

Route 1. A walk from Ecclesfield Church to Whitley

Distance: 2 miles

Time: Allow 1 hour

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 278 Sheffield and Barnsley

Start: Priory Road by Ecclesfield Church, S35 9XZ

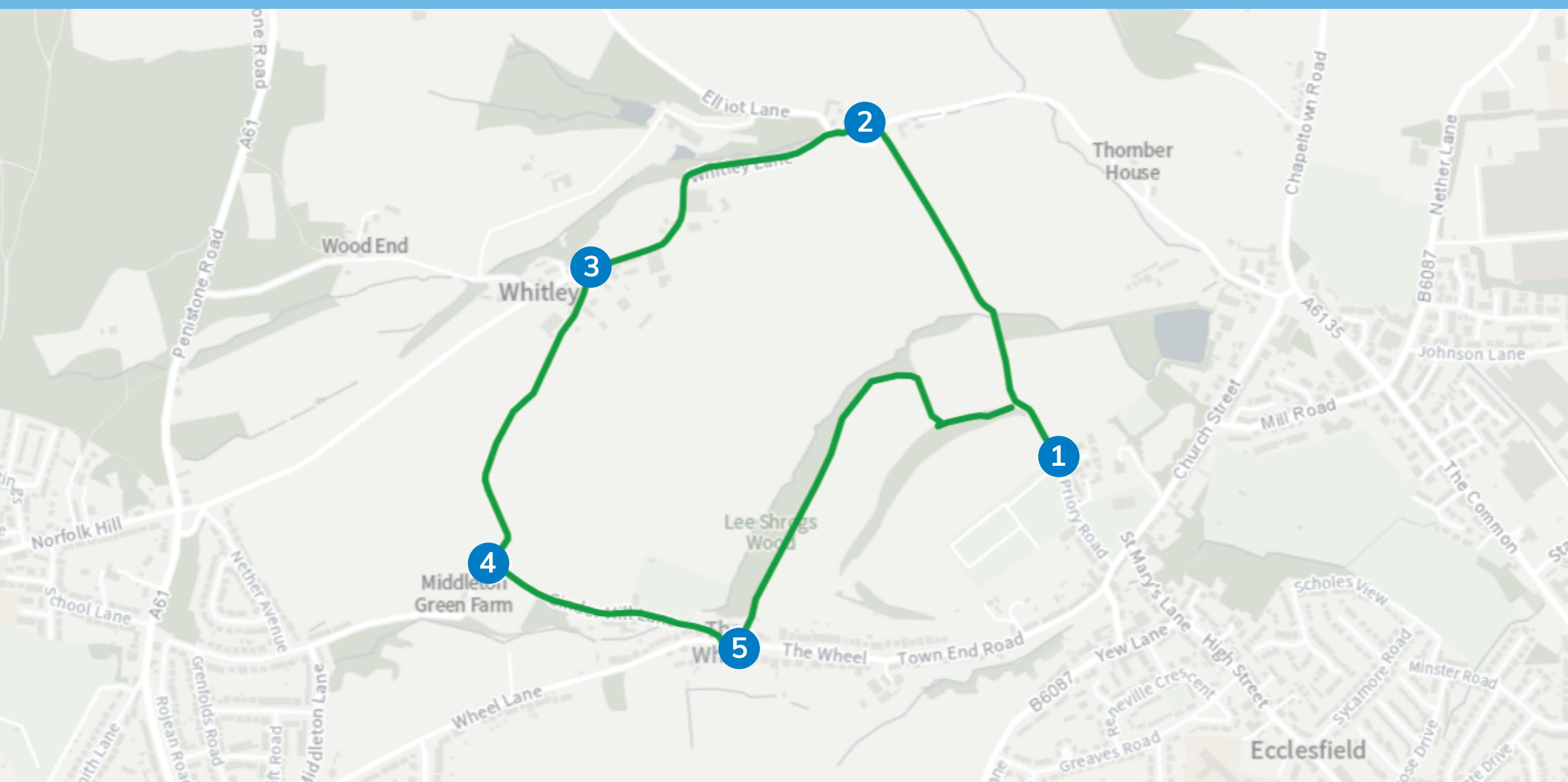
Public Transport: For information on public transport ring the South Yorkshire Traveline on 01709 515151 or visit www.travelsouthyorkshire.com

Car Parking: On Priory Road at Ecclesfield. Please park sensibly.

Public Toilets: None on route

Refreshments: There are a few public houses in Ecclesfield.

Level of difficulty: Easy. Some stiles and slopes across fields, but also along roads. Boots or stout shoes are advisable.



The Route

Points of interest are shown in bold

- 1** From Priory Road, above the **Gatty Memorial Hall**, continue up the road onto a well-used track. Follow the track to where it forks and take the paved public footpath on the right down the hill between the fields. There are views here across to Greno Woods in the distance. Cross the stream at the bottom and go up the other side. The paved surface ends here but the path continues across the field to emerge on the drive leading to Hole House Farm. Follow the drive round to the left on to Whitley Lane.
- 2** Continue up Whitley Lane to the junction with Elliott Lane and carry straight on up the hill. Hoyle House at the junction is a very old building with a half-timbered and brick frontage. **Whitley Hall Hotel** is on the right through the trees. As the road bends left into the small hamlet of **Whitley**, past Holly House, there is a good view back across the fields to Ecclesfield.
- 3** In the middle of Whitley take the public bridleway on the left (this is also the Trans Pennine Trail) leading towards a yellow house (Oak Cottage) and carry on along the track between the houses, through the trees. The tree-lined track leads into a field. Keep the hedge on your right to skirt the edge of the field and emerge through a gateway at Cinder Hill Lane in the small settlement of **Middleton Green**. In the middle distance to your left you can see the large buildings of a new business development built on the site of the former **Smithy Wood Coking Plant**. The row of houses on your right once housed a school.
- 4** Turn left on Cinder Hill Lane and go down the lane, passing Whitley Hall Cricket Club on your left, and emerging at the junction with The Wheel. Turn left down this road.
- 5** After 50 yards turn left on a public footpath which goes between the houses. The path emerges into a field. Bear diagonally to the right across the open field and go over the stile, heading towards the top of the hill. Follow the path round to the left back to the junction with the paved path. Continue round to the right to emerge onto Priory Lane and the starting point.

Possible extensions to this walk

You may wish to take time to explore **Ecclesfield Church and village**. This walk can be combined with the historical walk provided by Ecclesfield Conservation Group around Ecclesfield Village.

See www.conservation.ecclesfieldgroups.com or the leaflet: *Discover Ecclesfield's working past 1. The Village Core*