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Starting at YO25 9JZ /// contact.tasteful.contained

- 1. Start your walk from the Field Head Coffee Barn car park and I'd highly recommend a quick refreshment stop to get you fired up for the walk ahead! Afterwards head out around the back of the coffee barn along the permitted path to a gate in the hedge at the bottom of their field. Go through the gate and turn left
- 2. Follow the edge of the field turning right at the first corner until you come to the Wolds Rangers Way running along the top where the permitted path ends and you will find a sign to the coffee shop. Turn left onto the 1st side of the 'square'
- 3. Follow the Wolds Rangers Way straight ahead into Deep Dale which comes into view at a line of trees. At the line of trees coming up from the left go through a wooden gate.
- 4. Almost immediately look out for a gate on your right, which is way-marked. The Wolds Rangers Way path goes straight ahead but you need to go through the gate on your right and take the higher path along for a short distance.
- 5. The path bends upwards and to your right, and in a short while turn the corner onto the 2nd side of the 'square'.
- 6. Now just follow the path along straight ahead in front of you, for about 1.75 miles, as it follows the field edges. Don't forget to look back as the views down into Deepdale are lovely. The route goes from running along a quite a grassy wide path to a 2-strip stony path between shallow embankments. The views of the Wolds all around you on this stretch are incredibly open with big skies and agricultural landscapes stretching off into the distance on all sides.

The name 'wold' is thought to have its origins in Old English, meaning "wooded upland", but today it usually refers to a piece of high open land or moor. The landscape of the Yorkshire Wolds is made up of high flat plateaus and deep dry grassy valleys and woodlands. Chalk soils have created natural drainage, which, combined with the mild climate, has meant that agriculture has dominated the area for generations.

- 7. The path eventually runs through Centre House Farm, where it is best to put dogs back onto a lead. You will come to the footpath at the road in North Dalton, where you should turn right along the 3rd side of the 'square'.
- 8. Walk along the pavement to where Huggate Road crosses it you will also spot a post box straight ahead. Walk across Huggate Road and to the right of the house directly in front of you. Behind it you will see the Minster Way footpath sign and a sign to the Village Hall. Head in this direction.
- 9. Walk past the village hall on your right along the road marked as a dead-end. The tarmac roadway past Tithe Farm (on your left) comes to a footpath sign for the Minster Way and a public bridleway.
- 10. Continue ahead on the yellow way-marked path through the trees which slopes slightly uphill with a fence line on your left. The path emerges to follow the edge of a field, and swings left at a way-marker post.
- 11. At a tree and before the hedge line the path turns right along the edge of a field (do not go straight ahead towards the clump of trees). There is also a yellow way marker on a post at the hedge line which points the way. This continues your stretch on this 3rd side of the 'square' for just over a mile.
- 12. Follow the path along the side of fields keeping the hedge on your left as it undulates up and down, and, to Bill's delight, through some very large puddles. Eventually you will come to a T junction as the path joins a concrete farm road / green highway. Turn right (do not follow the Minster Way which turns left) onto the 4th side of the 'square'.
- 13. Follow this farm road all the way along for about 3/4 of a mile, past Tithe Top Farm and the large metal silos. The roadway comes out at a minor road which you cross straight over to re-join the path sign posted by a signpost which reads 'Highway leading to Public Bridleway'. Follow this sheltered green highway all the way along to the top where it joins the Wolds Rangers Way again and the 1st side of your 'square'.
- 14. Turn right and you are now on your final leg of the walk.
- 15. Follow the grassy path along the edge of the field to your left. As you pass Haywold Farm the path comes out on a small stretch of tarmac farm road. Follow this ahead for a short distance and then at the Public Bridle Way signpost keep following the now grassy path straight ahead (do not continue on the tarmac path as it swings right). This is a lovely stretch where I saw lots of wild flowers growing along the edge of the footpath. Follow the path along.
- 16. At a way-marker post the path swings up to your left to cross to the other side of the hedge line, now on your right. Just keep following the Wolds Rangers Way for about another 1/2 mile looking out for your starting point and the sign to the Coffee Barn (shop), where you will turn left again and follow the permitted path back along the field edge to the gate to the Coffee Barn. Now it's time for that well-earned cuppa and big slice of cake!