



National
Trust

Miller's Shoe Walk Hardwick Park



Hardwick Shoe Walks have been designed to be completed in ordinary shoes without the need for hiking boots and walking gear. Simply follow in the footsteps of a Miller or Lady Spencer by using the map cards. This route will take you approx 25 mins walking at a steady pace.



Miller's Shoe Walk Hardwick Park



Miller's Pond is so called because the river Doe Lea was dammed in 1630s to create a body of water to supply Stainsby Mill with constant water for milling.

- ! This walk starts from the Park Centre where car parking, toilets and a drinks machine are located. From the Park Centre turn right and follow the track over the bridge. When you reach a crossroads in the path turn left. On your right you will see an ancient Oak tree known locally as Bess' Oak as due to it's age it is likely to have been a small sapling when Bess herself was around.
- ! Follow the path along the edge of Miller's Pond. Look out for the kingfisher often seen here in spring and summer. The felled trees are Horse Chestnut which became diseased, new trees have been planted in their place to ensure the future of the historic and natural landscape here at Hardwick. The dead wood has been left as it provides a great habitat for insects. The grassy bank to your right is a great place to spot many different types of fungi in Autumn.
- ! At the far end of the pond turn left through the gate and walk along the head wall. Towards the bridge is a seat should you wish to rest your legs and admire the view.
- ! Once you cross over the bridge you enter Miller's Meadow where there are a number of picnic benches and a balancing trail for children. This is a good vantage point to watch birds on the lake such as swans and great crested grebes.
- ! Either path can be taken through Miller's Meadow which leads you back to the car park and Park Centre.

If you would like to explore more of the Hardwick Estate, why not join us on a Walk for Health, details available from the Park Centre or website. For the more intrepid explorers a map guide is available.

01246 858400

hardwickhall@nationaltrust.org.uk
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardwick

To find out more about walking, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/walkingfestival



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