

# Appleton-le-Moors Walk

## From Sinnington Village by Way of Cropton

Visit my website for full details: <https://www.paulbeal.com/appleton-le-moors>

### Introduction to the Walk

Here's a walk you're sure to enjoy. It's a fantastic route through the peaceful countryside of the southern North York Moors. Starting in the picturesque village of Sinnington, the route follows quiet lanes and woodland bridleways to reach the historic village of Cropton, before continuing on to Appleton-le-Moors. The circular walk explores parts of the Tabular Hills Walk and returns along the scenic banks of the River Seven.

### Highlights of the Walk

This Appleton-le-Moors walk is packed with memorable moments, including peaceful woodland trails, traditional stone cottages, and sweeping farmland views. You'll visit St Gregory's Church in Cropton, walk beside the River Seven, and pass several charming spots such as the handsome farmhouse at Kirby Balk and the welcoming New Inn in Cropton.

Appleton-le-Moors is a historic village in North Yorkshire, located within the North York Moors National Park. It's a classic example of a 12th-century planned settlement, where the houses were laid out with long garden plots, or garths, stretching 330 feet to a back lane.

The village of Appleton-le-Moors appears in the Domesday Book and is known for archaeological finds ranging from flint tools to Roman coins. Its standout landmark is Christ Church, a Grade I listed building designed by J. L. Pearson, often described as "the little gem of moorland churches".

Explore the full walk, view the maps, and plan your day using the tools on my website.

Visit <https://www.paulbeal.com/appleton-le-moors> for details.

### Additional Information

- **Distance:** 7 miles (11 kilometres).
- **Duration:** Approximately 3¼ hours (excluding stops and breaks).
- **Difficulty:** Moderate. Mostly clear tracks and bridleways with some steady climbs and woodland sections.
- **Trail Conditions:** A mixture of quiet lanes, farm tracks, grassy bridleways, and woodland trails. Paths may be muddy after rain, especially near the River Seven and in woodland sections. There is also a very short stretch along a reasonably busy road, but it is quickly passed.
- **Recommended Map:** OS Explorer OL27 – North York Moors Eastern Area.
- **Parking:** Small car park beside Sinnington Village Hall, next to the village maypole.
  - **Google Maps Link:** <https://maps.app.goo.gl/24ooirJFYQyktF4r8>
  - **What3Words:** ///unlisted.joked.uplifting

### Support My Work

If you've found these directions helpful or enjoyed this walk, please consider making a £2 donation to support what I do. Your contribution helps me create more free walking guides like this one.

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Thank you for your support!

Paul Beal



# Step-by-Step Directions

Begin your Appleton-le-Moors walk in the picturesque village of Sinnington. You'll find space to park a few cars beside **Sinnington Village Hall (1)**, right in front of the traditional village maypole. From the car park, set off north along the tarmac lane directly in front of the village hall.

Walk past Holme House on your right and Lilac Cottage on your left, then continue by a row of attractive stone cottages, including Victoria Gardens. After passing 1 Church Row, turn right onto Church Lane, following signs for The Hall and The Church. The lane climbs gently uphill and bends left in front of the **Parish Church of All Saints (2)**. Keep to the lane as it quickly curves right, then left again at a junction marked as a public bridleway.

Continue past a large stone farmhouse on your right to emerge into open countryside. Head north, walking past Stables Wood until you reach a **T-junction (3)**. Turn right here, following the signposted bridleway. The route bends left and narrows into a woodland path. Stay on this trail for roughly a mile, ignoring all paths that descend to the left. This section is known as **Wiley Flat Lane (4)** and skirts the eastern edge of the woodland. You'll spot occasional blue bridleway waymarkers to guide you.

Eventually, the trees give way to open fields near Mill Wood. A short distance ahead you'll reach a **crossroads (5)**. Go straight on through the gate, ignoring the bridleways to your left and sharply right. You're now on Bull Ing Lane. Continue along this trail, passing a farmhouse on your left at **Kirby Balk (6)**, then follow the stone track into the village of Cropton.

When you reach the main road, turn left and walk into the village, passing the New Inn on your left. At Cropton village green, follow the road round to the right, signposted to Sutherland and Newton. The road bends left and becomes **High Street (7)**, a wide lane that leads north through the length of the village. At the far end, turn left onto Church Lane, a narrow tarmac track just after the village well.

Follow Church Lane downhill to reach **St Gregory's Church (8)**. In front of the church, turn left onto the wide grassy path beside the dry stone wall. This leads you to the main road. Turn right and walk briefly downhill. As the road curves to the right, turn left in front of a **wrought-iron memorial bench (9)** dedicated to Jim Flintoft.

You're now on Low Lane, a public bridleway which also forms part of the Tabular Hills Walk. Head south along the bridleway, ignoring the right-hand track down to Cropton Mill. Keep to the grassy path ahead, which continues as a woodland trail for over half a mile. At this point, you're roughly halfway around your Appleton-le-Moors walk.

The bridleway soon emerges into open countryside and splits. Take the right-hand fork, signposted to Appleton-le-Moors and still part of the Tabular Hills Walk. Follow the path along the right-hand edge of the field, then use the **arched wooden footbridge (10)** to cross the River Seven. On the far side, continue to a small gate and go through it to reach a tarmac lane.

This lane is marked as a North York Moors public footpath and remains part of the Tabular Hills Walk. Take care not to turn left towards Appleton Mill Farm. Instead, follow the lane steadily uphill for over half a mile until you reach a slightly wider road called **Hamley Lane (11)**. Continue straight ahead for a further quarter of a mile to meet the main road at the **northern end of Appleton-le-Moors (12)**.

Turn left here, following the signs for Kirbymoorside and Pickering. Walk through the village, enjoying the characterful stone cottages, until you reach the southern end. As the road bends right, continue straight on along the public bridleway, passing to the left of **Manor Farmhouse (13)**.

Follow this bridleway south, heading gently downhill for half a mile beside a sequence of large open fields. When the **bridleway forks (14)**, take the right-hand path through the gate and continue into Bishop Hagg Wood. Enjoy the peaceful woodland trail as it leads you through the trees.

Emerge from the woods and keep to the main track, known as **The Stripe (15)**, with the River Seven down to your left. Eventually, the track bends right and re-enters the woodland, bringing the river right alongside you. Follow this lovely **riverside path (16)** for just over a third of a mile to return to Sinnington.

At the road, turn left to cross the bridge, then left again to make your way across the village green. Continue back to the village hall, where your Appleton-le-Moors walk began.

## Map of the Walk

