

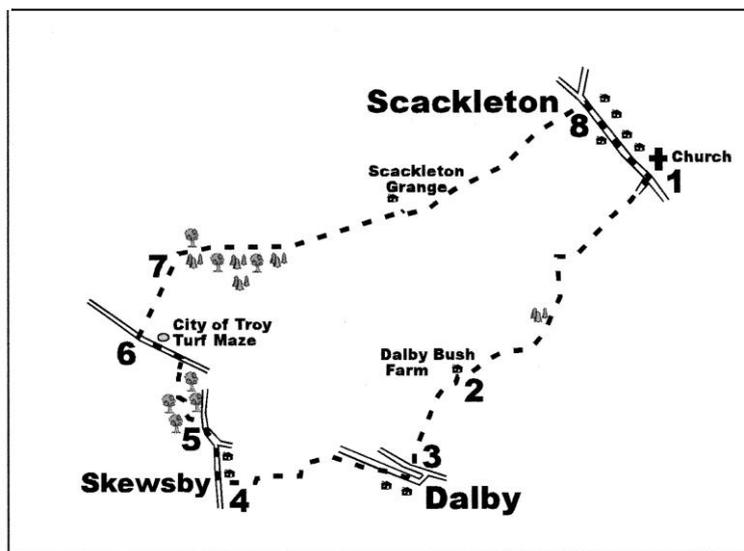
Walk for September 2018

Scackleton, Dalby, Skewsby, City of Troy Turf Maze

This is a pleasant short walk with extensive views over the Vale of York and lots of small hills and valleys. Although it includes the tiny hamlets of Dalby and Skewsby it is quite possible you won't see a soul en route. The City of Troy Turf maze adds interest, being a photo opportunity as well as a mid point picnic spot. A plaque alongside tells its history.

Scackleton is situated some two miles from Hovingham, signposted to the west of the road between Hovingham and Sheriff Hutton. Park on the main street in the vicinity of the church.

Start — Scackleton Church
Distance – 4¼ miles **Duration** – 1¾ - 2¼ hours



1. Cross the road at the church and walk down the tarmaced lane opposite. Quite soon the road starts to descend gently as you appreciate the extensive views ahead with York Minster easily visible on a clear day at 10 o'clock, with the line of more distant power stations behind. After a series of bends the lane forks by a signpost showing Dalby ½ mile. Take the right fork and pass in front of the farmhouse at Dalby Bush Farm.
2. The lane then bends left in the farmyard. Keep to the left of the fence to cross the stream by the small footbridge then cross the next field in the line of the waymark arrow at one o'clock. Go through the gate then climb the next hill with the hedge on your left. At the top you reach a lane.
3. Go straight across the lane and over the stile into a small field which you cross at 2 o'clock on a permissive path then out again over another stile. Drop down the bank into another lane. (At this point if you go thirty yards down the grassy lane to the left of the large brick house in front of you, take the opportunity to visit Dalby's picturesque St Peter's Church, established before 1233). Turn right along the lane and some 50 yards along, just past the houses, go left at the waymark post into the field. Once inside the field turn sharp right with the hedge on your right and follow the edge of the field round until the point where the electricity poles and wires cross the field. At this point bear left at 10 o'clock following the electricity lines to the other side of the field, go right for 15

yards to a stile and at the other side of the small field another stile. Negotiate these then turn right along the waymarked path which follows the edge of the fields with a hedge on the right. As you approach the bungalow ahead with sturdy gates into the drive beside, the final 150 yards appears to be a much-used dog walking tract so tread with great care. Go through the gates and straight ahead to meet a tarmaced road.

4. Turn right and walk uphill on the roadside path past the houses that form the hamlet of Skewsby. Go uphill past the houses and stay on the road as it enters the wood.
5. After a right hand bend go left into the wood along a waymarked footpath that is in fact a deeply rutted track. After 50 yards take the less distinct right fork, and follow the path as it winds upwards to emerge into a field. Turn right alongside the edge of the wood then cross the remainder of the field to meet a road. Turn left along the road and have a rest on the seat beside the City of Troy turf maze on your right, an excellent mid point picnic spot. Continue up the lane.
6. About 100 yards further on turn right off the lane on to a waymarked bridleway.
7. Continue on the track bearing right as you pass the three-pronged bridleway signpost, taking the route marked Scackleton. The track then passes through a wooded area before emerging with the solitary farmhouse of Scackleton Grange ahead and the houses of Scackleton village on the skyline. Beyond the farm the track becomes a tarmaced lane leading into the village.
8. At the road junction turn right and walk through the village back to your vehicle.

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