Trail from St. Stephen's Church, Stainmore

to Kirkby Stephen Parish Church

Retrace the route back to the cattle grid by the Mouthlock Centre and turn right • . Follow this road ignoring the right turn for Brough. Descend a steep hill with hairpin bends and cross the River Belah in its wooded valley. After about ½ mile, Duckintree Farm is passed on the right. A further ½ mile along this road turn left • signposted Rookby & Heggerscale. Go down this lane for 1/4 mile and bear right • signposted Winton where a house stands on its own facing the junction. For the next 1/4 mile the road is a narrow, sunken lane before it widens out again. Ignore a left turn and go straight on • until the road descends into Winton. At the village green fork left • passing The Bay Horse pub on the left. About 200m after leaving the village fork right • at the foot of a hill. This lane will lead to a T-junction with the A685. Turn left • and the town of Kirkby Stephen is just \(\frac{1}{4} \) mile further on. Park in the Market Square, and walk through the Cloisters to the church.

This Church Trail leaflet has been produced by:

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Kirkby Stephen Parish Church





Brough St. Michael







in Appleby Deanery The Diocese of Carlisle





Church Trail

Exploring the Upper Eden Valley and South Stainmore

Spectacular views of the North Pennines and peaceful country churches to visit

20 mile circular touring route to drive or cycle visiting three Churches Kirkby Stephen - Brough - Stainmore

"Search for the Church" Trail No. 2

visiting churches at Kirkby Stephen, Brough, & Stainmore



Kirkby Stephen Parish Church is situated in the centre of the small market town of Kirkby Stephen, which straddles the A685. The entrance to the churchyard is found by walking through the Cloisters from the side of the Market Square.

About the church...

Don't miss the "Cathedral of the Dales" - steep yourself in the 1000 year history of the site of this beautiful Parish Church in the centre of this ancient Market Town. Examine the Loki Stone - from the 10th century - one of only two known to exist; and among other treasures, the Norman coffin and the ancient bushel measure .

...further visitor information available in church

Trail from Kirkby Stephen Parish Church

to St. Michael's Church, Brough

From the cloisters in the Market Square turn right • onto the A685 going towards Brough. Turn left • at a mini-roundabout signposted *Soulby & Crosby Garrett*. After ½ mile, as the secondary school is passed on the left, bear right • at a fork signposted *Soulby 2½*. On entering Soulby village, the road drops down to cross a bridge over Scandal Beck.

Scandal Beck is a tributary of the River Eden, with its source high on the flanks of Wild Boar Fell. It flows through Ravenstonedale and the beautiful, hidden valley of Smardale (a nature reserve) before reaching Soulby a mile downstream from its junction with the River Eden.

At the crossroads in the centre of the village turn right • signposted *Little Musgrave* and *Great Musgrave*. Leave Soulby, passing the cemetary on the left. Stay on this quiet lane until Little Musgrave is reached.

The North Pennines - AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) - dominate the view ahead. Cross Fell, highest top of the Pennine range, is prominent away to the far left.

At a T-junction turn right • signposted *Musgrave & Kirkby Stephen*; after ½ mile another T-junction is reached. Turn left • signposted *Great Musgrave*. The River Eden is crossed at Musgrave Bridge; shortly after turn right on a bend • signposted *Great Musgrave & Brough*. Go straight through the village ignoring turns to right and left.

Further along, the road runs close to Swindale Beck, where often a heron can be seen fishing. To the left there is a view of the side profile of Roman Fell and to the right the Norman ruins of Brough Castle come into view.

Eventually the road crosses the A66 dual carriageway and enters Brough. At the T-junction turn right • signposted *Brough* and go along the wide main street. At the clock tower turn right • signposted *A685 Kirkby Stephen & Kendal*. Pass under the A66 flyover and very shortly after turn right • into Church Brough.

At the T-junction turn left • and then turn right • into The Square where parking is available. Walk to the top left corner of the Square and then follow the lane downhill to the gates of St. Michael's Church.



St. Michael's Church, Brough

The church and dwellings around The Square at Church Brough form a typical mediaeval settlement plan that grew originally around the Norman castle. Market Brough on the other side of the A66 grew later as trade developed.

About the church...

Beautifully situated in a large, peaceful churchyard, the earliest part of the building dates back to the early Norman period (late 11th century). An unusual feature is the slope of the nave - the church was built on the mediaeval "banking" principle, so the interior slopes gently up to the chancel.

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...further visitor information available in church

Trail from St. Michael's Church, Brough

to St. Stephen's Church, Stainmore

Retrace the route back to the A685 and turn right • towards *Kirkby Stephen*. After 200m turn left • signposted *South Stainmore 4*. At a crossroads go straight over • signposted *Barras 2¹/₄, South Stainmore 3*. After 1 mile, the Argill Beck is crossed by a stone bridge and then the road climbs steeply to a T-junction. Turn left • signposted *Tanhill 6¹/₄, Bowes 10¹/₂*. In less than ½ mile turn left • at a crossroads where the Mouthlock Centre is on the opposite corner. Cross a cattle grid onto unenclosed land and follow this lane for ¾ mile until St. Stephen's Church is reached on South Stainmore (by the telephone box).

On a clear day the view from this elevated position is outstanding, taking a broad sweep across the Eden Valley towards the Lakeland Fells in the distance.



St. Stephen's Church, Stainmore

Now the daughter church to St. Michael's, Brough, this tiny church was once the parish church serving the scattered communities on Stainmore. Standing in a harsh environment, it reflects the rugged character of the area.

: About the church...

The church dates back to 1600. It was built as a school under the will of Cuthbert Buckle, a local man who became Lord Mayor of London. In 1608 it was consecrated and became Stainmore Chapel, subordinate to Brough. In 1842-43 it was rebuilt by Lord Thanet at a cost of £800.00.

...further visitor information available in church