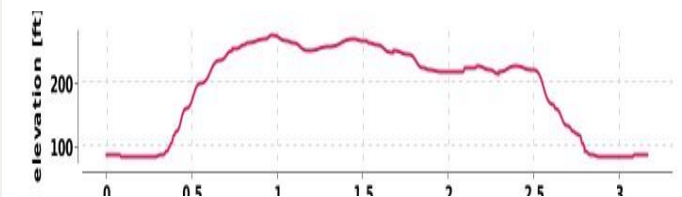


## Route Information

### Zigzag Plantation Rudston

|                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Distance             | 3.17 mi (5.1 km)        |
| (excluding walk to church) |                         |
| Elevation                  | 83 ft at lowest point   |
|                            | 275 ft at highest point |
| Total Ascent               | 223 ft                  |

### Elevation Profile



Starting from: YO25 4UN ///trap.super.users



1. Park up on South Side Lane in Rudston, being careful not to block any access, then head out down the lane away from the main road. You will soon come to the start of the path at a sign post which points left, BUT go straight on and through the metal bar gate.

*Bulmer's Directory of 1892 described Rudston as follows. "Rudston is a parish and township comprising 5,550 acres; the estimated extent, according to the overseer's returns, is 5,258½ acres, and the rateable value £5,154. The population in 1891 was 578. Alexander Wentworth Macdonald Bosville, Esq., of Thorpe Hall; Sir Henry Somerville Boynton, Bart., of Burton Agnes (who is lord of the manor); the Earl of Londesborough, and the vicar in right of his glebe, are the principal landowners. The surface is boldly undulated and well wooded on the higher grounds, presenting some fine patches of sylvan scenery."*

2. Follow the wide path (which can be muddy) around the edge of the field and at the woodland it bends right and then left, slightly up hill.

3. You will come to a fork in the path, which is where you will re-join it on your way back, but for now take the path heading right at the signpost and carry on along the field edges with Zigzag Plantation on your left.

4. Just keep walking along the wide grassy path enjoying the 'sylvan scenery' that Bulmer's Directory talks of. You will pass a gap in the trees on your left which is where Zigzag Plantation ends and South Side Plantation begins, and if you wanted to do a really short walk you could cut through here, turn left and re-join our walk at point 11.

5. At the end of the path is a metal bar gate and a road where you turn left. This road is on the route of a Roman road with various earthworks and tumuli along it (particularly if you had turned right at the road).



*A Roman villa, dating from the 4th century, was first excavated near Rudston in 1839 and reported in the Gentleman's Magazine. This date is fairly late in the scheme of Roman Britain, but it contained some of the best examples of Roman mosaics and painted wall plaster from the North of England. The site was then extensively researched from 1962-1972, when evidence of Iron-Age settlement and burials were uncovered along with further details of the Roman villa including a well and field systems. One of the most impressive discoveries were two mosaics, one depicting a charioteer and another named the Rudston Venus mosaic. The latter shows a bull, a lion and a central bear with four hunting figures surrounding the central figure, which are thought to be depictions of venatores; professional gladiators which specialised in the killing of wild animals in the arena. These mosaics are now on show in the Hull Museum of Transport and Archaeology and The East Riding and Hull Museum respectively.*



6. Carry on along the road, which is fairly quiet, for about half a mile, past Woldgate reservoir and mast until you come to a sign post where you turn left.

7. Follow the path along the field edge, where Bill had a mad romp in some puddles and mud, and enjoy the lovely views out to your right.

8. When the path reaches some woodland look for the blue way-marker that points left, where the path goes left and then right through a stretch of trees.



9. As the path emerges from the trees carry on straight ahead with the woods now on your right. Over on your left in the middle of the field are the remains of South Side Mount Tumulus.

*Although plough damaged, this Neolithic / late Bronze-Age round barrow still survives to a height of nearly 3 metres with a diameter of around 30 metres. The barrow was built for the body of a young infant, although several bones from a young woman were also found, which could belong to the child's mother who may have died and been buried some time before, only to be dug up to be reunited with her young child at its death.*



10. At the end of the woodland the path bends left to go between two posts along a wide grassy stretch heading back towards Zigzag Plantation.

11. Back at the Plantation, the path turns right and follows the edge of the woodland on your left, all the way back to point 3 along Hop Walk . Here you just pick up the path you came out on and follow it all the way back to the start.

12. Once you are back in Rudston, I highly recommend visiting All Saints Church and the impressive Rudston Monolith, which can be found by walking up to the main road at Burton Agnus Balk / Long Street and turning right onto East Gate.

13. Follow East Gate over the Gypsy Race to where it turns left (straight ahead is a dead-end for traffic) and follow the road all the way to the church at the top. The monolith can be found behind the church, but don't miss also visiting the exhibition inside the church, which will tell you more about the history of this intriguing area.

*The Neolithic / Bronze-Age monolith is made from Moorstone grit, from the Cleveland Hills, west of Whitby, possibly at Grosmont. At ground level its 5 metres round and its present height is just under 8 metres. An excavation conducted by Sir William Strickland in the late 18th century suggested that its depth below ground is as great as its height. It is thought that the stone marked a prehistoric holy place or worship centre for the pagan population of the time, and that Anglo-Saxon missionaries "Christianised" it by possibly fixing a cross to the top. This could account for the name 'Rudston' for the old English word for cross is 'rood' and stane means 'stone'.*

*A popular myth about the origin of the stone is that the devil, angered at the building of a church on this pagan sacred hill hurled a huge stone javelin or thunderbolt at it to destroy it, but by divine intervention his aim was deflected and the stone landed in its present position!*

*After your walk you could visit the Bosville Arms, which is a lovely dog-friendly community pub in the village, and is named after the Bosville family, who were prominent landowners in the area. The Bosvilles were the lords of the manor of Rudston and played a significant role in the local history of the village. The pub is believed to have been established in the 1600s and has served as a gathering place for locals and travellers for generations.*

At the pub you can enjoy a drink and a meal, made from locally sourced ingredients, or if you have a weekend away you could also stay with them in one of their cosy bedrooms.

