

Morton-on-Swale and Spring House farm shop – about 1 ½ hours

At time of writing there is considerable nettle growth; long trousers are advised.

From the Coore Arms head south on Station Road, past the entrance to Meadow Drive and past the first "public footpath" sign. Immediately after the house called "Fairlea" turn left, into a field, at the second "public footpath" sign. At time of writing this second sign is very overgrown by a mountain ash, so keep a good look-out for it.

The path goes along the edge of the field, with a hedge on your left. When you come to the end of the hedge on your left, the path continues in pretty much the same direction, along the line of the nearest set of pylons.

When the pilots veer right, the path doesn't. It keeps going in a straight line towards the stile you can see directly in front of you. At time of writing this stile is a little bit wobbly, so take care when crossing it.

Cross over the stile into the next field where the path heads for a stile that is beside the gate you can see in the southern edge of the field.

Cross this next stile and continue in the same direction you have just been heading for a set of steps over a fence and up a bank onto the Wensleydale Railway line. This bank is one of the points where there is a lot of nettle growth.

The continuation of the path south of the railway line is very difficult to spot, as it is hidden by some Elder bushes. To find it, walk left along the railway line for a few paces looking under the Elder until you spot a set of steps over the fence, similar to the ones over the fence on the north fence. This is another of the points where there is a lot of nettle growth.

Cross over the steps into the field and go through one of the gaps in the hedge to your left into another field.

In this next field make for the stile you can see in the wire fence opposite you. To find the stile look at the wire fence and, at one point you will see a wooden bar along the top wire. This is where the stile is.

Cross the stile into the next field and make for the middle of the Morton bridge in the distance. As you get closer to the wire fence that separates you from it you will see another wooden bar along the top wire at one part of that fence. This is where the stile is. At time of writing this stile is very overgrown by nettles.

Cross the stile and walk to the stile you can see at the nearer end of the Morton bridge.

Cross the stile onto the A684 and cross the A684 onto the verge at the south side of the road.

The A684 is a fast, noisy, busy road. However it has wide verges, particularly on the south side of the road. It also has lovely open farmland views. Please take especial care if you have children or animals with you as the loud traffic noises can startle them.

Walk west on the A684 past the junction with Station Road, signposted for Scruton and continue along this road until you come to Spring House farm shop, where you might be persuaded to buy a treat.

[OPTIONAL DETOUR: If you are interested in planes and keen for a slightly longer walk, the road to the left goes down towards RAF Leeming and provides a reasonable location for plane spotting.]

When you leave Spring House Farm Shop come back to the A684 and cross it to Ham Hall Lane.

Walking along Ham Hall Lane will bring you back to Scruton.

At the Scruton end of Ham Hall Lane, it joins Fleetham Lane. Turn right along this lane and follow it back to The Coore Arms.

Remember...

Keeps dogs on leads, leave gates as you find them, take rubbish home and have fun.