

## Walk for July 2018

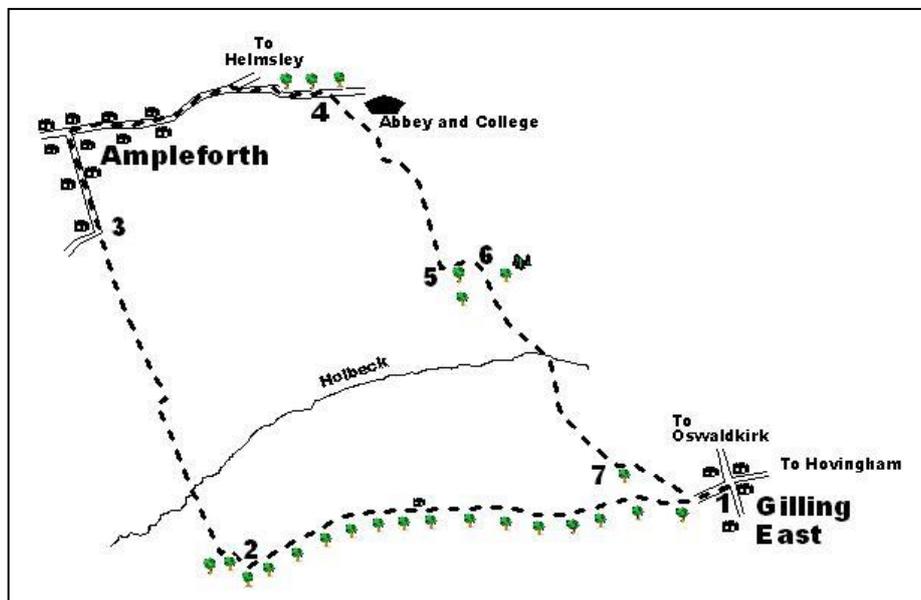
### Ampleforth, Gilling East

*The first half of this walk provides good views looking up at the impressive Ampleforth College and Abbey. The second half starts by passing, first through Ampleforth village, then through the grounds of the Abbey before ending with the more familiar views of the lower western AONB. A good pub at which to start and finish.*

Gilling East lies on the B1363 road between Brandsby and Oswaldkirk, about 6 miles south of Helmsley. From Slingsby head towards Helmsley on the B1257 and turn left at Stonegrave. Stay on that road until you reach the village. Park on the roadside near the Fairfax Arms pub in the village centre.

**Start** — Fairfax Arms Gilling

**Distance** – 4 miles    **Duration** – 1½ - 2 hours



1. From the crossroads by the Fairfax Arms, walk up Pottergate, the street to the right of the pub. Stay on the road for over a mile with thick woodland on the left and views over the countryside on your right. The abbey and college buildings at Ampleforth, the highest point on this walk come into view and are increasingly prominent. Pass through a small gathering of buildings and past the sign forbidding access to the nature reserve – you can stay on the road which is a public right of way.
2. The road ends at a gate, just before which a waymark post points your route to the track on the right. Go round the bend to the left and turn right at the waymark signposted Ampleforth. A little further on pass to the left of the permissive path sign and enter the small wooded area. Cross the bridge and continue ahead on an almost straight track for the next  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile. As you approach the outskirts of Ampleforth village you pass to the left of the playing fields then as the track bends to the right go along the narrow passage between the houses ahead to reach the road.

3. Cross the road and join the footpath next to the road climbing uphill towards the village centre and arrive at the crossroads. Turn right towards Malton, taking care as you rise out of the village after the footpath ends. Bear right at the junction towards the college.
4. Just after the 30 mph sign turn right down steps into a wood at the waymark signed 'Gilling East'. The next ½ mile takes you through the grounds of Ampleforth College below the Abbey. The route is quite well waymarked, heading in a general direction of 10 o'clock. After passing through the gate in front of the imposing Abbey building, bear left around the boundary of the cricket field and pass to the left of the long wooden building. Continue downhill passing the tennis courts on your left.
5. At the bottom of the tennis courts, the track passes through a gate with a waymark pointing straight ahead. Immediately beyond the gate, turn left into the wood at the (not easily seen) waymark and walk along the indistinct path which, after crossing a small stream, emerges into a field through a kissing gate. Cross the field to the matching gate ahead on the hillside.
6. From the gate turn right at approximately 2 o'clock and pass to the left of the lone oak tree. From there head at around 10 o'clock skirting the hillside and heading for a bridge at the far end of the field. Pass over the bridge into the next field. The right of way arcs across the field at approximately 11 o'clock. Depending upon the season and the crop growing there, you might find it easier to go straight ahead to the end of the field, then turn left along the field boundary before turning right at the waymark post.
7. From here the route is well waymarked, passing through fields before arriving at, and going through, the model railway site. On reaching the road, turn left to return to the village centre and the Fairfax Arms.