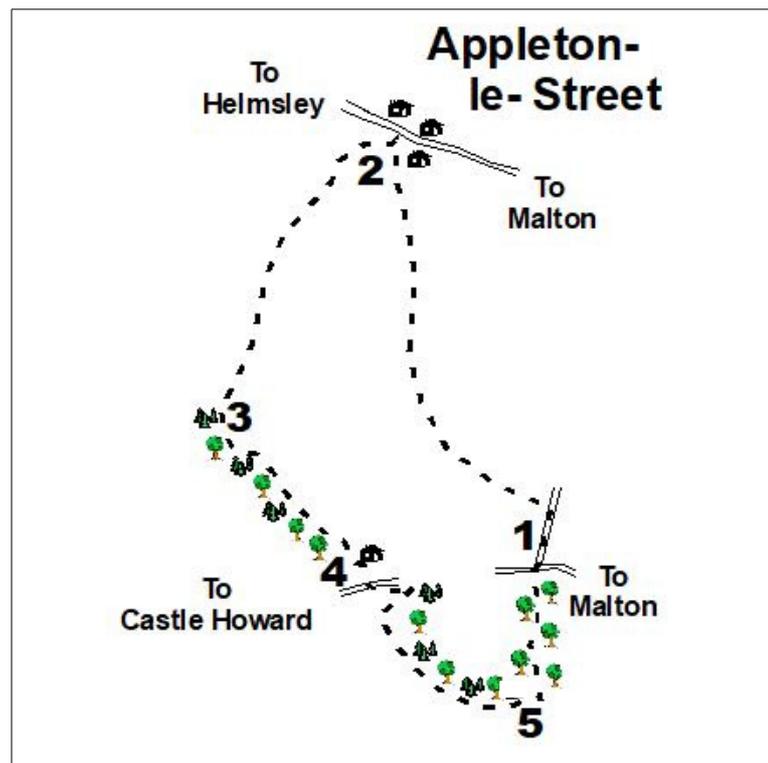


## Walk for November 2021

This walk provides scenic views over the Vale of Pickering in its early stages. After a brief visit to Appleton-le -Street the route climbs gently back into the Castle Howard Estate and passes beside and through extensive woodland. There are a couple of boggy sections and one fairly steep downhill path so good walking boots are recommended.

*I used to start this walk from the car park of the Cresswell Arms public house but that establishment has been closed since 2020 due to fire damage. With alternative parking difficult to find it is recommended that you start from Easthorpe. From Slingsby head towards York and Castle Howard then after two miles turn left at the first crossroads heading towards Coneysthorpe and Malton. Some 2 miles along you reach a road junction to your left signposted 'Amotherby 1¼'. Turn left and park in a small lay-by 80 yards up on the left hand side of the narrow road.*

<b>Start – Easthorpe</b>	
<b>Distance – 4½ miles</b>	<b>Duration – 2-2 ½ hours</b>



**1.** From your car walk up the lane and, almost at the brow of the hill, turn left on the waymarked track signed 'Appleton-le Street 1 mile'. The track keeps the low hedge on the left, then passes through a gate to join some private gallops. The views from here, and on the rest of the descent, are panoramic, overlooking the Vale of Pickering and the distant North York Moors. Stay on the track with a white fence on your left until you almost reach the end of the field with trees ahead then bear right

on the grassy path. The path curves towards a gap in the hedge at the bottom of the field some 100 yards along. Go through the gap in the hedge and join the track that goes gently downhill to arrive beside the car park of the currently closed Cresswell Arms pub.

**2.** Immediately bear left and join the lane that heads south west from the car park waymarked 'Coneysthorpe 3 miles'. After passing the church the lane becomes a track and then narrows to barely a path. As you climb gently the path enters the centre of what is basically a very wide hedge that extends for around half a mile. The path emerges with a hedge on the left and field to the right. Carry on uphill then after the trimmed hedge on the right bear right to enter the wood and meet a crossroads of tracks.

**3.** Go left on the path signed ' Park House  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile'. This path passes through the woods then into fields with the wood remaining on your right throughout.

**4.** The path eventually approaches a group of buildings. Just before reaching them go through the gate and skirt round the fence with the buildings and grounds on your left, and pass through the gate to join a drive. Turn right. Where the drive meets the road (beware of traffic), cross straight over and join the narrow path through the trees. A little further on the path bears right downhill. Take care as you descend the considerable slope. At the bottom of the hill the path meets a track. Turn left and follow the track, waymarked 'Low Easthorpe  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile' around the edge of the wood which is on your left (with good views over to the mausoleum on the right). The track narrows to a path and enters the bottom of the wood before emerging at a farmhouse.

**5.** Pass along the path to the left of and behind the buildings and gardens, before arriving at a concreted drive. Turn left. The lane soon becomes a rough track and the next  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile is a steady ascent through woodland that is especially picturesque at bluebell and wild garlic flowering time. The track eventually meets a road. Cross the road at 1 o'clock to join the lane back to your car.