

Start from Fleckney Recreation Ground

STR 22 - Canal - Smeeton Gorse

Group 3 – 7.2 miles

www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=3727350

DIRECTIONS

Exit the recreation ground and turn left onto Leicester Road. Continue through the centre of the village passing the Co-op store etc. Turn left onto Manor Road and then the next left the cul de sac - Kibworth Road. Go through the gate and follow the footpath through the fields to the pedestrian bridge over the canal. After the canal take care to cross the sleepers and join the path that runs alongside and to the left of the canal. Follow through two fields and then just at the point where the Saddington Tunnel starts go through a gap in the hedge and follow the path over the tunnel crossing the Fleckney to Kibworth road with care. Now pick up the canal towpath and continue under the bridge carrying the Smeeton to Saddington Road and press on for one and half miles before exiting the towpath at the Smeeton to Gumley road bridge. Now briefly join to the road uphill towards Gumley exiting the road onto the footpath to the right just before the road bends right towards Gumley. Follow the footpath as it winds its way towards Smeeton Gorse. Ascend the steep hill to emerge at the hilltop at Smeeton Gorse near the bench on the Leicestershire Round course (Note extensive views!) Pressing on follow the ridge path that leads through various fields before descending steeply downhill and then uphill again back to Saddington village. There is now a choice - For the most direct route take the road back from Saddington to Fleckney via Saddington Road, High Street and Leicester Road. If you prefer largely off road due to footwear preference then take the Saddington to Smeeton Road, descend Saddington Hill, join the canal towpath and retrace your steps from earlier via the Saddington tunnel overpath, the Millenium Woods and through the fields back to Kibworth Road Fleckney and hence back to the recreation ground.

