

Leap in the Park: Leagram Short Circular



Start Point ★

Chipping Village Car Park
★ SD 6214 4330

Distance/Time

2.5m/4km
1 Hr

Terrain

Lanes, tracks, fields (can get muddy in parts), includes a number of stiles. The trail passes through farmland so be aware of livestock and keep dogs on a lead.



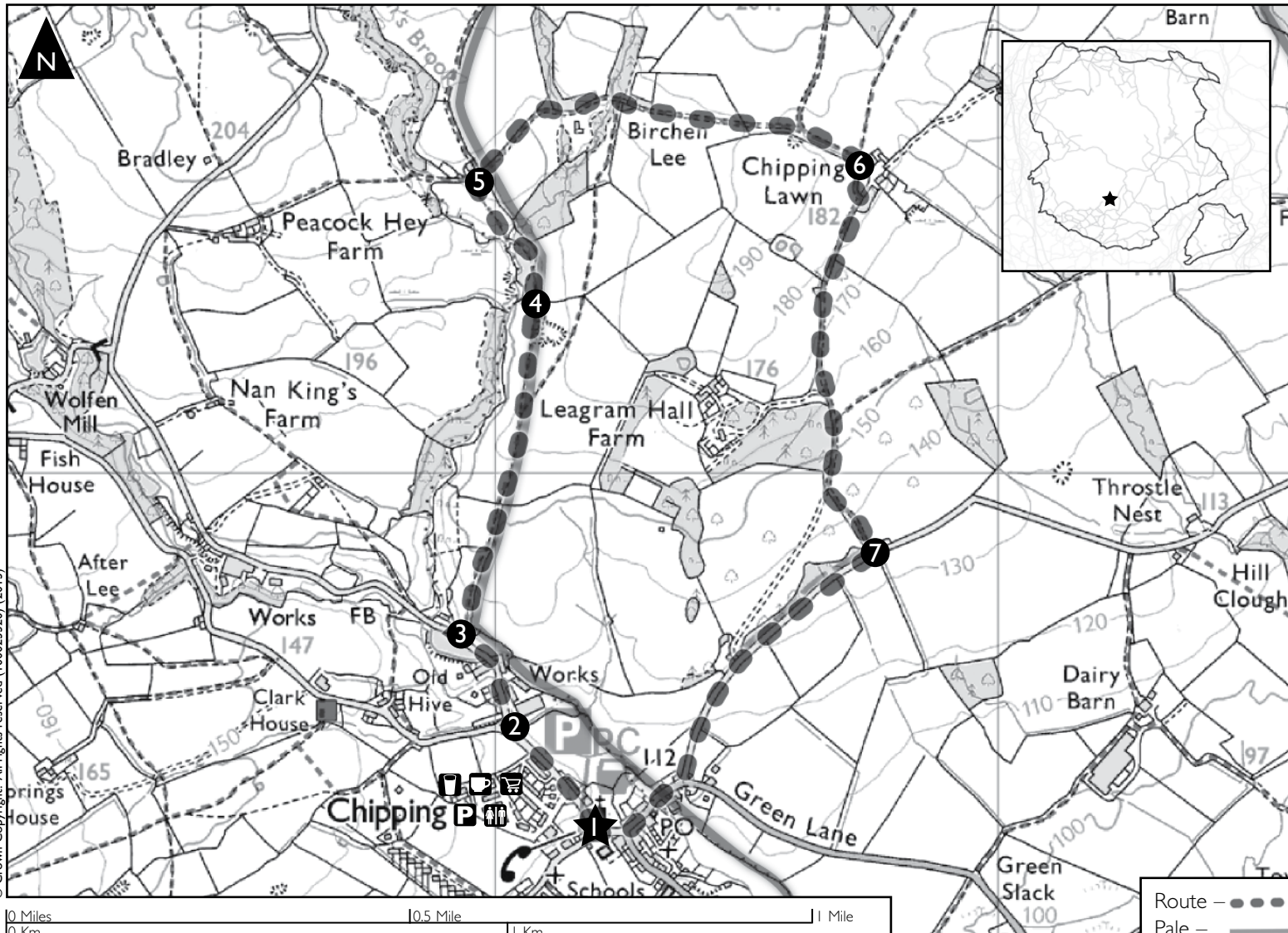
Key to Facilities

Chipping –

Pub, Shops, Cafe, Car park, Toilets

GPS Waypoints (OS grid refs)

- ★ SD 6215 4330
- ② SD 6203 4348
- ③ SD 6194 4368
- ④ SD 6208 4434
- ⑤ SD 6195 4459
- ⑥ SD 6271 4459
- ⑦ SD 6275 4385
- ⑧ SD 6238 4339



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Walk Description

Use of a map for this walk is essential please use OS Explorer OL41

★GPS: SD 6215 4330

Start from Chipping Village car park. Leave the car park by walking towards the church to meet the road called Church Rake. Turn left and continue ahead, away from the village, passing Kirk Cottages on your left, until you meet a fork in the road.

②GPS: SD 6203 4348

Take a right here and continue ahead, passing Grove Row on your left go over the bridge, and then pass Kirk Mill on your left. Continue uphill passing Mill Pond House on the right, and then take a right into the next driveway where you go over the wooden stile on the right.

③GPS: SD 6194 4368

Go uphill, keeping to the right fence edge. It can get very muddy towards the top of the hill, especially after bad weather. *Once you reach the brow of the hill take a moment to soak up the lovely views around the Forest of Bowland –look right for views back to*

Chipping, Longridge Fell and Pendle Hill and look left to see Parlick. Continue ahead to reach a wooden stile in the right hand corner. The ditch on your right here marks the boundary of the deer park. It is called the pale. Continue ahead to the left of the telegraph poles and then begin to head diagonally left, slightly downhill towards a wooden kissing gate The ledge you've been walking along here is the pale boundary.

④GPS: SD 6208 4434

Keep ahead on the well walked path which will soon bear left into a wooded area and cross over a wooden footbridge. Turn right at the other end of the bridge and then continue uphill keeping to the right fence edge of the field. Aim for the left side of Windy Hills farm house where you go through a wooden gate and turn right into the farmyard.

⑤GPS: SD 6195 4459

Continue straight ahead along the lane. Passing through some farm buildings keep ahead until you reach Birchin Lee

on your left. Continue ahead along this well laid track. *When you reach the cattle grid, take a moment to look diagonally left and over to where you can see Radholme Deer Park. Continue ahead once again to see New Laund Farm ahead, but bear right on the lane before you actually enter the farmyard.*

⑥GPS: SD 6271 4459

Keep going down the lane, you will see Leagram Hall on your right. You will soon reach the road where you need to turn right.

⑦GPS: SD 6275 4385

Take an immediate right to join the concessionary bridleway, through a wooden gate. Continue along here until the end where you will then re-join the road (see Leagram Lodge on your right) and follow the road down to a T-junction

⑧GPS: SD 6238 4339

Turn right and follow the road back into the village.



Leap in the Park: Leagram Short Circular



 Leap in the Park

Walk Description

Kirk Mill was originally a water-powered corn mill and there are documents showing that the mill dates back to the 1400s. It was converted into a cotton spinning mill in 1785 by a company using building plans and water powered machines based on Sir Richard Arkwright's designs. The water wheel is still in place and it measures 6m in diameter and 1.5m wide. Cotton spinning ended here in 1866, when supplies of raw cotton ran short during the American Civil War. In the late 19th Century Berry's established a joinery and chair-making business in the mill, but the old buildings have been little altered. Berry's closed in 2011 and Kirk Mill remains as the last Arkwright-style mill in Lancashire.

Leagram Hall was originally the Deer Park Lodge which acted as an occasional home to the park owner, and as a hunting lodge for visiting noblemen and the park keeper. It was built in an 'H' shape, probably of timber and plaster, and with a rush thatch roof. This lodge was later replaced with stone structures between the 1770s and 1860s by father and son, Thomas and George

Weld who inherited the estate from the Shireburn family. The current Leagram Hall was built in 1965, and it is still owned by the Weld-Blundell family who live there today.

The Pale or deer park boundary consisted of earthworks constructed in the middle of the 14th century. At Leagram the pale is over 10km long and stretches from here up to Stanley common, round to Knot Hill and Loud Mythom, then along the river to Gibbon Bridge and Pale, before returning to Chipping. A ditch 2.4m wide and 1.2m deep was dug, with an embankment on the outside and a palesbord or timber fence on top. Thorn bushes would also be planted on the inside of the bank to keep deer away from the fence. The pale encircled the park to keep fallow deer in and poachers out. This is one of the best remaining sections of the pale that you will see on the walk.

For further information about A Leap in the Park Project visit:

www.forestofbowland.com/aleapinthepark

Chipping - The walk starts and finishes in Chipping, a picturesque village on the slopes above the River Loud. This is a conservation area with stone-built cottages, 17th century school and almshouses endowed by John Brabin, dyer and cloth merchant. The village has a number of shops and eating places and Robinson's butchers where you can buy local ice cream. Brabin's shop, gallery and tearoom is the oldest continuously trading shop in Britain, established 1668. It has an art gallery with exhibitions of work by local artists and a tea garden next to Chipping Brook serving tea, coffee and home-made cakes. The walk also passes the Gibbon Bridge Hotel, an independent, privately owned, four star country hotel offering luxury accommodation and fine dining. For a café meal, consider the Cobbled Corner or try a pub meal at the Sun Inn or Tillotsons Arms.



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