



## Ashbourne Club Site – Walk to Madge Hill

Camping and Caravanning



### Route Summary



A strenuous walk using field paths, tracks and quiet lanes to climb to the summit of Madge Hill. The return route is a long descent over often trackless fields and down more quiet lanes passing through sleepy hamlets. This walk takes you into remote country and has a real wilderness feel about it.

### Route Overview



Category: Walking  
Rating: Unrated  
Surface: Rough  
Date Published: 11th July 2017  
Difficulty: Hard  
Length: 10.000 km / 6.25 mi  
Last Modified: 11th July 2017

### Description



**ASCENT OF MADGE HILL FROM ASHBOURNE CAMPING AND CARAVANNING CLUB SITE**



### **Walking over fields near the start**

This walk is quite strenuous and covers a variety of terrain from field paths, trackless fields and hidden tracks to quiet lanes and a remote summit with pretty views.

There is also a stretch of busier road walking near the start. The going can be steep in places and there are plenty of stiles. Some of the paths get quite overgrown (especially near the end) in the main summer months so take walking sticks to help you get through these areas. An alternative to the final footpath near the walk end is given in the text - use this if you have don't have a walking pole. This walk has a really remote feeling about it and you will are unlikely to see many other walkers while you enjoy it.

**The intial part of the walk is along the A517 which can be busy so care will be required with children as there is no sidewalk.**

**NOTE - IF YOU USE A GPS IT WILL GIVE YOU A MILEAGE READING OF 6.34 MILES.**

### **START**

From the site reception at Ashbourne Club Site exit to the approach lane to go left and curve right to the A517. Go left

along it carefully to curve right at a bend. Curve left again past a junction following the sign for Ashbourne. Continue past a bus stop left and houses right. Continue a little further along the road, and just after a telegraph pole leave the road right up a short green track. Cross a stile to follow the footpath arrow and head across the next field under overhead cables.



### Crossing the field

The field is trackless but keep the fence and bushline not too far over right and walk down the field towards bushes ahead. Descend right of a gate and a plantation of bushes to find a small gate in the bottom right corner. Pass through this to go ahead over the next field, which is rough with lots of holes. As you pass through gorse bushes and under overhead cables a path begins to develop. Curve left as you descend and at the bottom cross an electric fence (at a crossing point) and go over a brook. Pass through a small marshy area and rise up the next field passing a tree and curving right on the path. Rise up the field to follow the path through a shallow groove between banks (if it is wet rise to the left to pass by it). Continue beyond the groove following the track to pass through a small gate by another gate to reach a semi-surfaced track.



### Rising to the track



2. Go left descending the enclosed track to pass through a gate to a more open field and continue ahead to curve right with the track and start to descend.



### On the semi-surfaced track

Descend into trees and continue to stay ahead at a track junction. Continue to pass through a gate and follow the track beyond to descend gently and cross a low bridge. Pass through a gate and continue to a lane at a bend.



### Following the track to reach the lane

Go right on the lane to reach a fork. Go right taking the 'No Through Road' up Agnes Meadow Lane. Climb steeply up the lane between hedges passing the entrance to Agnes Meadow Farm. Follow the rising lane past the bungalow of Lakeside View, then past Wood Head Barn on the right and Woodhead Farm on the left. After a footpath right follow a sign for Mulino Lodge. The lane gets rougher as you climb – continue to a point where the lane bends right at the entrance to Mulino Lodge. Here go ahead taking the enclosed surfaced track that rises between bushes and trees. Rise to pass through a gate. The angle eases as you enter more open ground and you continue to the summit of Madge Hill. The trig point is to your right down a short track and through a gate but there is no right of way to it.



### Summit of Madge Hill

3. Continue on the track in the same direction over the top of Madge Hill. Descend to pass through a gate and continue descending for a short distance. Watch for a footpath sign and stone stile right and when you see it leave the track to cross it to a field. Follow the arrow direction going half right over the trackless field rising to cross the brow of the hill and descend to a wall and fence corner to pass through a gap by a yellow sign.

Follow the arrow to go left walking by a wall, fence and bush line descending to a field corner to cross a stile to the next field. Head half right towards trees below. Aim for a point about half way along the planation to pass through a gate with a marker post. Go half left following a track for a short distance to cut half right away from it to pass the end of the tree line and reach a gate with an arrow near a farm. Pass through the gate and go down a few steps to descend to a track left of the farmhouse. Go right to pass in front of the farm buildings and then leave the track to pass through a gate to a field. Go half left to drop down the field to cross a stile in the left bottom corner. Go half right to head left of a small copse of trees and drop steeply towards a farmhouse to reach a stile. Cross this and pass right of the farmhouse (through the garden) to pass through a gap to the farmyard and access track.



### Field crossing above the farms



4. Follow the access track to curve left in front of the farmhouse. At the end of the farmhouse pass through a gap to curve right and descend passing through another gap. Descend into trees and bushes on the track and keep descending to pass a turning for Atlow Moat (Farm). Continue to descend on the surfaced track to cross a bridge. Now continue on the track/lane to reach a junction at tree with a bench around it. Go ahead to reach a road.

5. Go right uphill which is signposted for 'Bradley' and 'Kirk Ireton'. Climb past the Church of St Philip and St. James. The angle eases by a postbox on Post Box Cottage right. Continue on the lane towards more houses. As the lane bends left go right and stay left (signposted for 'Ashbourne' and 'Bradley') as a track leaves right almost at once. Rise on the lane to reach Dayfield Farm, then descend to cross a bridge and climb the lane beyond. Follow the lane continuing to rise and dip and reach a road junction near a house.



**Quiet lane walking on this section**

**NOTE: IF IT IS HIGH SUMMER AND YOU HAVE NOT BROUGHT A WALKING POLE THEN THE FINAL FOOTPATH DESCRIBED BELOW MAY BE A BIT OVERGROWN FOR YOU. AN ALTERNATIVE RETURN TO THE CLUB SITE CAN BE MADE BY GOING RIGHT AT THIS JUNCTION AND THEN LEFT ON THE A517 TO REACH THE SITE AGAIN.**

5. Go left uphill rising on the lane. Just a before a house/farm (and at the end of a forest you have followed while walking on the lane) go right down a green track walking down the side of a forest. Follow this track through trees and bushes to the A517 near a short stretch of sidewalk. Go right to carefully walk the short distance back down the A517 to go left and right back to Ashbourne Club Site when the signs are reached.

## Waypoints



# Choose your trail

