

The Woods Walk

Distance: 5 kms / 3 miles

Time: allow 1 hr 45 minutes

Description: mostly flat, muddy in parts, many stiles

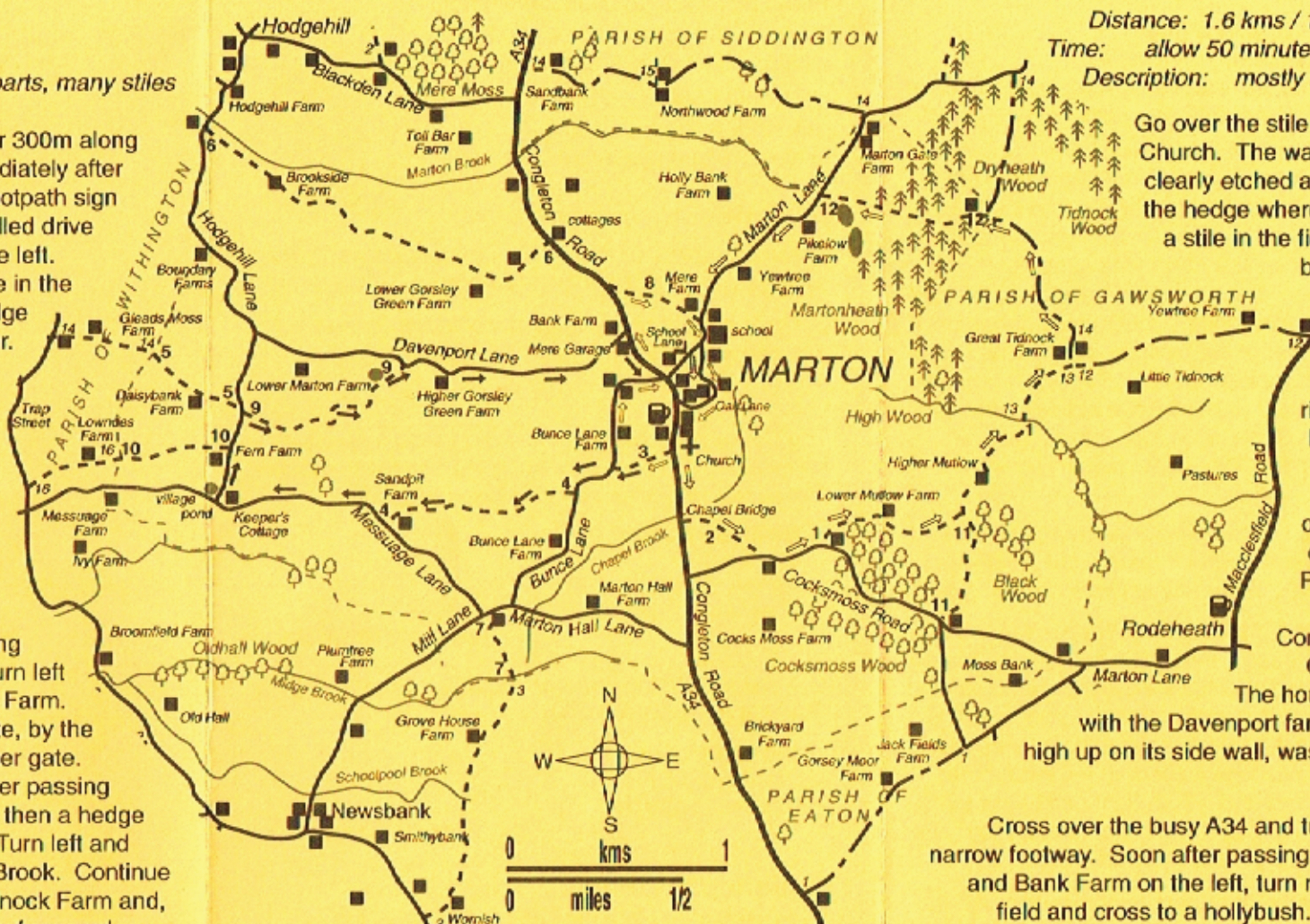
From Marton Church walk south for 300m along the busy A34 Congleton Road. Immediately after crossing Chapel Brook you reach a footpath sign on your left. Turn left along the gravelled drive (Fp2) and through double gates on the left. Cross diagonally a small field to a stile in the centre of the hedge. Keeping the hedge on your left continue to the field corner. Carry straight on across the field in the same direction to Cocks Moss Lane. Turn left along the lane. After 300m turn into the next track on the left (Fp1) to Lower Mutlow Farm.

Go through the farmyard (dogs on lead please) and bear right through a gate following the gravel track with views of Bosley Cloud and Mow Cop. Arriving at a T-junction, turn left, skirting Black Wood and over a cattle grid. Turn left just before the drive to Higher Mutlow Farm. Follow the footpath sign through a gate, by the side of a tall hawthorn hedge to another gate. Round the end of the farm turn left after passing through a third gate. Walk by a fence then a hedge until reaching a red gate with a stile. Turn left and carry on to a bridge crossing Chapel Brook. Continue uphill (Fp13, Gawsworth) to Great Tidnock Farm and, following the signs turn left through the farmyard.

Follow this track (RUPP14, Gawsworth) for about 1.5 kms passing several marshy ponds hedged with hawthorn, through Martonheath Wood (Fp12) and past Pikelow trout pools and fruit farm until you join Marton Lane.

Turn left down the lane towards Marton village. The Church spire will soon be visible. At Marton school, turn left into Oak Lane. Follow the lane to its junction with the A34 and turn left to your starting point.

Public Rights of Way in Marton



Key

- 2 --- Public footpaths (with path numbers)
- 4 - Bridleways (none in this area)
- 5 - 'RUPPs' ('roads used as public paths')
- + - + 'BOATs' (byways - none in this area)
- Public roads
- Marton parish boundary
- ● ○ streams, selected ponds, woods
- □ + selected buildings, public houses, churches

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The Village Walk

Distance: 1.6 kms / 1 mile

Time: allow 50 minutes

Description: mostly road walking

Go over the stile opposite Marton Church. The way ahead (Fp3) is clearly etched across the field to the hedge where you carry on to a stile in the field corner. Look back from here to Marton Church and beyond to Bosley Cloud. Turn right along Bunce Lane. (The Pond Walk turns left here.) Pass an old, cruck-framed cottage and then Primrose Cottage on your right. Continue to the A34 Congleton Road. The house to your right, with the Davenport family coat of arms high up on its side wall, was the village post office.

Cross over the busy A34 and turn left along the narrow footway. Soon after passing Davenport Lane and Bank Farm on the left, turn right (Fp 8) into a field and cross to a hollybush. Keep along the hawthorn hedge and turn right at the line of oak trees and pass under them to a stile in the corner. Straight ahead are two more stiles before reaching the drive of Mere Farm.

Continue down the drive to School Lane. Turn right and shortly left down Oak Lane. As you reach the A34 again the thatched cottage on your right is known as Pump Cottage - the village pump still stands in front of it. Turn left along the main road to the Davenport Arms and the church.