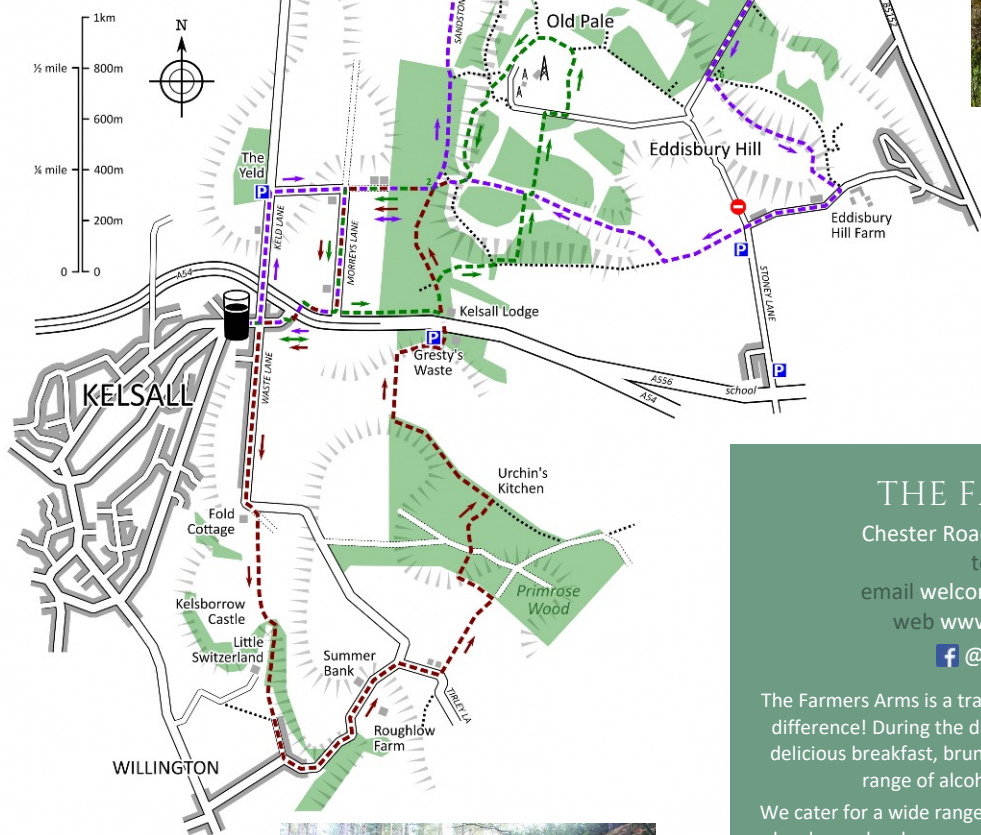




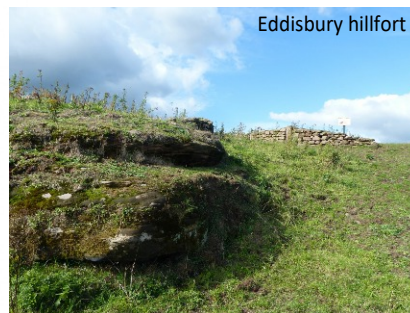
In Delamere Forest



The Urchin's Kitchen



Old Pale Hill



Eddisbury hillfort



'Little Switzerland'

THE FARMERS ARMS

Chester Road, Kelsall, Cheshire CW6 0SJ

tel 07949 678399

email welcome@thecrownsnestcafe.com

web www.thecrownsnestcafe.com

[@CrowsNestCheshire](https://www.facebook.com/CrowsNestCheshire)

The Farmers Arms is a traditional family and dog-friendly pub with a difference! During the day we are The Crow's Nest Café, serving a delicious breakfast, brunch and lunch menu until 3pm, and a wide range of alcoholic beverages, tea and coffee.

We cater for a wide range of guests – walkers, cyclists, dog walkers – and welcome local community groups. In the evening we aim to be your friendly local pub, where you can drop in for a pint and a natter and a bite to eat, join us for our weekly quiz night or listen to live music.

We have a large outside seating area, and a large car park at the rear. EHU available – camper vans welcome overnight – telephone to check availability.

THREE CIRCULAR WALKS FROM THE



FARMERS ARMS

KELSALL, CHESHIRE



OLD PALE HILL (2½ miles: moderate)

A stroll to a hilltop with views of seven counties.

LITTLE SWITZERLAND & THE URCHIN'S KITCHEN 4 miles: moderate

A partly wooded walk featuring wide views, a picturesque valley and a geological curiosity.

DELAMERE & EDDISBURY (6½ miles: moderate)

Explore Delamere Forest and a historic Iron Age hillfort.

OLD PALE HILL

2¾ miles: moderate

Allow 2 hours. One moderate climb; some road walking alongside the busy A54 at the start. Suitable for dog-walkers.

1 From the front door of the pub, cross Chester Road and turn right, crossing the foot of Yeld Lane. **2** On reaching the A54, cross Chester Road and then the dual carriageway with care at the pedestrian crossing. **3** On the other side, turn right and walk past the bottom of Morreys Lane. **4** Continue along the pavement beside the A54 for quarter of a mile, until you meet the Sandstone Trail at Kelsall Lodge. **5** Turn left onto the Trail and follow it past the house and a metal barrier beyond. **6** Continue through the trees for 150 metres until you reach a signpost indicating the turning to Stoney Lane. **7** Turn right here and walk uphill through the trees and then along the top of a field. **8** Just before a kissing gate, turn left then right so that the hedge is now on your right. **9** After 75m, turn left onto an ascending path through the trees. **10** After 250 metres, you meet a perpendicular path. Turn right then immediately left, ascending towards the masts on Old Pale Hill. **11** When you reach the metalled service road near the top, turn right (away from the masts) for a short distance, then turn left just beyond a telegraph pole. **12** Follow the fenced path between fields to another junction of paths. **13** Turn left and walk up to the viewpoint at the top of Old Pale Hill. **14** Bear left by the toposcope and stone circle and follow the gravelled path towards the covered reservoir. **15** Take the right fork and stay on the gravel path when a grassy path heads right. **16** Cross another track at an oblique junction and continue along a path that contours along the hillside before dropping rightwards to pass through a gap in a hedge. **17** Keep right along the obvious path then follow it left and right until you meet the Sandstone Trail at a waymark post numbered 2. **18** Cross straight over. **19** Follow the path through bracken and birch to a gate into a residential road (Forest Gate Lane). **20** Walk up past the houses to the junction with Norton Lane and Morreys Lane. **21** Turn left and follow Morreys Lane downhill to the A54. **22** Turn right to the Kelsall turn and recross the A54 at the pedestrian crossing. **23** Continue alongside Chester Road to the Farmer's Arms.

LITTLE SWITZERLAND & THE URCHIN'S KITCHEN

4 miles: moderate

Allow 2 hours. One moderate climb. Crosses the busy A54.

1 From the front door of the pub, turn right and right again into Waste Lane. **2** Continue beyond the car park, climbing gently past houses. **3** When the lane bends left after about half a mile, take the track ahead past Fold Cottage, beyond it following a footpath to the right, along the bottom of the wood. **4** At the end of the wood, go through a kissing gate and swing left along a fenced path through fields. **5** Beyond a kissing gate, the path goes down some steps and curves around the head of the valley known as Little Switzerland, before descending to meet a driveway and then a road. **6** Walk past some

houses then at the junction of Gooseberry Lane and Roughlow, turn left, uphill, past more houses. **7** Beyond the delimit signs, the road winds above a deep valley known as Pearl Hole on the right; the retaining wall above the drop was built by PoWs during World War II and is known locally as the Germans' Wall. **8** Continue ahead between fields and past the entrance to Roughlow Farm on your right and a house called Summer Bank on the left. **9** At a junction, keep right (Tirley Lane). **10** Beyond a couple of houses, the road bends right; turn left here onto the Sandstone Trail. **11** Walk past a house and follow the right-hand edge of a couple of fields beyond (separated by a kissing gate), before turning right through a second kissing gate and swinging left to reach a third by a waymark post. **12** Turn left, above the wood on your right, passing Peak & Northern Footpaths Society signpost no 335. **13** After about 200m (below a mossy outcrop at the end of the field on your left), turn right through the trees. **14** Cross a perpendicular track onto a narrow path signposted to the Urchin's Kitchen. **15** Bear right into the shallow valley and follow the gorge down between low sandstone cliffs. This path may be muddy or obstructed by overgrowth or fallen trees in places. Beyond the main outcrops it climbs slightly to the left, avoiding the boggy valley floor, before dropping to a swampy pond near the bottom edge of the wood. **16** Turn left and follow a narrow path through the trees with the woodland edge on your right. **17** When you meet the Sandstone Trail, turn right and follow it to Gresty's Waste car park on the A54 (via several kissing gates, a boardwalk and a flight of steps). **18** Cross the road with care. For a shortcut, you can turn left and follow the main road back to the Kelsall turn and the Farmer's Arms. **19** For a pleasanter but longer return, follow the Sandstone Trail past Kelsall Lodge and a metal barrier beyond. **20** Continue through the trees for 150m to a signpost indicating the turning to Stoney Lane; carry straight on along the Trail here. **21** At waymark post 2, turn left.

Now follow steps **19–23** of the **Old Pale Hill** walk to the Farmer's Arms.

DELAMERE FOREST AND EDDISBURY HILL

6¼ miles: moderate

Allow 3–4 hours. Several moderate climbs. There may be loose cattle around and beyond the hillfort. Crosses the busy A54.

1 From the front door of the pub, cross Chester Road into Yeld Lane. **2** Follow the lane uphill and over the A54. **3** Continue climbing, passing a house on the left, until you reach The Yeld car park. **4** Turn right beyond the car park entrance into Forest Gate Lane. **5** At the junction with Nortons Lane (left) and Morreys Lane (right), go straight on past some houses to the end of the residential road. **6** Continue ahead along the path beyond the barrier through bracken and birch until you reach the Sandstone Trail at waymark post 2. **7** Turn left along the Sandstone Trail. **8** Follow the Trail for 500m. **9** Exit the wood at a gate (ignoring the Alternative Route of the Sandstone Trail, right) and continue along the main Trail ahead between fences and trees. **10** Pass Eddisbury Lodge Cottage and continue down the driveway as

it veers left. **11** At the entrance to Eddisbury Lodge Farm, turn left (signposted Barnsbridge Gate). **12** At the end of the paddock on your right, turn right off the main track, still following the Sandstone Trail fingerposts. This narrow path runs past the farm with a small stream to the left. **13** When you meet a wider trail at Delamere Forest waymark 51, bear left. **14** Shortly, three other trails head left; continue straight on. **15** Cross a railway bridge and carry straight on, still following the Sandstone Trail roundels. **16** At the next junction, by a picnic table on the left, take the right fork. **17** At the next junction, beyond a White Moor Trail waymark post and another picnic table (waymark 56), head straight on. **18** At the next junction (waymark 57), turn right. **19** This winding path ends up at a bench opposite a signpost to Whitemoor Gates (left) and Linmere (right), near waymark 60. Turn right along the main track. **20** At a three-way junction, keep left, past waymark 61. **21** This path winds alongside swampy woodland on your left, with only occasional glimpses of Blakemere. **22** At waymark 63, carry straight on. After 250m, ignore a track heading off sharp left. **23** After a further 350m, at waymark 16, turn right. **24** After another 300m or so, the track passes the ziplines and aerial ropeways of the Go Ape site. Beyond the hut and the Forest Segway training area, bear left to a service road. **25** Turn left over the railway bridge, then turn left (along the road, not the path closer to the railway). **26** At the entrance to the main Delamere Forest car park, cross the service road and hop over the wooden barrier onto a curving, gravel path. **27** After 100m, pass an upright stone and continue along the path until you meet a metalled road on the left. **28** Join the road, turn right and walk uphill for 500m. **29** Just short of the top, turn left to a bench by waymark post 6. **30** Turn immediately right (before the bench and waymark) and follow the right-hand edge of the field, uphill. **31** At the top of the hill, squeeze between three stakes in the fence to the right of a gate and climb the steep bank on the right to the obvious earthwork of Eddisbury Hillfort. **32** Follow the rampart until you reach the reconstructed eastern entrance; here, drop down between low rock outcrops towards the fenced grassy track you left earlier. **33** At an interpretation panel set in a large rock, negotiate the stile and emerge into the road. **34** Turn right and walk past Old Pale Cottages. **35** When the road bends left, go straight on, through a metal kissing gate onto a signposted footpath. **36** At the end of the field, leave the public footpath and turn right through a wooden kissing gate onto a permissive path. **37** Follow the fence then head up a grassy valley between sandstone outcrops. **38** At the top of the valley, go through another wooden kissing gate and follow the path ahead along a hedge (ignore perpendicular paths to left and right). **39** When you meet a gravelly track, turn left. Ignore a grassy path on the left to meet the Sandstone Trail back at waymark post 2.

Cross straight over and follow steps **19–23** of the **Old Pale Hill** walk to return to the Farmer's Arms.



1st edition. Route descriptions, mapping and photography
© David Dunford 2025 (except cover photo © Farmer's Arms).
All rights reserved. www.walksfromthedoors.co.uk