

Places of interest to visit nearby

Things to see
and do in Sleaford

Cogglesford Mill
East Road, Sleaford
NG34 7EQ
Telephone: 07966 400634
www.heartoflincs.com

The Hub National Centre for Craft & Design
Navigation Wharf, Carre Street
Sleaford NG34 7TW
Telephone: 01529 308710
www.thehubcentre.info

Navigation House
Navigation Wharf, Carre Street
Sleaford NG34 7TW
Telephone: 01529 414294
www.heartoflincs.com

Whilst great care has been taken in compiling this information into this leaflet, North Kesteven District Council cannot be held responsible for any errors, omissions or alterations contained within it. The inclusion of an establishment within this leaflet does not imply any official recommendations by North Kesteven District Council.

Sleaford is an attractive and historic market town described by Pevsner as: 'An unpretentious but satisfying country town with an air of well-fed nonchalance.'

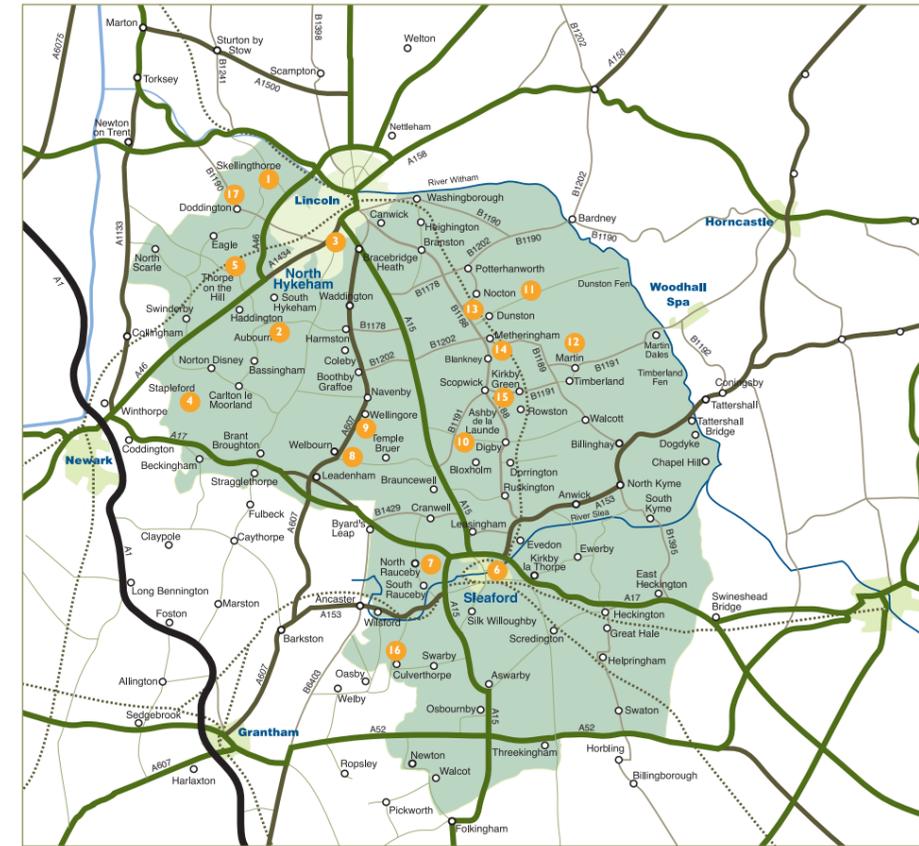
Sleaford has a wide range of specialist shops, accommodation, attractions, diverse places to eat and drink and a number of pleasant riverside walks.

Markets are held on Monday, Friday and Saturday each week, with a popular Farmers Market on the first Saturday of each month.



For further information on the above, contact Sleaford Tourist Information Centre on 01529 414294.

Go Stepping Out!



For more Stepping Out walks, further information on local attractions or accommodation, please call or visit:
Sleaford Tourist Information Centre, Money's Yard, Carre Street, Sleaford, Lincs NG34 7TW Telephone: 01529 414294
Email: tic@n-kesteven.gov.uk www.heartoflincs.com
Download all the Stepping Out walks by visiting www.countrysidenk.co.uk
www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk
www.visitlincolnshire.com
www.spiresandsteeples.com



ECS6857RT 2009

VISIT LINCOLNSHIRE

Stepping Out

Riverside Walk



districtnk
100 flourishing communities

North Kesteven District Council Heart of Lincolnshire

Distance 6.4 miles/10.3km



Walk
6b

www.countrysidenk.co.uk

Introduction

In 1872 the River Sleas was described by Trollope as 'a never-failing source of pure water'. As late as 1960 it was a trout river renowned with sportsmen as far away as Yorkshire. But in 1962 the river stopped flowing through Sleaford for the first time in recorded history and by the drought summer of 1976 the flow had seriously deteriorated. In 1983/4 the river completely dried up.

This degradation was due to a number of factors, chiefly over-use of water from the limestone aquifer for agricultural purposes. Strains on the springs feeding the Sleas also increased during the 1950s as the surrounding villages received piped water for the first time.

Finally in 1992, and largely thanks to the efforts of local campaigners, the future of the River Sleas was secured to the lasting advantage of the town that bears its name. A pump was installed at Drove Lane bore to keep the river running by guaranteeing a flow of up to four million litres a day, in case springs to the west of town run dry in summer.



Walk facts

Walk Location
A circular walk from the centre of Sleaford through to open countryside.

Starting Points
Cogglesford Mill
(Grid Ref: TF 076 462)

Parking
There are car parks marked on the map in Sleaford.

Public Transport
For information call the Traveline
on 0871 200 22 33 or visit
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/busrailtravel

Walk Length
6.4 miles (10.3km) and
should take 3 to 3½ hrs.

Type of Walk
A long walk through the countryside and farmland, with shorter alternatives available.

Ordnance Survey maps
Explorer 272 and Landranger 130



Riverside Walk



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1 From Cogglesford Mill, leave the car park and follow the River Slea on your left towards Sleaford, walking past Lollycocks Field Nature Reserve.

2 Cross over the bridge and turn right past Sleaford Leisure Centre. Follow the path straight ahead to Carre Street, over the zebra crossing and into Money's Yard, passing the Tourist Information Centre and Money's Mill. Exit to Southgate, Sleaford's main shopping area.

As an alternative route, turn left along Southgate, and cross the road. By Handley's Monument and the Nags Head pub, turn right into Nags Head passage and follow the path along the edges of Castlefields until you reach Castle Causeway. Turn right and follow this road until you reach point 4 at Electric Station Road.

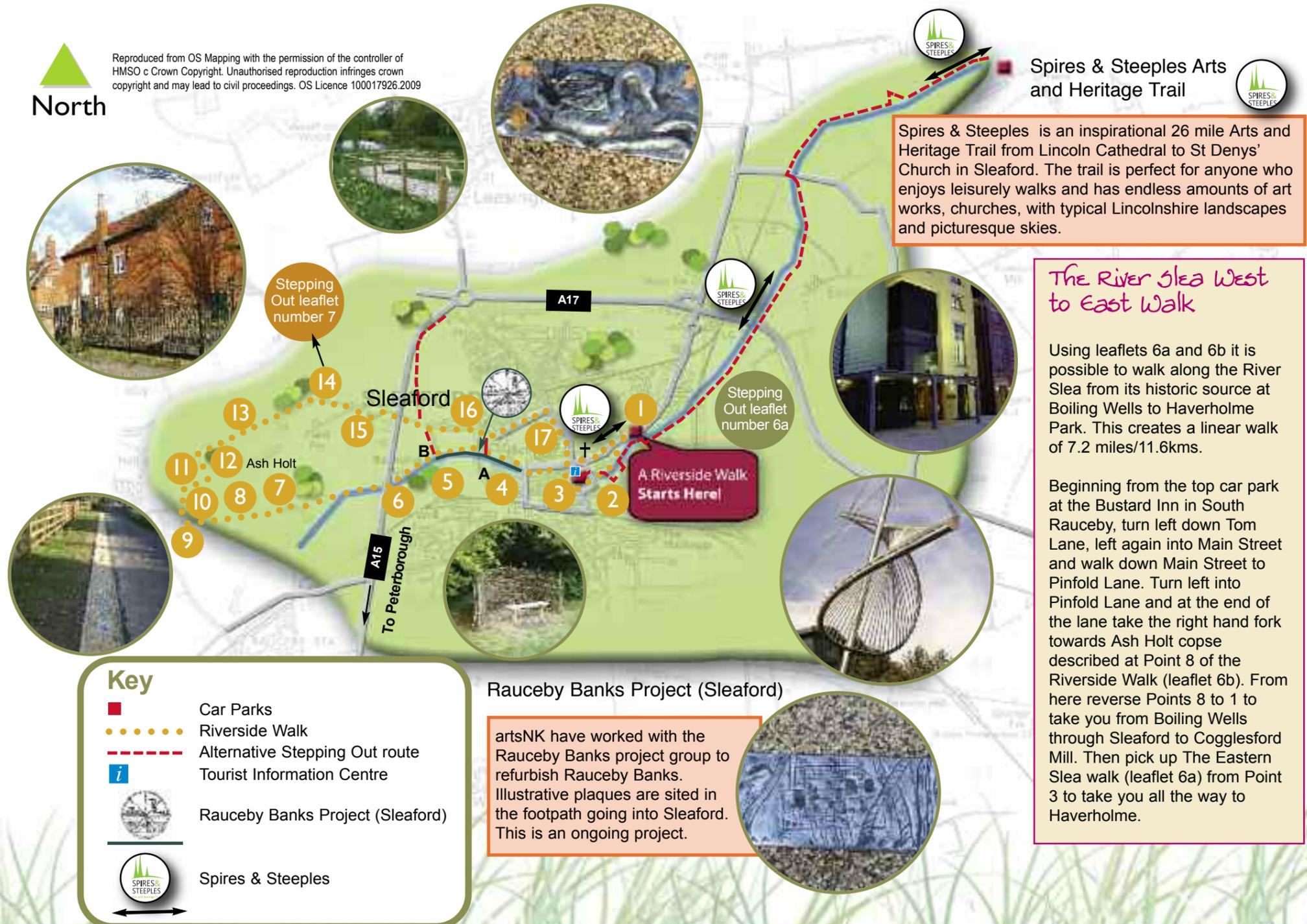
Turn right and cross Southgate at the pedestrian crossing opposite Walkers bookshop. Keep right and turn left into the Riverside Shopping Centre.

3 Follow the course of the river through the Riverside Shopping Centre keeping the bandstand on your left and exit right into Westbanks. Walk along the pavement for about 500 yards, to the T-junction with Castle Causeway. The river is always on your right.

4 Cross Castle Causeway and follow the tarmac path along the side of the River Slea until the houses on the opposite side of the river end. Here you will see a path leading off to your right. This is marked as Point A on your map and will take you on a much shorter walk back to your starting point. To take the shorter route follow the path into Bristol Way until it joins The Drove. *Turn right onto The Drove and follow it until you reach Northgate. Turn right into Northgate and walk down the hill until you reach the pedestrian crossing. Cross the road and continue down the hill, then turn left into Eastgate. Keep St Denys' Church on your left and go past North Kesteven District Council and Lollycocks Field, returning to your car at Cogglesford Mill.

5 For a further shorter walk continue along the riverside path as it goes under the Sleaford to Lincoln railway line and then up onto the bed of the old Cranwell Railway. This line leads off to your right and joins The Drove at Point B. Turn right and return to Sleaford using the directions contained from* in point 4.

6 To follow the longer walk, continue along the riverside with Guildhall and Cobblers Hole Springs on your left, and Bouncing Hill to your right until



Spires & Steeples Arts and Heritage Trail

Spires & Steeples is an inspirational 26 mile Arts and Heritage Trail from Lincoln Cathedral to St Denys' Church in Sleaford. The trail is perfect for anyone who enjoys leisurely walks and has endless amounts of art works, churches, with typical Lincolnshire landscapes and picturesque skies.

The River Slea West to East Walk

Using leaflets 6a and 6b it is possible to walk along the River Slea from its historic source at Boiling Wells to Haverholme Park. This creates a linear walk of 7.2 miles/11.6kms.

Beginning from the top car park at the Bustard Inn in South Rauceby, turn left down Tom Lane, left again into Main Street and walk down Main Street to Pinfold Lane. Turn left into Pinfold Lane and at the end of the lane take the right hand fork towards Ash Holt copse described at Point 8 of the Riverside Walk (leaflet 6b). From here reverse Points 8 to 1 to take you from Boiling Wells through Sleaford to Cogglesford Mill. Then pick up The Eastern Sleas walk (leaflet 6a) from Point 3 to take you all the way to Haverholme.

Rauceby Banks Project (Sleaford)

artsNK have worked with the Rauceby Banks project group to refurbish Rauceby Banks. Illustrative plaques are sited in the footpath going into Sleaford. This is an ongoing project.

Key

- Car Parks
- Riverside Walk
- - - Alternative Stepping Out route
- i Tourist Information Centre
- Rauceby Banks Project (Sleaford)
- Spires & Steeples

you see the A15 Sleaford bypass ahead. Follow the waymarkers to the right and with great care, cross the busy A15. Once across the A15 follow the waymarkers left for a short distance and then bear right rejoining the River Slea.

7 Follow this path until you see a group of farm buildings ahead. This is Boiling Wells Farm. At this point the path leaves the River Slea. Look for a waymarker leading diagonally right and take the path across the field towards a gap in the hedgerow ahead.

8 Pass through the gap and follow the grassy path past Boiling Wells Farm and over a stile onto a field edge path with the hedgerow on your right. Follow the waymarkers as they lead you along the edge of the fields towards a small wood called Ash Holt.

9 Pass through the woodland with a disused limestone quarry on your right until you see a metal sculpture. Entitled 'In the Field' and designed by Richard Farrington for artsNK, the sculpture represents the fields around the village of South Rauceby.

10 At the sculpture, follow the waymarkers as they bear left, until you reach a junction with a farm track with parkland beyond. The Bustard Inn Public House can be found along Main Street in the village.

11 Turn right onto this track, which leads towards Hall Farm.

12 Once you reach Hall Farm the track forks. Take the right-hand path, keeping the farm buildings to your left and head into open

countryside. With historic views of Sleaford across Bouncing Hill to your right, continue along this track, following the waymarkers as the track bears left towards another copse.

13 The track takes you through the copse, and then bends right around the edge of the trees. Look out for an unusual bench carved for artsNK by Simon Todd entitled 'Sleeping Shepherd Seat'.

14 Follow this track through open countryside until you see another copse on your left, the buildings of Field Farm on your right and you reach a junction of waymarkers. The path to your left belongs to Rauceby Stepping Out walk number 7, so carry straight on walking towards a small group of trees.

15 Pass through the trees and join Drove Lane, which takes you back to the A15. Cross this road with care and follow The Drove back towards Sleaford. A wide track, which joins the lane from your right takes you back to Point B.

16 A further waymarked path leads right, into a housing estate. This will return you to Point A. To complete the longer circular route, continue along the lane until you reach Northgate.

17 Turn right down Northgate, turning left into and cross the market place, walking towards St Denys' Church. Keep the church on your left and continue along East Road to Lollycocks Field and return to the car park at Cogglesford Mill.