

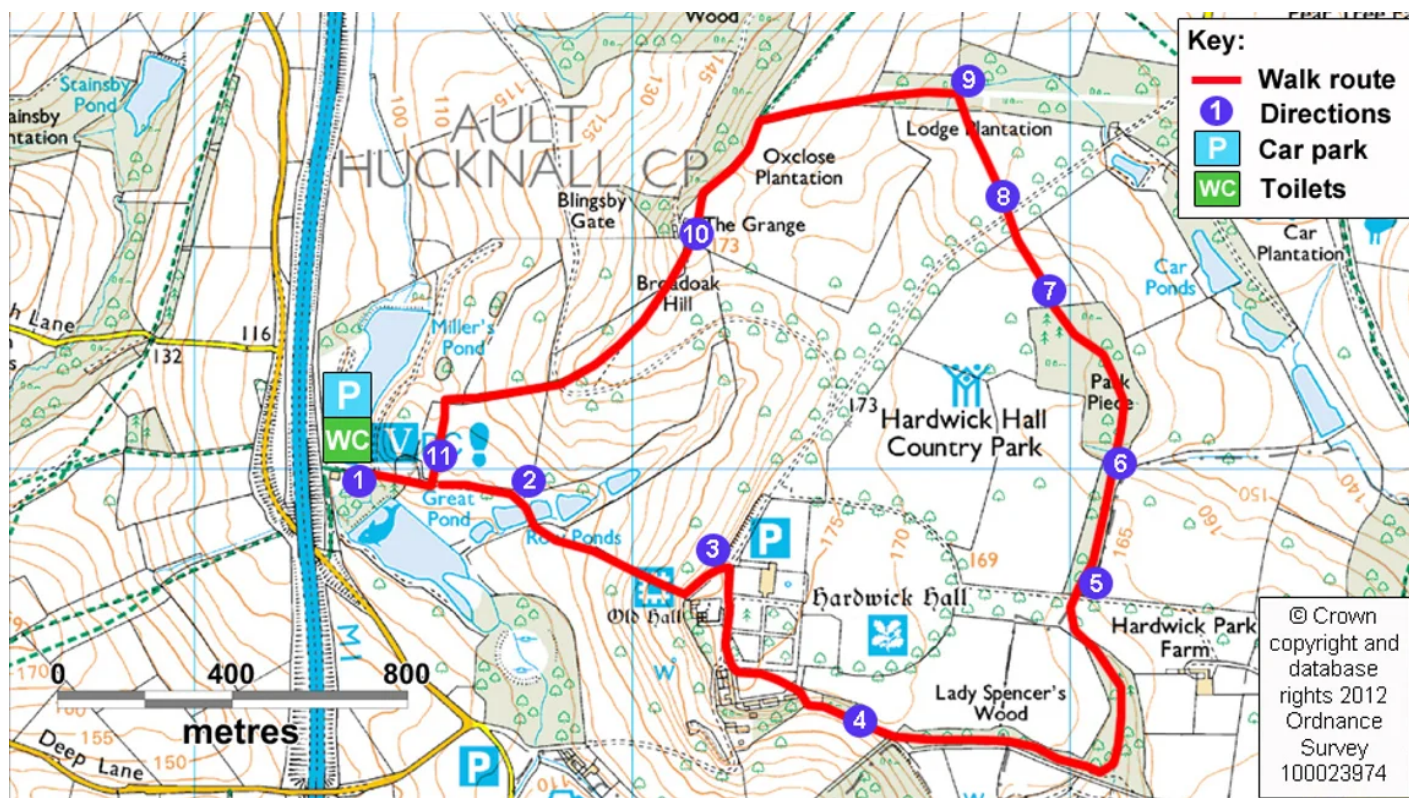
THE PEAK DISTRICT & DERBYSHIRE

Walk in Bess's footsteps trail

Explore the Derbyshire estate of Hardwick Hall, once home to Bess of Hardwick, and enjoy the landscape garden around the historic Elizabethan house. Discover features from Bess's time, as well as those developed in the 400 years since her death.

! Admission fees

Admission fees apply for access to the garden and Stableyard areas. Please buy your tickets from the visitor reception before you start the walk.



Information

Address: Doe Lea, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S44 5QJ.

OS map: Landranger 120; Explorer 269

Activity: Walking

Easy: Moderate terrain with one steep climb, and grassed footpaths and surfaced pathways. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs welcome on leads only at all times as livestock in surrounding fields. Please use bins provided for dog waste.

Full trail: Miles: 3.5 (km: 5.6)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 1 hour 30 mins

Terrain

Grassed footpaths and surfaced pathways through country park. Moderate terrain with one steep climb early in the walk. This walk is ideal for all seasons although paths can be muddy, so good boots are advised.

Total steps: 12

Start point: Park Centre at Hardwick, grid ref: SK454640

1. From the Park Centre walk over the footbridge that runs between the two ponds and up the track.
2. Walk through the kissing gate, continuing up the track. When the track turns into a footpath, bear right between the ponds and through a gate into the parkland.
3. Walk up the vehicle track that bears right up the hill until you reach the road. Start to walk down the road and past a stone building with a chimney that is on your left.
4. At the corner turn left through the gate walking across the field. Walk through the next gate and up a slight incline. You will then arrive in Lady Spencer's Wood. Turn right following the woodland path.
5. Follow Lady Spencer's walk and turn left at the bottom of the steps following the path.
6. When you emerge back into the parkland bear left coming in between the lime tree avenues. Cross the road and walk through the pedestrian gate. Follow the fence line towards the woods.
7. Walk down the steps and over the concrete bridge. Follow the path up the woodland boundary. At the gate turn left into Park Piece Wood and follow the path through the wood.
8. When you come out of the wood, walk straight down the hill through the field to the road, heading for the gate.
9. Cross over the drive and continue through the field to the gate into the next wood.

10. Bear left on the main path through the wood. When you reach the track, turn left, and follow until you reach a big blue gate.
 11. Go through the blue gate and walk straight ahead, following the grass path downhill, over the drive. Continue until you reach a gate in the fence near the ponds.
 12. Once through the gate, turn right to return to the Park Centre.
- End point: Park Centre at Hardwick, grid ref: SK454640
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