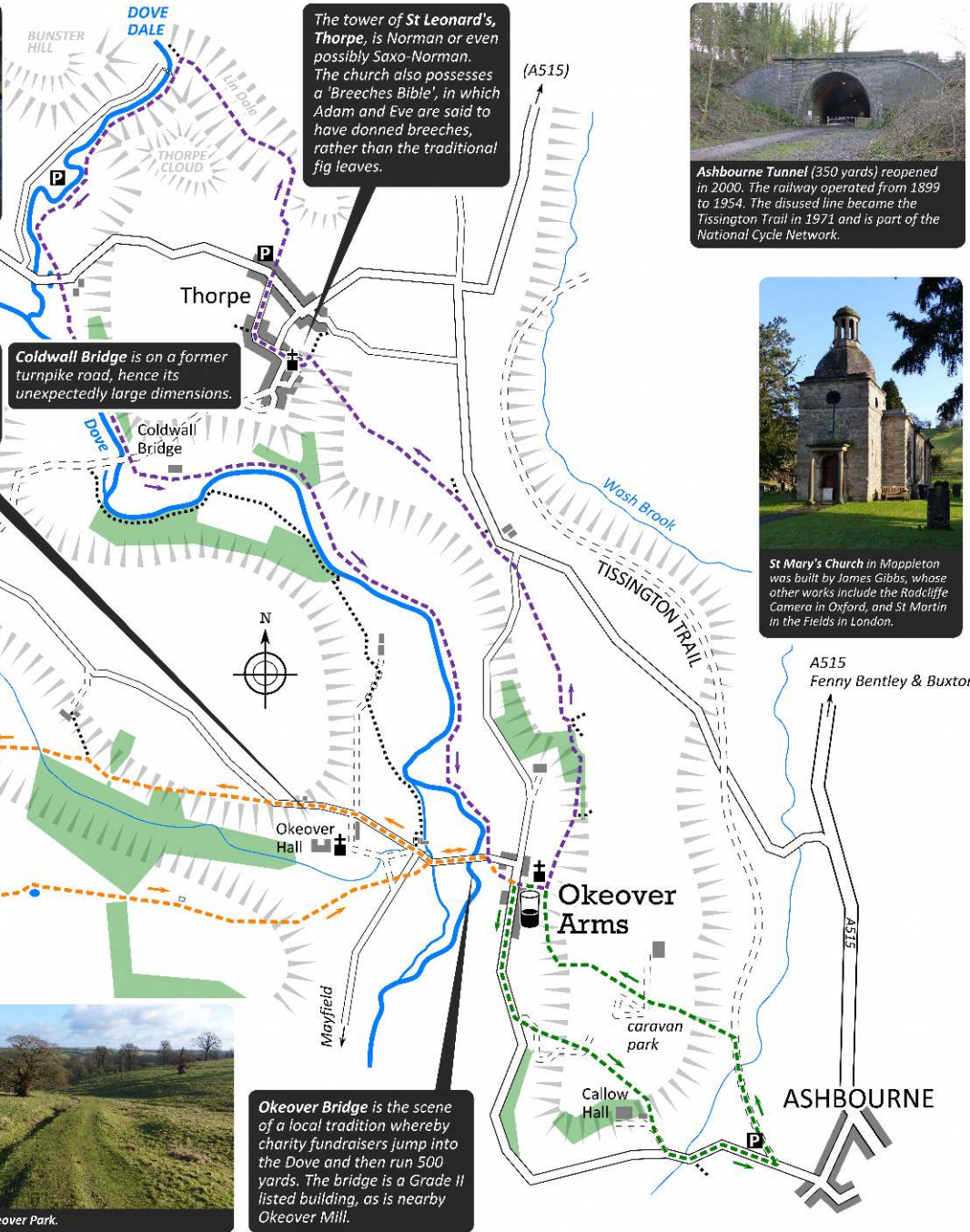




The River Dove below the stepping stones.



The tower of St Leonard's, Thorpe, is Norman or even possibly Saxo-Norman. The church also possesses a 'Breeches Bible', in which Adam and Eve are said to have donned breeches, rather than the traditional fig leaves.



Ashbourne Tunnel (350 yards) reopened in 2000. The railway operated from 1899 to 1954. The disused line became the Tissington Trail in 1971 and is part of the National Cycle Network.

Okeover Hall is the family seat of the Okeover family, who have lived here since the reign of William Rufus. The outer gates (c.1740) are by the master ironsmith Robert Bakewell.

Coldwall Bridge is on a former turnpike road, hence its unexpectedly large dimensions.



St Mary's Church in Mappleton was built by James Gibbs, whose other works include the Radcliffe Camera in Oxford, and St Martin in the Fields in London.

Ham
Manifold
Blore
Stoke (A52)
Leek (A523)
Ashbourne



In Okeover Park.



Three walks from THE OKEOVER ARMS

Mappleton, Derbyshire



Callow Top & Tissington Trail
2½ miles: Fairly easy
 Good views over the Dove Valley, and a short section of the Tissington Trail, a disused railway.

Okeover Park
3½ miles: Moderate
 Superb open parkland, historic buildings and extensive views over Mappleton, the Dove Valley and beyond.

Thorpe and Dovedale
5¼ miles: Moderate
 A walk of endless vistas, visiting a Peak District classic and returning via an extended stroll along the beautiful Dove.

Callow Top and Tissington Trail

2¼ miles: Easy

Some short climbs; field paths may be muddy after rain. Allow 1½ hrs.

1 From the car park entrance, turn left and walk along the main village street, passing a telephone box and then a playing field on the right. **2** Shortly beyond the delimit signs at the end of the village, turn left into a farm entrance, then immediately through a gate on the right. Swing left uphill, crossing the farm drive beyond the farmhouse. **3** Pass through a gap in the fence at the top of the field, then head for the far right-hand corner of the next field. **4** Beyond a gateway, aim for the top of a TV mast just visible over the brow of the hill. Cross a stile and then drop down to the left of the wooded grounds of Callow Hall and go through a picket gate. **5** Join the drive of Callow Hall and follow it to the public road. **6** Turn left, crossing a bridge over the Wash Brook, and then follow the road uphill until you reach Mappleton Lane car park on the Tissington Trail. **7** Walk through the car park and join the trail, heading away from the Ashbourne Tunnel entrance. **8** Follow the Trail as it drops to cross Wash Brook again, and climb the slope opposite. **9** Beyond a gate leave the Tissington Trail to cross a stile on your left into a field; climb the slope beyond to a further stile. **10** Follow the fence along the edge of the next field, then follow a narrow path through a caravan site, crossing a service road to reach a stile at the far side. **11** Cross the following field, and follow the hedge downhill in the next field. **12** Go through a gap in the hedge on your right by a holly tree and walk along the top of the field beyond. **13** Cross two hedges either side of a narrow field, then drop left to a gate at the top end of the churchyard. **14** Walk past the church back to the road, then turn left to return to the Okeover Arms.

Okeover Park

3½ miles: Moderate

No major difficulties, though field paths may be muddy in wet weather. Allow 2 hours.

1 From the car park entrance, turn right past the church, then turn left, signposted to Okeover and Blore. **2** Cross the River Dove into Staffordshire. **3** Pass Okeover Mill, the turning to Mayfield and the gates of Okeford Hall. **4** Keep on along the road, with views to the Hall on the left, as it starts to climb, passing a private driveway on the left. **5** Beyond the Old Forge, at a right-hand bend, leave the road on a farm track (with footpath sign) on the left. **6** After a wood on your left, switch to the other side of the hedge. **7** Pass through a belt of trees and continue to a gate and stile. **8** Drop downhill to your left, joining a farm track and crossing the stream at the bottom of the valley. **9** Walk up the field beyond, passing through a line of trees, to a gate in the far right-hand corner. **10** Aim to the right of a stone barn to join a walled path, where you turn left. **11** Enter open fields, and continue to reach Martin Hill Farm. **12** Go through a gate into the farmyard,

passing the farmhouse. **13** Before the exit gate at the far end of the farmyard, take a footpath before the stone barn on your left to reach a field gate. **14** Follow the wall beyond, entering open fields, then skirt to the left of a fenced pond. **15** Turn half right, aiming for a gap on the far side of the field between two woods. **16** In the field beyond, studded with dead trees, aim right of a ruined farmhouse. **17** Beyond a stile by a gate, follow a shallow valley downhill through more ancient trees. **18** Walk across the open parkland in front of Okeover Hall and All Saints church, to reach the Mayfield road. **19** Cross the road and swing half left to a metal stile by the millstream. **20** Turn right and cross the Dove again. **21** Go through a gap and wooden gate in the wall on your right and cross the field to the Okeover Arms.

Thorpe and Dovedale

5¾ miles: Moderately strenuous

Some short steep climbs, occasionally rocky underfoot, and some sections may be muddy after rain. Allow 3 hours.

For a shorter walk (4 miles), follows steps 1 and 2 of the Okeover Park walk, then take the footpath on the right that starts beside Okeover Mill, leaving the millstream to pass behind Littlepark Farm as shown on the map overleaf, and then joining the riverside as far as Coldwall Bridge. Follow the route described below from point 23 to return to the Okeover Arms.

1 From the car park entrance, turn right and then right again into the churchyard. **2** In the far right-hand corner a stile leads into a field. Climb a short distance to a gap in the hedge and turn left. **3** Cross the field to a stile in the far left-hand corner, then climb the slope on your right diagonally. **4** Two footpaths leave the field in the far top corner. Take the less prominent path in the far fence, slightly below the top of the field (not the obvious gate heading uphill into the wood). This lower path leads into an open area above Hinchleywood House, with the belt of woodland above and to your right. **5** At the end of the field go through a gate into the woodland. You emerge at a junction of paths by a pond; turn left through a squeeze stile, then 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 patch, 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, 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** Follow a farm drive on the right to 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. **27** Go through the stile and gate opposite and swing left to return to the Okeover Arms.

The Okeover Arms

Offering hearty home-cooked meals, a daily specials board and a delicious carvery on Sundays, it's no wonder The Okeover Arms is a firm favourite for all the family.

Food is served:

Monday to Friday: 12–3pm & 5–9pm
Saturday and Sunday: 12–9pm

(times may vary during school holidays).

We have two double rooms and one family room available at our inviting B&B, all including en-suite facilities for your comfort. With our free WiFi, flat-screen TVs and tea and coffee making facilities, The Okeover Arms is your home away from home.



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