

## Lambley Dumbles

**Route Developers:** Chris Thompson with Nigel Sarsfield

**History of Lambley.** The Lambley Historical Society and Lambley Parish Council have published an excellent history of the village. For more information about Lambley's heritage go to <https://lambleyheritage.co.uk/>. This includes an [historical trail](#). This is your essential, informative companion to take on the walk. Our thanks to Lambley Parish Council for permission to advertise this booklet.

**Summary Description:** This is a very pleasant, easy circular walk with good access just north-east of Nottingham with a regular bus service from the city. It includes the Lambley Dumbles and a pleasant ridge walk with views across to the Vale of Belvoir ridge. A dumble is a regional word: dumbel or dymbel, meaning 'a hollow, wooded valley.' On this walk you'll have the opportunity to enjoy the experience of walking alongside the unique dumbles, plus wide vistas and links with historic features in the area.

**Length:** 9.6km (6 miles); shorter option 8km (5 miles)  
**Time:** 3 hours/2½hrs (shorter option)  
**Walk Grade:** Easy  
**Start Location:** Lambley Village Hall car park, junction Main Street and Catfoot Lane, NG4 4QF  
**What3Words:** ///liberty. twee. arrives.  
**Maps:** OS Explorer 260 Nottingham; Landranger 129 Nottingham & Loughborough  
**Grid Ref:** SK 627 452

**Terrain:** Fields, sides of dumbles, lanes, fairly level (one steep descent into Lambley)  
**Accessibility:** Stiles: 5

**Nearest Town:** Arnold  
**Public Transport:** Nottingham City Service 46 & 47 from Nottingham Parliament Street (P1)  
**Refreshments** Three public houses within the village at the time of publication

**Local Ramblers Group:** Gedling [www.gedlingramblers.org.uk](http://www.gedlingramblers.org.uk)

We hope these walks will enable and encourage people to enjoy walking some of the footpaths and other rights of way in Nottinghamshire, and thus help to preserve them for future generations.

Although every effort has been made to ensure the walk description was accurate at the time of publication, changes to rights of way can take place at short notice, so please be aware. If you find that the directions and map for this walk are incorrect in any way, please report the matter to [info@nottsarearamblers.org.uk](mailto:info@nottsarearamblers.org.uk)

**Date published:** October 2021

## The Route

**1. Start.** From the car park go to the junction of Catfoot Lane and Main Street. Turn right along pavement for 40m to a barrier across a footpath. Pass through - note the Dumbles Interpretation Board. Continue along footpath to a stile and enter a field.

**2.** Cross this field, staying parallel to the Top Dumble, to a stile. Continue ahead along a narrow path to a further stile then cross a footbridge to turn right just after, which goes then over a further field to a metal bridge. Cross this and turn right and walk to corner of field. At this point you now can enter a dumble by going into the wood but be careful by using the safety of a handrail to reach a platform to observe. After visiting this site return to entrance of wood.

**3** Re-join the walk by crossing the field to another junction. (Should you wish to return to start of walk turn right). The full walk turns left and follows a clear field edge path through seven fields. At this point do not go over the ditch board but turn right to follow a field edge path through a further three fields. At the end of the last field turn right in front of a gate and follow the hedgerow for 50m to a metal kissing gate on your left leading onto Catfoot Lane.

**4.** Turn right and walk down Catfoot Lane passing Gedling Crematorium to reach a footpath on the left. Go through the gate and follow the path downhill alongside the crematorium at first, to reach a coppice. Here the path turns sharp right to continue through two fields before narrowing at the side of a horse paddock, to reach a kissing-gate. Go through the gate and across the field to another kissing gate. Turn right and follow along a wide field edge path to end of field, turn left and walk uphill towards a wood ahead. At the boundary of the wood turn right and take signposted path, now following a pleasant route along a ridge line with fine views to the right across to the long ridge above the Vale of Belvoir.

Walk straight ahead through the coppice at the end of the field to a ditch board and track. Turn right and go straight ahead, ignoring a bridleway to the left, until you reach a road corner, the junction of Green Lane and Lingwood Lane.

**Here you have the option of a shorter or longer route.**

**5. Shorter Route.** (Shown in green on map). Take metal gate on right and follow a clear path downhill across four fields to reach the Bottom Dumble. Turn

left along track to reach Church Street and Woodlark PH. Shorter route links to Longer Route - see point **10**.

**6. Longer Route.** (Continued as red on map). Continue ahead along Green Lane but cross the road before the blind bend to a signposted bridleway, car parking spaces nearby. Pass through bridle gate and walk straight on for 700m passing path on left to Woodborough. At a path junction in the field corner, turn right along the field edge, and, ignoring a further path on left, go straight on passing over the Lambley air strip (also note an improved view of the Belvoir ridge on left). After 0.75km you reach a further path Junction at a small wood. Turn right to follow the wood boundary passing Bateman House to eventually reach an open field.

*Look half-right across the field to see a mound. This was the location of a former Post Mill whereby the whole structure rotated on a vertical post. The post was set into the mound. The mound was excavated in 1949 and the pottery found in it showed that the mill was probably constructed in the 15th century.*

**7.** Walk across field and follow path by the side of a ditch to reach a gate. Pass through to a further gate and take path into Lambley Reed Pond Nature Reserve (see POI) and enjoy the wildlife in this area.

**8.** On reaching Park Lane turn right into Lambley passing the Cocker Beck to reach Church Lane. Here we can make a short diversion. Cross Main Street with care and walk up to The Robin Hood PH. On the opposite side of road is the Lambley Spring (see POI).

**9.** Now return to Church Street. Walk up to see No.6, a fine a Grade 2 listed early 17<sup>th</sup> Century timber framed building; then to No.24 Church Street (Church Farm) a fine, three storey brick farmhouse with a pantile roof, and finally on to Holy & Undivided Trinity Church (see POI). After visiting, continue along Church Street to The Woodlark PH.

**10. (Shorter Route re-joins here).** Take path by far end of the PH to go downhill over the Cocker Beck, then uphill crossing Orchard Rise and Steeles Way to meet a gate and track at the top of Mill Lane. (*The buildings on the left are associated with a more recent windmill and a former bakehouse*).

Don't descend this lane, but turn right and continue along the track to reach Catfoot Lane. Keep straight ahead and pass No.25 on the left and take path on left. Go along this to a stile. Cross this, then to drop diagonally downhill through three fields and finally left to return to the car park and end of the walk.

## Places of Interest (POI)

**Lambley Manor House.** This was a medieval building sited on Pringle Field. The Manor House was two storeys with seven rooms, standing on a mound surrounded by a moat, and other buildings including a granary, brewhouse, bakehouse, malt kiln and stables. It is known from a map that the site was demolished by 1609.



View from Lambley Dumbles (Nigel Sarsfield)

**Lambley Reed Pond.** Donated to Notts Wildlife Trust in 1998 by a local family the Lambley Reed Pond is now managed by Lambley Parish Council with a Friends Group. The pond was originally a medieval stew or fishpond, that was filled in before being re-opened in 1974. This is a beautiful nature oasis.

**Holy & Undivided Trinity Church, Lambley.** Built in the perpendicular style, this 11<sup>th</sup> Century church was described by Pevsner as 'one of the few almost entirely perpendicular village churches in Nottinghamshire, all of a piece and of felicitous proportions, tall and upright, without being narrow, all the windows high and spacious.' The lower storey of the tower is 13<sup>th</sup> century, the upper third is 14<sup>th</sup> century. There is an early bell frame used to bore two bells with the current bell a steel bell cast in Sheffield and installed in 1867.



Holy Trinity Church Lambley (Nigel Sarsfield)

It is worth noting that Ralph Cromwell (1394-1456), who fought at the Battle of Agincourt (1415) and became Lord Treasurer under King Henry V1, left a legacy in his will to finance the rebuilding of the church. The church was rededicated in 1480 and renamed Holy and Undivided Trinity. See <https://southwellchurches.nottingham.ac.uk/lambley/hhistory.php> for further details.

**Lambley Spring,** a waterspout with a stone sump that could be stoppered to form a reservoir from which to fill water containers. This is fed from a spring from Pingle field (meaning a small enclosure). This field was the site of the medieval Manor House.

**Cowslips.** Lambley has long been associated with Cowslips which grow in profusion in the fields around the village and along the dumbles. So much so that in times past the first Sunday in May was known in the village as Cowslip Sunday.

In 1998, an area north of Lambley Dumble named Bonney Doles was planted with new woodland plus a large area of traditional field meadows with funding provided by The Woodland Trust. It is hoped, by careful management, that cowslips and other wildflowers will be encouraged to grow and recolonise this area. This was a Millennium Commission funded 'Woods on your Doorstep' project.

Lambley Dumbles are visually impressive and noted for their geology and ancient woodland. They are rich in flowers, ferns and other flora.



Lambley WI Easter Display (Nigel Sarsfield)

## Mapping

