

Walk for January

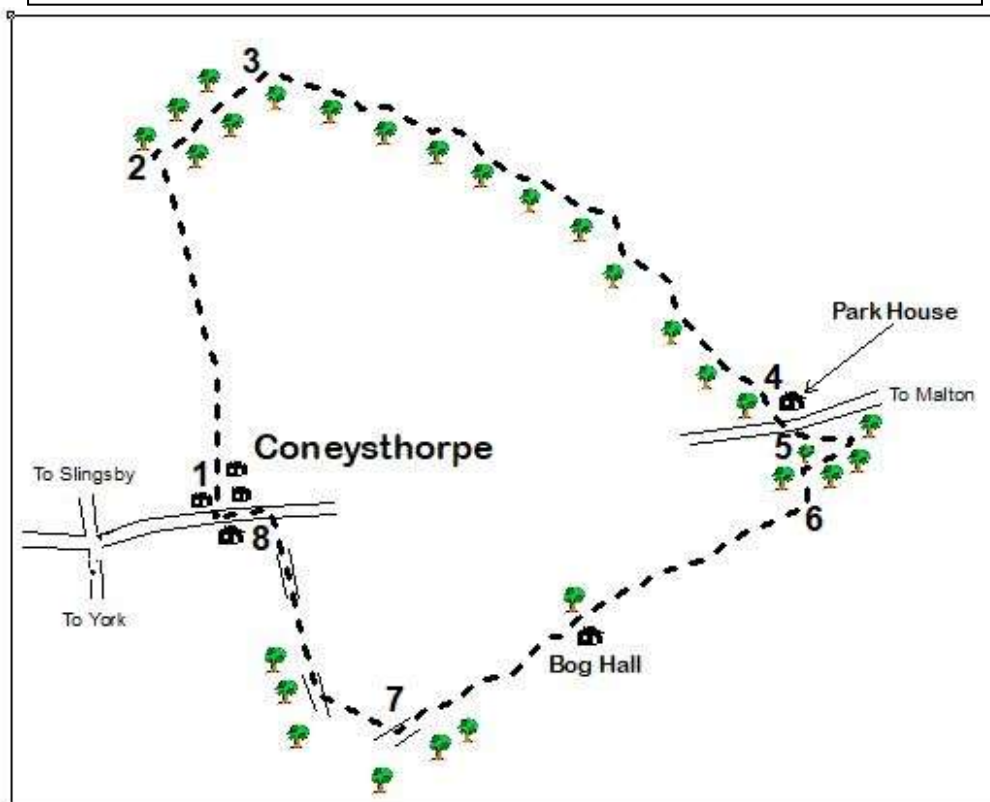
Coneysthorpe, Centenary Way, Park Farm, Bog Hall.

A walk where, apart from two of the briefest of encounters, you leave traffic far behind. The route passes through some of the finest parts of the Castle Howard Estate and the views, especially over the Vale of Pickering, are tremendous. The climb between points 2 and 3 can be quite slippery and strenuous in wet weather so remember to wear sturdy waterproof boots.

Start – The Green, Coneysthorpe.

From Slingsby head towards Castle Howard on the York road. About 1½ miles on turn left at the crossroads and enter Coneysthorpe village. Turn first left on to the road round the Green and park after making sure you are not blocking traffic.

Distance – 5 miles **Duration** – 2½ -3 hours



1. Walk uphill to the top end of the Green and behind the stone building in the centre take the waymarked bridleway which is part of the Centenary Way. Stay on this track as it winds through farmland towards the wooded hillside.
2. On reaching the wood go through the gap in the hedge, turn sharp left and a few yards further on turn right uphill following the waymarked path. This section of the walk is quite muddy and heavy going except in the driest spells. The end of the climb is rewarded with a panoramic view of the Vale of Pickering as the path emerges to join a bridle path running along the top of the ridge.
3. Turn right along the bridleway and stay on it for about a mile, maintaining height and resisting paths off to left and right. For much of that distance you can see, looking towards the horizon at about 11 o'clock, a castle-like structure some 15 miles away. This is, in fact, nothing more exciting than the silo of Associated British Maltsters at Knapton, but is a landmark visible from most high points in Ryedale.

4. The path eventually reaches a group of buildings at Park House. Bear right before them and skirt round the fence with the buildings on your left, go through the gate and the path then joins a drive. Turn right.
5. Where the drive meets the road (beware of traffic), cross straight over, through the gate, turn left and carry on along the path through the trees. After some 200 yards the track turns sharp right to descend the steep slope and emerges on to a stoned track.
6. Turn right and stay on the track until it passes the farm buildings at Bog Hall on your left followed by the large storage tank on your right, before descending and crossing a bridge over a beck. Continue on the track as it rises up to woodland on the left.
7. At a waymark post pointing right to 'Coneysthorpe' take this path across the field to meet the track beside more trees on the left, and stay on it to reach the gate at the roadside.
8. Turn left at the road, then right a little further down to return to your car on Coneysthorpe Green.