



Key:

- P** Car Parking & Walk Starts
- Footpath
- |— Bridleway
- x— Byway

Mention of Keyham can be found as early as the 11th century. The village is particularly attractive and has a vibrant community spirit based around the All Saints Church, the Village Hall and the Dog and Gun public house. Keyham has around 120 inhabitants and the village has changed little since 1900.

P Park carefully in one of the narrow village lanes. Alternatively at the Village Hall or the Dog and Gun public house with permission of the landlord.

Walk 1: 8½km (5¼ miles), allow 2½ hours, mixture of arable and pasture land

Walk down Snow's Lane, notice the Dog and Gun public house to the left. When the lane turns sharply to the left, cross the stile ahead and go down the field to a footbridge, ignoring the footpath to the right.

A After the footbridge, walk uphill with the hedge on the right to reach a stile in the hedge. Go over the stile and the footbridge and continue climbing with the hedge now on your left.

The path becomes a wide grass track and soon reaches Covert Lane where you should turn right.

B After about 50 metre take the bridleway on the left (not the footpath that leads to Bushby, and links with Walk Two of the Thurnby and Bushby Parish Walk). The bridleway takes you through a spinney before going diagonally right across a field. Follow the path through the trees to reach an open field and walk down the right hand side.

C On reaching the end of the spinney turn right to see Leicester ahead, lying in a slight hollow. Go into the next field with the hedge on your left. After 160m turn left and cross back into the original field, following the line of a footpath, to reach the dismantled railway line.

The Great Northern Railway line was opened in 1882. It ran from a station in Belgrave, connecting Leicester to the eastern parts of England. It was very popular with Leicester holidaymakers travelling to Skegness and Maplethorpe, but ceased to operate in 1962.

D After crossing the railway cutting walk across the field towards the buildings of New Ingarsby Farm. Cross a stile and with the hedge on the left, walk to

the line of poplars following the waymark signs through gates and over stiles to pass in-front of the farm and eventually reach the A47.

E Turn left towards Houghton-on-the-Hill. After about 200 metres take the bridleway on the left to pass Redver's Farm. After the third gate, cross the large field beyond, walking to the first telegraph post and then turn right to meet a byway.

F Follow this rough track past the earth works of Monk's Grave on the left to a gate on the Houghton to Ingarsby lane.

Turn left to follow the road. A short detour along the bridleway to the right will take you into the site of the deserted mediaeval village of Ingarsby with a plaque at the top with more information.

The early parts of Old Ingarsby Hall were probably built in the late 15th or early 16th century.

After passing Old Ingarsby Hall and going under the old railway, take the footpath immediately on your left. After a 100m turn left at the waymark post to cross the footbridge and then walk with the stream on your right. When nearing the end of this field, cross back to the original bank.

G Turn left and follow the waymarks over several stiles towards Keyham.

