

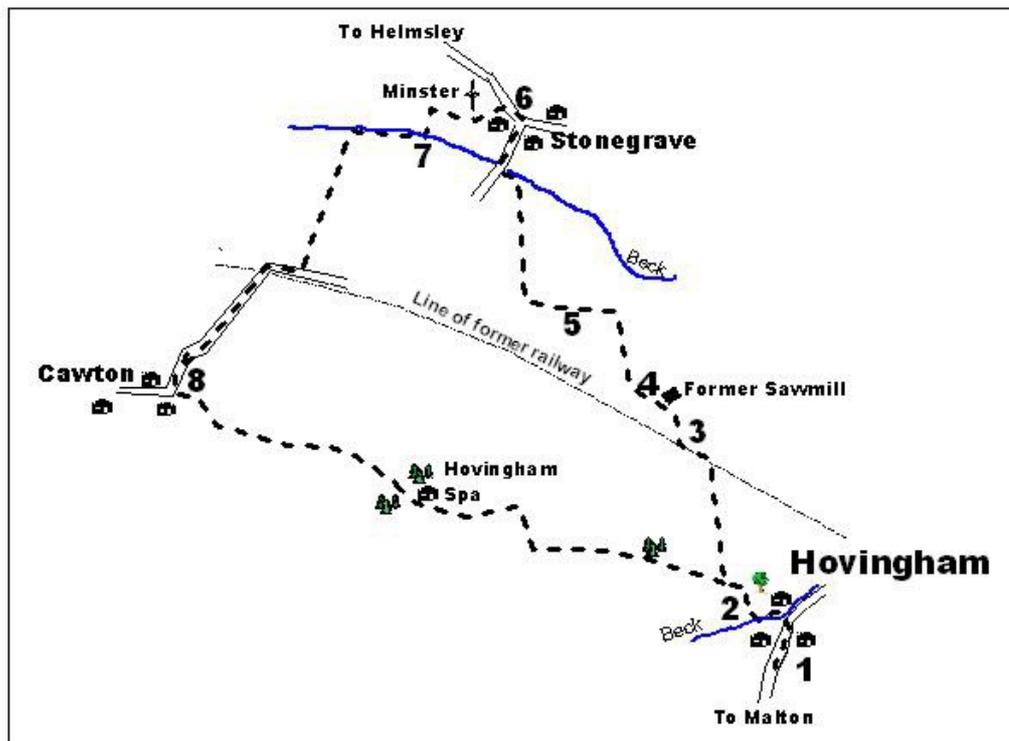
## Walk for November

### Hovingham, Stonegrave, Cawton, Hovingham Spa.

*A pleasant circular walk, almost entirely on the level, on quiet paths, roads and bridleways. There is an opportunity to visit the ancient St Gregory's Minster at Stonegrave and pass by the now disused Hovingham Spa.*

The village of Hovingham is situated 2 miles from Slingsby on the B1257 road midway between Malton and Helmsley. Park in the small signposted public Village Hall car park beside the road in the centre of the village, between the Worsley Arms and the Hovingham Inn.

**Start** — Hovingham Village  
**Distance** — 4¾ miles **Duration** — 2¼ – 2¾ hours



1. From the car park beside the Malt Shovel turn right, cross the road and pass alongside the commemorative stone monument and then in front of the bakery and tearooms. Go over the beck by the footbridge beside the ford, then bear left with the beck alongside. 100 yards along turn right on the road signposted 'Rights of Way'. Go through a field gate just before the playground on to the waymarked bridleway.
2. 100 yards along at a junction of tracks turn right. Go along the track and when it meets the tree lined disused railway line turn left and, about 150 yards further on, turn right on a track towards some substantial buildings housing a former sawmill.
3. Just before reaching the entrance to the yard turn left along the field side.
4. Some 20 yards past the buildings go right through a gap in the hedge. It is waymarked but can get overgrown. Turn left and skirt the edge of the field with the hedge on your left. About 150 yards on the path goes left through a wide gap in the hedge into the next field and bears right with the village of Stonegrave now visible

ahead. Turn left at the waymark post at the far end of the next field and walk along the side of the small beck to your right.

5. Some two hundred yards along, (and before you reach the end of the field) cross the beck at a small footbridge then turn left, now with the beck on your left. At the end of the field a waymark post sends you right towards the village. Pass through the gate at the end of the field, then the track bears left before emerging through another gate to a road. Turn right. Walk over the bridge and up the lane which then meets the main B1257 road.
6. Turn left and walk along the footpath for the short distance before the path bears off to the left on a side road towards Stonegrave Minster. The waymark posts then are very clear and you will be turning right here to pass below the Minster. Take some time out to explore it before resuming the walk. Pass along the narrow uneven path below the Minster and emerge into a field. Go straight ahead to the far side of the field then turn left and head for the large gate at the bottom of the field. Go through the gate and the wood beyond, passing a pond on your left.
7. On crossing the bridge, at the waymark at the end of the wood turn right with the beck on your right. At the next waymark turn left, leaving the beck and with a hedge now on your left. The path emerges through a gate on to a lane. Turn right and walk into Cawton village (the road is relatively quiet and you are only likely to see a couple of cars in the half mile or so on the lane).
8. At the small 'roundabout' at the entrance to Cawton turn left at the waymark signed 'Hovingham 1½ miles'. The track meanders through peaceful farmland to arrive at the house and buildings which formerly housed Hovingham Spa. Pass through these staying on the same track to arrive back at the waymark 'crossroads' you passed at point 2. Retrace your steps back to the Village Hall car park.

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#### Hovingham Spa

The Spa is now almost unrecognisable but the Victorian history of Hovingham owes much to it. The railway station in the village was called Hovingham Spa. The Worsley Arms Hotel was built to accommodate the better off visitors to the spa with its three springs. The then proprietor erected handsome baths, pump room, and villa to accommodate visitors. Partly due to its walking distance from the village its use declined and ended around the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.



Hovingham Spa in its heyday