

**How to get there:** Sharnford (SatNav – LE10 3PP) is south of Leicester, 2 miles from the Warwickshire border.

**Car parking:** Considerate Street parking only. There is a carpark on the main road that belongs to The Bricklayers pub which you may be able to use if you are lunching at the pub. Smithy Lane car park near Burbage Wood, off the Burbage-Sapcote Road near the M69, makes a good alternative starting point. Grid Ref. SP 452 945.

**Public transport:** See <http://traveline.info>

**Map:** Ordnance Survey Explorer 233 Leicester and Hinckley

**Route:** Easy walking in rather flat, mixed pasture and arable land, with some beautiful open areas and lovely woodland tracks. There is one busy road crossing near a traffic island that requires care. The route passes through new housing estates.

**Refreshment:**

A coffee van easily accessible just off route near Burbage Wood, gives a good welcome to walkers. The Bricklayers and Sharnford Arms at Sharnford. Just off route is The Red Lion at Sapcote and Sapcote Garden Centre which has a good café.

**Items of interest:** Burbage Wood and the Common are well worth exploring. On Sapcote recreation ground slight humps in the grass indicate the remains of a Norman castle mound (Toot Hill). Aston Flamville has a dovecote dated 1715, in brick pattering.

**The walk:**



From Sharnford pass The Bricklayers Pub on your left and continue straight ahead (on the right of the One-Way triangle). Turn right along Aston Lane, passing Ivy House.



Take the Footpath over a stile signposted Leicestershire Round to Aston Flamville.

Keeping the old redbrick farm buildings on your left, go through the small paddock, close to the fencing on your right. Keep in the same direction to cross the cartbridge and go through the gap. Pass the big modern grey farm sheds over to your right and continue in the same direction, close to the hedge on your right.

Turn Right through a Kissing Gate (signposted Leicestershire Round) and turn left to continue in the same direction to cross the open field. Cross the Foot bridge into the next field keeping the hedge on your left, go through a Metal Gate. In the third field, go through the gap in the hedge at the corner of the field.

With the tall spire of Burbage church ahead of you, walk close to the hedge on your right. Go through Kissing Gate and carry straight on towards the Left-hand edge of Aston Flamville ahead of you.

Go through a gate and cross the footbridge over the stream, pass through a gate, slightly left to the next gate and over a Footbridge to a farm track. Cross the farm track and turn right to walk close to it. As you go slightly uphill, the pretty hamlet of Aston Flamville lies to your right, just off our route.

Keeping the fence on your right with Aston Flamville to your right, at the end of the row of conifers go through a gate and join the lane on your right. Continue on the road towards

Burbage, (Lychgate Lane). Cross the motorway bridge and turn right down the steps signposted footpath.

Walk close to the motorway on your right and then turn left across a stile towards the big pylon in the next field. Cross the stiles and footbridge in the field corner turn Left with the hedge on your Left and pylon on your Right.



Follow field around then Left over a stile and footbridge. Burbage church spire lies ahead. Cross the field on the footpath to the next stile, Turn Left.

Keep the hedge on your left walking towards the church until you are level with Cottage Farm on your left. Cross the stile. Our route to Burbage Common avoids Burbage. Turn sharp right, and with your back to Cottage Farm, walk towards Burbage woods, with Burbage church spire over to your left.

Walk close to the hedge on your right, cross the stile in the corner and continue in the same direction across the open fields following the Way Marker Post to reach the housing estate. Waymarked stiles lead into Sherborne Road. Turn Left on Sherborne Road. Follow this estate road round to the right to join Salisbury Road. Turn right and then turn right, into Winchester Drive. Cross the main Hinckley-Sapcote Road (B4669) and go through a gap between bungalows (nos 97 and 99) along a path through a gate, and into a field with a hedge on your left. Half way along this very long field go through a kissing gate. Continue in the same direction, but with the hedge now on your right.

Go through three large fields, passing Burbage Wood on your right. (Note that there is a good metalled track inside the wood, parallel with this footpath. You may prefer to use it.)  
Go through a kissing gate and over a footbridge into the open field at the end of the wood.



There is a coffee van about 100metres to your left.

At the end of the wood turn right, to keep the woods on your right for about 100 metres.  
Turn right to go through a gate or gap into Smithy Lane Car park under the trees.

Walk along Smithy Lane to the main Hinckley Road and turn left along the B4669 to a large roundabout. Cross the road and go anti-clockwise to the far side of the M69 roundabout, walking along the grass verge towards Sapcote.



Go through a bridle gate on your right. Turn right.  
(The bridleway may be muddy in wet weather.)

At the corner of the field turn left, keeping close to the hedge on your right. Go under the power lines and continue on the bridleway through two gates. At the second gate turn left onto a green track for about 200 metres then continue straight on along a concrete drive. Just before you reach the busy Sapcote-Hinckley Road turn right at the footpath sign and cross the stile. *(if you want to visit the Garden Centre continue to Sapcote Road, and turn*

*Right*) Keep the hedge on your right, cross a stile into Hawthorn Grove on a new housing estate. Keep houses on your Left and fields on your Right as you walk down the road. Continue onto Lovett Close keeping houses to the Left and fields to the Right, go along a tarmac path to come out onto a road. Cross the road and go onto a playing field by houses on your right.



In about 200 metres, turn right at the footpath and go down a narrow path by the old rectory to reach the road, with the Sapcote Primary school in front of you.

Turn right along the road and then left at the T-junction to follow a country lane named Donkey Lane. Pass the cemetery on your left and continue along the path. At Springfield Farm gate go straight on through a gate. Pass through the next gate and follow a green track (which may be muddy in wet weather) with horses on the Left. After about 200 metres enter an open field, with a hedge on your right. Bear right and keep the hedge on your right to go through the bridle gate in the field corner. Turn sharp left and join a track. When you reach Sharnford cemetery the track becomes Mill Lane. At the bottom of Mill Lane turn right into Chapel Lane and left at the bottom to the main road. Turn right along the main road to reach your starting point in Sharnford.

