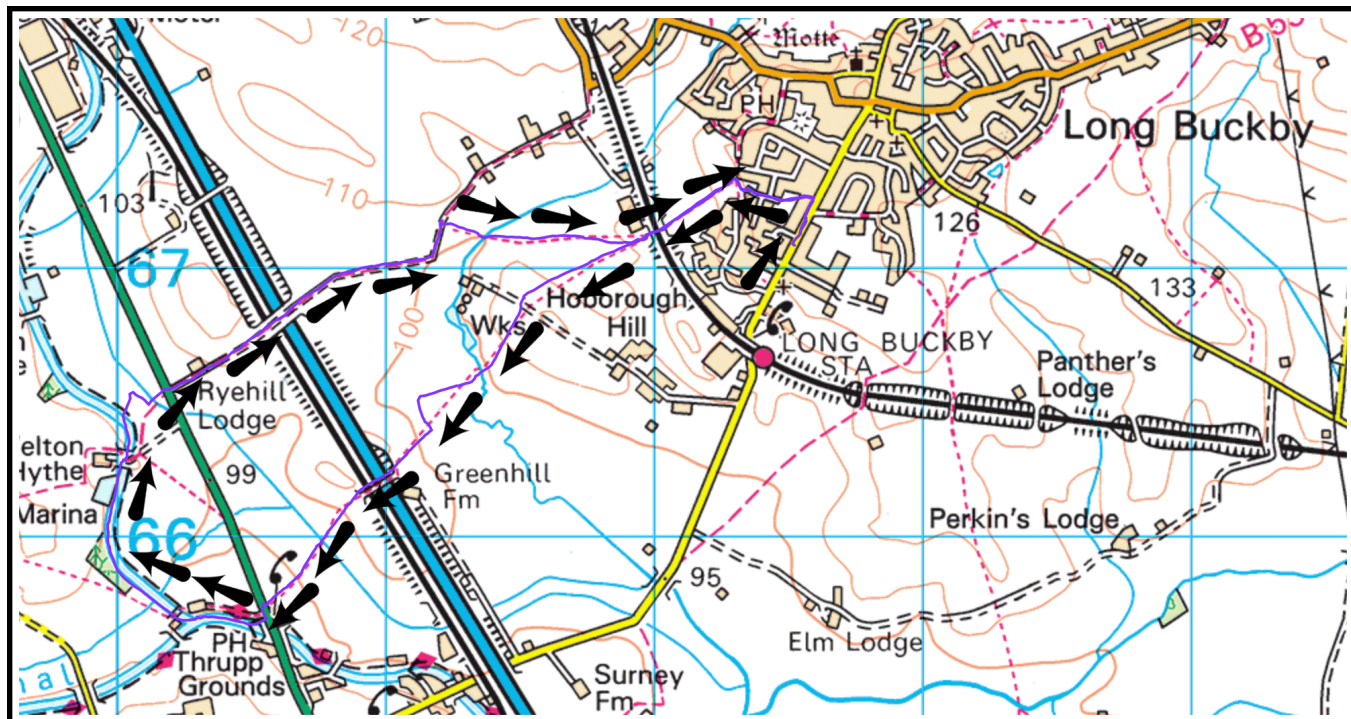


Long Buckby is a large village with a population of nearly 4000 people. This walk you will cross three main modes of transport for the area. You will pass under the main train line (yes, Long Buckby has its own train station), over the M1 and along the Grand Union Canal. You will see chickens, sheep and cows as well as rather large windmills. We hope you enjoy this dog friendly walk.



DISTANCE

4.8 miles / 7.72 km
/ 10,130 steps



ELEVATION

502 ft



CALCULATED TIME

Approx 2hrs



DIFFICULTY

Moderate



PHOTO CHALLENGE:

Your challenge, should you choose to accept it, is to capture a photo of a very strange listed building.

For each Adventure Geek walk we will challenge you to take a photo and upload to Facebook, Twitter or Instagram using the hashtag #AGPhotoChallenge.

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



1. Parking outside the Rugby Club, walking along Station Road (NN6 7QA) in the direction of the main village. cross the road on the zebra crossing and walk towards the village where you see the entrance to the recreation ground on the left. Note: The sign says “no dogs”, but dogs are ok if they are on a lead.



2. Check out the swings - they never had swings like that when I was a kid! Did release your inner child and have a go on the swings? Exit the park through the gate.



3. Keep to your right and walk down Ryehill Close.



4. You will soon run out of road. Look out for a grassy footpath on the left which is behind the end house.



5. Turn right at the next junction



6. Continue along the footpath and navigate the gate at the bottom of this track into the field (which can be challenging in the mud).



LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



7. Cross the field in the direction of the bridge that you can see in the distance.



8. Go through the gate and under the bridge. There are often cows in the next field (that were quite vocal).



9. Head towards the corner of the fence on your right, then you will see the footpath sign in the distance, on top of the hill, keeping the windmills to your left.



10. Go through the gate at the top of the hill and you will see a telecommunication mast in front of you. Cross over the concrete track and then bear right past the mast with the wind turbines to your left. (but before you do, take a look at those views to your left!)



11. Keeping the electric pylon to your right, and the windmills to your left, follow the footpath across the field. As you descend down the hill you are looking for a little wooden bridge.



12. Cross the wooden bridge into the next field and walk at a 10 O'Clock angle across the footpath. You are heading for the concrete bridge on the horizon.

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



13. As you cross this field please be aware that it can be extremely muddy when the weather is wet. Note: the public footpath does go straight across the field, but the farmer has not made it clear. You can either walk around the field, or straight through it.



14. Cross the bridge with the hum of the M1 beneath, which will bring you out to another field that also has fabulous views.



15. Cross the field and again you are seeking another small wooden footbridge that is weaved amongst the trees at the far end of the field.



16. Cross the footbridge



17. Then make your way through the metal gate.



18. Be aware that the next stile is rather high and a bit wobbly, so be careful when navigating it.

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



19. Be careful when crossing the A5, and turn left as you head towards the New Inn Pub (great pub - see details at the end of this walk).



20. Turn right before you get to the pub and follow the Grand Union Canal. No more fields for a while.



21. You are now walking along Norton Junction. Follow the path as it bends to the right and keep an eye out for a “listed building” in the Heritage category for historic England. (although it is not a building, but a milestone plaque). Braunston 4.1/4 miles, Leicester 41 1/4 miles.



22. Exit the towpath at the bridge and take the track that leads off to the right (but don't walk too far along that track as you are about to go across another field)



23. Turn left into the field.



24. Then take the footpath that leads across the field (although a few of us decided to follow the bridlepath around the outskirts of the field to keep the mud from our feet)

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



25. Cross the big wooden bridge and you will find yourself once again on the A5. You are now heading back towards the start. You are over half way.



26. Cross the A5 and follow the footpath track which you can see in front of you.



27. You will continue on this path which will take you through a farm that hosts an equine arena (with a big mirror on the right).



28. You will cross the M1 again and if you can ignore the noise of the cars then you will appreciate the beauty of the scenery in front of you.



29. Keep the hedgerow to your left and follow the footpath.



30. The footpath is so quiet and peaceful.

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



31. At the corner of the field take a left and continue straight on (passing the gap in the trees - just keep walking).



32. At the end of this field take a short right, and then you will see a kissing gate in front of you... follow the smell!



33. This next field is full of free range chickens! It is so lovely to see them running around, although the smell is not as pleasant!



34. As you exit the field, cross the wooden bridge.



35. It is difficult to see the next footpath sign, but it is the far side of the field. Walk towards 10 o'clock and towards the posts in the middle of the field. (check out the angle of the people walking on the photo).



36. This is what you are looking for at the other side of the field / hill. This is actually a double stile that has a plastic covering at the top to protect you from the barbed wire beneath. It is another very high stile, so those that are vertically challenged may need a hand).

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)



37. You will hopefully now start to recognise elements of this walk as you make your way to the cow shed at the bottom.



38. Once again, go through the railway bridge and make your way up the field towards the gate.



39. Go through the kissing gate (not sure if you can call it that?).



40. At the top of the path turn right. Yep, you did walk this section about 1.5hrs ago.



41. Make your way back through the estate.



42. As you walk up Ryehill Close you will then make your way back through the play park. As you emerge from the park you will see the Rugby Club a few hundred yards down the road to your right.

We hope you enjoyed today's walk.

LONG BUCKBY WINDMILL LOOP (AG17)

PUB BREAK

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