

Bealings and Playford Loop - Upper Route

Fynn Valley Walks Group



Route Summary

A circular walk of around 3.5 miles starting at Little Bealings Church, taking in wonderful views across the Fynn Valley from the hills around Bealings and Playford.

Route Overview



Category: Walking

Rating: Unrated

Surface: Moderate

Date Published: 20th September 2020

Difficulty: Easy

Length: 5.200 km / 3.25 mi

Last Modified: 23rd March 2021

Description

A walk of about 3.5 miles, through the very picturesque scenery of the Fynn Valley around Little Bealings and Playford. The route starts at Little Bealings Church. The route initially goes south towards the River Fynn, then just before the bridge the path turns right into the fields and then continues on to Lux Farm. On emerging from Lux Wood, sweeping views can be found to the north and towards Little Bealings. The walk descends to Playford before ascending again to Playford Church along the sleepy village paths. Don't miss the monument to Thomas Clarkson in the churchyard and his burial place, who was instrumental in stopping the slave trade. The walk proceeds north and then turns back towards Little Bealings across Hundred Acre Field south of Holly Lane, where the reward is a wonderful view looking south across the Fynn Valley. Watch out for the the unusual, picture-postcard water tower at Playford Mount, West of Hundred Acre Field! It is not uncommon to see Buzzards and occasionally Kestrels flying over the valley.

To find more photos and maps for this area see the Fynn Valley Walks Group page on Facebook. Look in "Albums" under "Media".

Waypoints

Start Point - Little Bealings Church

(52.08520; 1.25233)

Take this walk Clockwise from Little Bealings Church, starting by heading south to the River Fynn on the road through Little Bealings.

1 Farm track

(52.08240; 1.25361)

Just before the bridge, take the farm track to the right, when you reach the field, keep to the edge of the field on the left until you come across the little footbridge across the River Fynn.

2 Footbridge

(52.08173; 1.25111)

Locate the little footbridge to your left, and proceed past the old farm buildings to your left and then turn to the right

3 Left onto the footpath

(52.08088; 1.25070)

Instead of taking the wider farm track straight on, make sure to take the little footpath to your left towards the railway line.

4 Styles at the railway crossing

(52.08009; 1.24898)

After crossing the styles, take the path in front diagonally across the field.

5. Views

(52.07800; 1.24486)

There are lovely views along this path up to the Lux Farm buildings.

6 Lux Farm Buildings

(52.07568; 1.23950)

The footpath continues straight on, following the track through the middle of the Lux Farm buildings and on to Lux Wood.

7 Bluebells in Lux Wood

(52.07732; 1.23439)

Lux Wood is carpeted with bluebells in Spring

8. Viewpoint

(52.07882; 1.23405)

Sweeping Views North and North East to Playford and Little Bealings

8 Styles at the railway crossing

(52.08029; 1.23388)

These styles erected in 2021 provide a relatively easy crossing with a special gate for dogs.

9 Butts Road

(52.08195; 1.23179)

Turn right onto Butts Road for about 200m, before turning right into Hill Farm Road. Caution cars can approach quickly on Butts Road. There bridge over the River Fynn here has a short footway which enables you to stop and look at the River.

10 Dog waste bin

(52.08397; 1.23140)

Look north up the road to locate a dog waste bin if required

11. Porch Gate at Playford Church

(52.08618; 1.23529)

The old porch gate is delightful. Proceed through the gate and walk up the steps into the church yard.

12. Monument to Thomas Clarkson at Playford Church

(52.08660; 1.23543)

Thomas Clarkson lived at Playford Hall and is buried in the churchyard, behind the railed off grave space next to the church. Thomas was instrumental to the abolition of slavery.

Toilet courtesy of St Mary's Church

(52.08707; 1.23535)

(Closed during Covid-19 lockdown)

13 Turn right

(52.08823; 1.23573)

Turn right just after Farmer Parken's loading area, the path follows the left hand side of the hedge, then crosses the field northwards to the large old oak tree. Turn right at the tree and follow the path downward into the trees, then upward through a 'tunnel of hedgerow and trees' to emerge in Hundred Acre Field.

14 Hidden Pasture

(52.08995; 1.24117)

There is some pasture here hidden in the trees, you may spot some goats, sheep or lambs.

15 Water Tower

(52.09063; 1.24238)

Look left to see the unusual and picturesque water tower!

16 Cut back across the field

(52.09120; 1.24351)

Just before you reach the road, take the path to the right that cuts diagonally back across the field.

17. Viewpoint

(52.08924; 1.24486)

Sweeping views to the south and south east across the Fynn Valley

18 Footpath to the left

(52.08500; 1.25042)

Watch out for the little footpath to the left, which goes between back gardens and the school to take you back to Little Bealings Church.

End Point - Little Bealings Church

(52.08527; 1.25212)

You will find a bench here to rest at the end of your walk. If you are lucky our pop-up cafe may be open!

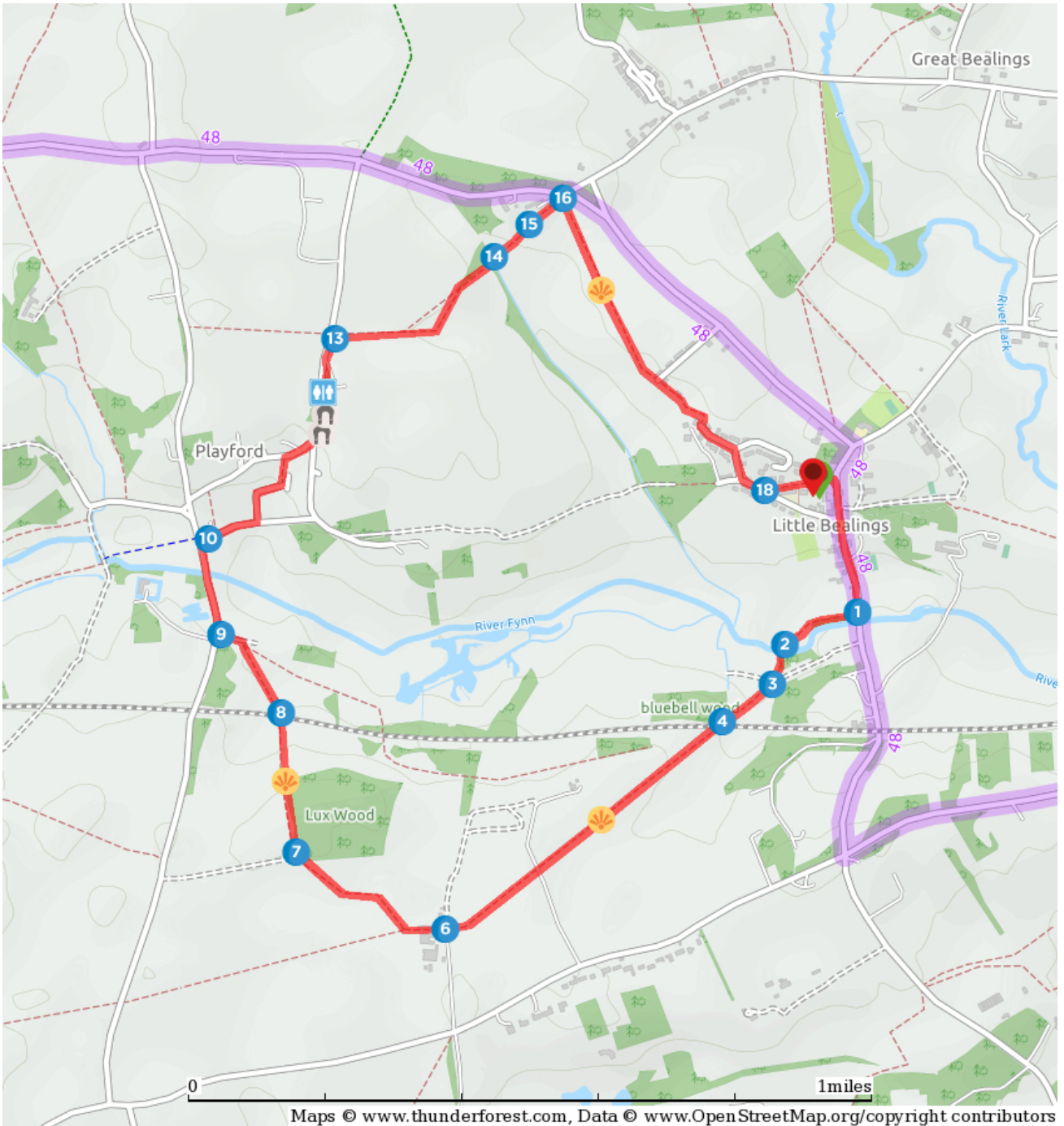


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