

Paths of Old

Walk 5 – Lamport to Hanging Houghton

Distance: 3.40 miles

Grade: Easy

Start / Finish: Lamport Church (Grid Ref: SP758746)

Map: OS Explorer 223 Northampton & Market Harborough

Things to see: Brown Hare, Red Kite, Buzzard, Fox.

Summary: This route, taking in two of the more attractive neighbouring villages and a section of the Brampton Valley Way, is easy going, with generally clear paths over even ground and only two stiles to negotiate.



Point	Description
1	There is plenty of parking on Lamport main street, so leave your car there and begin the walk from outside the church (Grid Ref: SP758746). First, head in a westerly direction towards the Lamport Swan. At the main road (A508) turn right downhill and go past the bus stop. After about 200m, carefully cross the road and take the path signposted "Bridleway to Haselbech & Brampton Valley Way" (Grid Ref: SP754749 / 0.34 miles).
2	Go through the gate and head downhill, keeping to the left-hand edge of the field. At the bottom of the hill, go through the gate and join the Brampton Valley Way (Grid Ref: SP749748 / 0.65 miles).
3	Turn left for Hanging Houghton. The going is easy but watch out – the Brampton Valley Way is a popular cycling route, so keep your wits about you! After around half a mile (Grid Ref: SP743740 / 1.22 miles) turn left on to a metalled road signposted "Lamport Hall 1" The village of Hanging Houghton can be seen on the hilltop ahead of you.
4	Walk towards the village: the road is accessible to cars but is usually fairly quiet. Part way up the hill a bench provides the perfect spot for a rest, with sweeping views across the valley to be enjoyed.
5	At the top of the hill, enter the village (Grid Ref: SP751737 / 1.81 miles). Keeping to the same road, go through left- and right-hand bends and continue through the village on the main thoroughfare (ignoring any side roads) to meet the main A508 once more (Grid Ref: SP755737 / 2.10 miles).
6	Opposite the junction is a gate with a fingerpost signed "Bridleway". Take this and follow the left-hand edge of the field, keeping an eye out for a narrow gap in the hedge (Grid Ref: 758737 / 2.29 miles). Go through the gap and head directly across the field – there is a disc on a post indicating the right direction, and the path is usually quite clear through the crop.
7	On the far side of the field is a gate (Grid Ref: SP761740 / 2.52 miles). Go through this and continue in the same general direction through two more gates. After crossing a larger field, go through another gate on to the road (Grid Ref: SP764745 / 2.86 miles).
8	Turn left along the road keeping the high stone wall of Lamport Hall on your left. At the T junction, turn left again and follow the road back into Lamport.

Remember: for the benefit of all please keep to the path, close all gates behind you and keep dogs on a lead, especially around livestock.