

Walk for May 2018

Castle Howard, Four Faces Monument, Welburn

As well as passing through the open estate west of Castle Howard, this walk includes a path through a beautiful section of woodland in which is sited the Four Faces monument. The walk continues to the lovely village of Welburn, with an option for a short detour to some panoramic views, before the climb via the mock fortifications back to the start point.

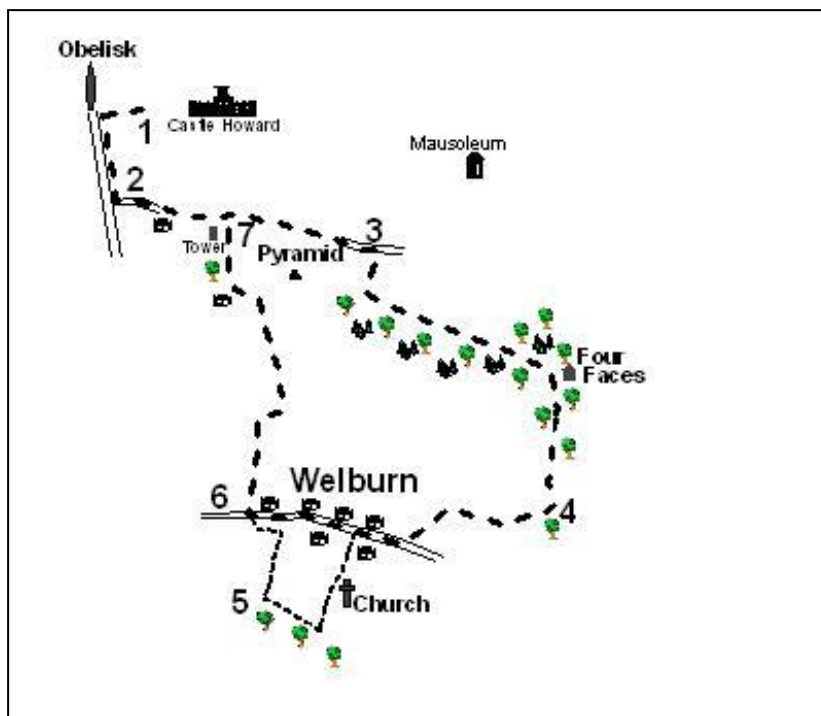
Castle Howard is just 3 miles from Slingsby. From the crossroads at the top of the village take the road to York and turn left at the obelisk into the car park there.

Start — Castle Howard Main Car Park

Distance – 4¾ miles

Duration – 2 -2½ hours

With extension 5¼ miles add 20 –30 mins



1. Turn left out of the car park staying on the wide left-hand verge beside the mature trees heading in the direction of the Gatehouse with the central archway over the road.
2. Just before reaching the gatehouse, turn left down the waymarked tarmac lane. After passing houses on your right, the lane can be seen winding downhill. Stay on it past the first waymark sign, with good views of the Pyramid, Mausoleum and Castle to arrive at the second waymark which is a four fingered post.
3. Turn right up the track signposted 'Welburn' and enter the wood through a gate. Turn sharp left and take the left hand of the two paths through the

wood. The path runs parallel to the field on the left (the wood is full of wild flowers in the spring) before passing deeper into the wood. As the path bends quite sharply to the right, go some 20 yards to the left to reach the Four Faces. Return to the path and continue steadily downhill to pass through the valley bottom. Keep straight ahead at the waymark then rise, passing out of the wood, now with a hedge on your left to reach the next waymark near a solitary oak tree.

4. Turn right on the path marked 'Welburn' passing through fields and arriving at the roadside. *(From here you can have a leisurely walk through Welburn village by turning right on the footpath passing through the village, with the pub on the right arriving at a waymark post on the right at the far end of the village (Point 6 of the walk).*

OR To take the slightly longer route and get fine views of the Castle Howard estate from above the village, after turning right a little further on cross the road and go up Church Lane. Pass to the right of the picturesque church and continue climbing to reach a track at the top near some impressive gate posts. Turn right along the track with the wide views to the right.

5. About 250 yards along by the side of a wood with a waymark post on the left, turn right again to cross a field on an unmarked but clear path. Continue the descent towards the village school then turn left at the waymark along a narrow lane that bends right to emerge at the road at the western end of Welburn. Cross the road to the waymark signpost for Castle Howard.
6. Turn right on the track which passes through a contractor's yard, levels out then bends right at the end of the hedge and 150 yards ahead you reach a waymark signpost. Turn left across the field then after bending slightly to the right turn left through a gate into other fields. Your next target of the battlements' tower becomes visible. Follow the waymarks through the fields, pass to the right of the farm outbuildings, through the gate by the trees and make the short steep climb up the hill past the tower and arrive at a road.
7. Turn left and walk back to the Gatehouse, then turn right to the Obelisk and back to the car park.