



Calke Abbey, Ticknall,
Derbyshire, DE73 7LE

TRAIL
Walking

GRADE
Easy

DISTANCE
2.4 miles

TIME
1.5 hour

OS MAP

Contact

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Facilities

Toilets, restaurant and shop are located off the main car park.

**National
Trust**

<http://nationaltrust.org.uk/walks>

Reflections trail at Calke Abbey

Take in the beautiful views of the original drive and, in winter, discover hidden views and spaces on this amble through Calke's ancient parkland.



Terrain

Circular walk with stoned paths, kissing gates and some steps. Enquire at property for more accessible routes. Dogs are welcome but must be kept on leads as livestock graze in the surrounding fields. Please place dog litter in the bins provided.

Things to see



Damselflies

This azure damselfly is one of many that can be seen around the ponds at Calke. Others include the common blue and blue-tailed damselfly and the brown hawker dragonfly.

Wildlife

Spot yellow archangel and bluebells in the woodlands in spring, and self-heal and sheep's sorrel in the grasslands. Birds of prey such as hobby, buzzard and the occasional red kite may be seen, as well as woodland birds such as woodpeckers, tree creepers, nuthatch, starling and tits. Over half of the UK's 16 bat species have been recorded here, and the rough grassland is home to voles, shrews, wood mice, weasels and stoats. Badgers make their homes in the woods along with over 350 types of beetles which thrive on the dead wood.

Deer shelter

The shelter was built in the 18th century, amid old ridge and furrow land, to entice deer into the open parkland. The family could then observe them from the comfort of the house. Two hundred years later, red and fallow deer were re-introduced to Calke as an enclosed herd, and you can still see them today.



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Start/end

Start: Main car park
End: Main car park

How to get there

By bike: National Cycle
Network traffic-free route, 5
miles (8km) away

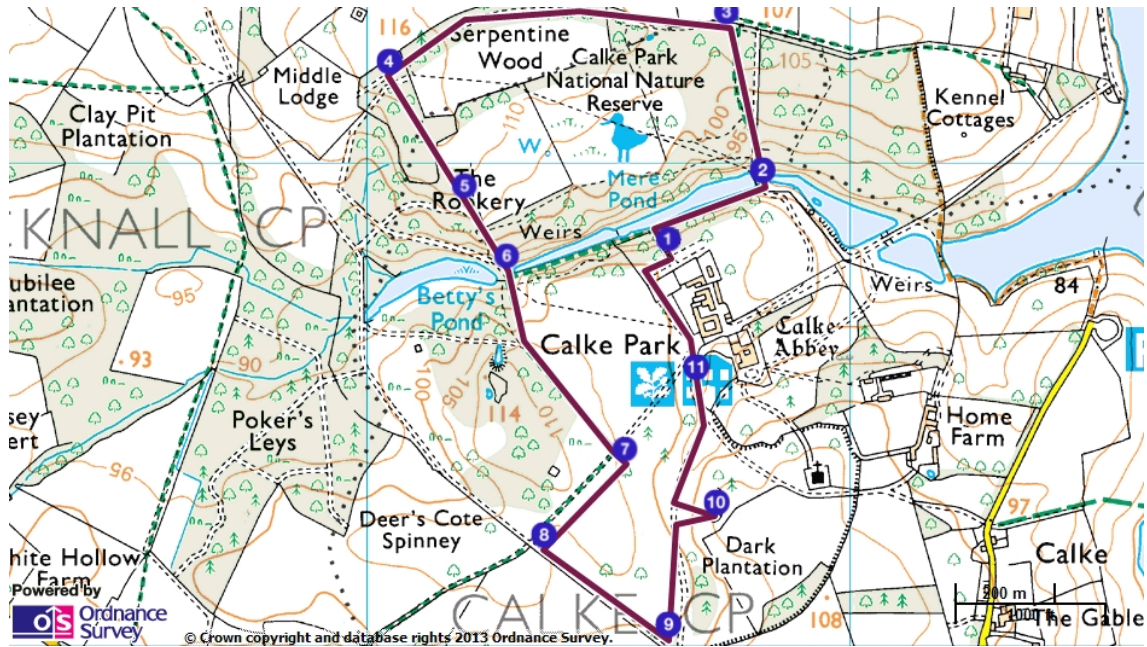
By bus: Number 69/A, Derby to
Swadlincote (passing close to
Derby), alight Ticknall then 1.5-
mile (2.5km) walk through park
to house

By train: Derby, 9.5 miles
(15.2km); Burton-on-Trent, 10
miles (16km)

By car: 10 miles (16km) south
of Derby on A514 at Ticknall.
M42/A42 exit 13 and A50
Derby South

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1. Begin at the main overflow car park and walk down the steps to the ponds. Follow the path round to the left when you meet the deer fence.
2. Pause awhile here and admire the view of the chain of ponds or look for dragonflies in the summer. Follow the path through the gate and up the hill, keeping the deer enclosure on your right, until you meet the old park boundary wall.
3. Turn left keeping the old wall on your right and follow the path through the Serpentine wood.
4. Once the wall ends the path continues through a gate and the woodland bearing to the left.
5. Eventually the path exits the woodland, walk down the grassy slope to the small car park and take the right-hand stepped path down the hill until you reach the weir between Betty's Pond and Thatch-house Pond.
6. Pass through the gate to your right and follow the path directly uphill, through the wood pasture until you meet the road.
7. Cross the road and turn right walking parallel with the road until you meet the park boundary wall.
8. Turn left and follow the track keeping the wall on your right until you enter a small copse of trees and a large white gate.
9. Turn left and follow the old main carriage drive.
10. Follow an approximately 150m short detour uphill to take in the old deer shelter. After viewing, return downhill to the carriage drive until you reach the road.
11. Turn left and walk parallel with road until you reach the visitor facilities and car park.