

Lincoln – Riseholme

Start:	<i>St Mary's Church, Riseholme College, Lincoln</i>
Nearest Post Code:	<i>LN2 2LF</i>
Grid Ref	<i>SK984757</i>
what3words	<i>dice.wiped.rotate</i>
Refreshments	<i>None.</i>
Getting there:	<i>The college and church are accessed via a right turn signed Riseholme, off the A15 north from the A46. Look for a left turn about a half-mile from the A15 turning.</i>
Distance:	<i>7 miles / 11.2 km</i>
Route Description:	<i>A pleasant walk with just one short ascent. Mostly field paths and tracks with some short stretches of road, plus two crossings of the busy A15.</i>

The Walk

From the church walk south along the road with Riseholme Lake and the remains of a medieval village on your right, stop to read the information board on the corner. At the T junction turn right into Riseholme Lane, Riseholme Lake and now Riseholme Hall are on your right **[A]**.

The medieval village and monastic grange, visible as bumps in the ground to your right, were established before the late 11th century and enlarged in the late 12th century. The village was first depopulated in the 14th century, as a result of the Black Death, and continued to decline through the 15th and 16th centuries until 1602 when only one house remained standing. Riseholme Hall is an early 18th-century grade II listed country house. From about 1840 until 1887, it served as the official residence for the Bishop of Lincoln

Continue to the A15 and with care cross over. Turn left and follow the meandering path between the trees. Cross the first bridleway and continue on the path, keeping an old quarry on your right **[B]**. Soon after, take the next track on the right, this is the old coach road to Burton that you follow, eventually emerging at a road. Turn right and follow the pavement to the traffic lights, where you turn left into Main Street.

Your downward route marks a descent of the Lincoln Edge, a major escarpment that runs for over 50 miles from the Leicestershire border near Grantham to the Humber Estuary,

Turn right into Manor Lane and follow it to the end where, with views of the manor house on the left **[C]**, you keep to the right of Beech House, to go through a gate onto a bridleway. Follow the bridleway through three fields and associated gates with the hedge on your left. The bridleway then moves to the other side of the hedge in the fourth field **[D]**, where you continue, hedge right, veering left to another gate and final field. Follow the path diagonally left to emerge onto Fen Lane in South Carlton. Go right, and continue along School Lane to the T junction at the end. Turn right and walk along the road. This is the halfway point of the walk and the Church of St John the Baptist which is on your left is a good place to take a break.

Continue along the road and after passing a pond on your right, look left for a stile. Climb this, and the following one, then go half-left to a wooden gate giving access to a small plantation. Exit via a stile in the far corner, then climb ahead, hedge left, for a short distance to reach a stile **[E]**. Once over, climb the hill diagonally left (the Lincolnshire Edge again) aiming for a telegraph pole on the skyline where a stile gives access to the road.

Cross over to the surfaced driveway immediately opposite, signposted to Grange-de-Lings. Follow this, going right, then left, eventually emerging onto the A15. Cross the road with care, turn left, and walk along the pavement for a few yards to a right hand turn, again signed Grange-de-Lings. Follow the road for about a quarter of a mile and then the bridleway to the right **[F]**. Follow this track past a farm and a wood on the left and then head out straight over the field.

On the far side, veer right, through a wooded area (at the time of writing, the bridleway sign was misaligned, directing the walker straight ahead), cross a footbridge then walk, hedge left (ignoring another misaligned sign) to reach the Roman-period barrow in the field to the right **[G]**.

Partial excavation of the mound in 1952 showed that it was constructed in the late first century AD on the site of a cremation. Evidence of burning, fragments of human bone and vessels of pottery and glass were found in a shallow trench

in the old ground surface. A secondary burial of the same period, consisting of a human cremation in a pottery vessel covered by a stone slab, was found near the surface of the mound in 1935.

Continue ahead, crossing a track and entering woodland, then go through a bridleway gate into a grassy field. Head straight across the field and through another gate to emerge onto the road near St Marys Church and your parking spot.

St Mary's Church is sited in the grounds of Riseholme Hall and was built by Bishop John Kaye (1783-1853). He was the first Bishop to reside in Riseholme Hall and he had this church built at his own expense. It was consecrated on 7th August 1851.

