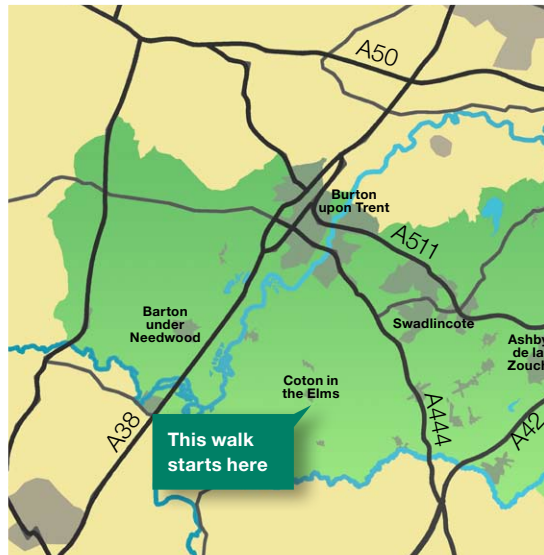


## Points of interest along the walk:

- 1 Coton Wood** was planted on former farmland by the Woodland Trust in 1994. Main species are oak, ash, field maple, hawthorn, cherry and other native trees and shrubs.
- 3 Grangewood** was planted in 1997 with native trees and shrubs. Walking, riding (by permit) and fishing are all available on the site.
- 4 Top Tree Wood** and the adjacent **Long Close Wood** were planted in 1996. An area has been left next to Grangewood Ancient Wood to enable natural regeneration of the existing wood.
- 5 Penguin Wood** was planted by the Woodland Trust in 2007 and includes a wildflower area created by deep soil inversion, a technique where the topsoil is turned upside down to move less nutrient rich soils to the surface, which benefits wild flowers.
- 6 Beehive Farm & Wood** includes fishing lakes, trails for walkers, horse riders and the disabled together with a camping and caravanning site, children's farm and playground, tea room, craft workshops and business units.
- 7** The name **Coton-in-the-Elms** is derived from "all the cottages in the elms". Sadly, following the outbreak of Dutch Elm Disease in the 1970s, few of the elms which gave the village its name remain.
- 8 Hill Close Copse** is a 6ha woodland with a wet woodland theme, which was planted in 1999. A new wildlife pond, sedge bed and native black poplars are all features of the site.
- 9 Garlands Wood** was planted in 2 phases in 1997 and 1999. Planting is a mixture of native broadleaves and conifers, with commercial poplars in the wet areas alongside the Pessall Brook.



This leaflet can be used in conjunction with OS Explorer 245 (The National Forest) and Landranger number 128 (Derby and Burton upon Trent).



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*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of printing. However, the National Forest Company cannot be held responsible for any error, omission or subsequent changes.*

*Photography: Christopher Beech and NFC*

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## Coton circular

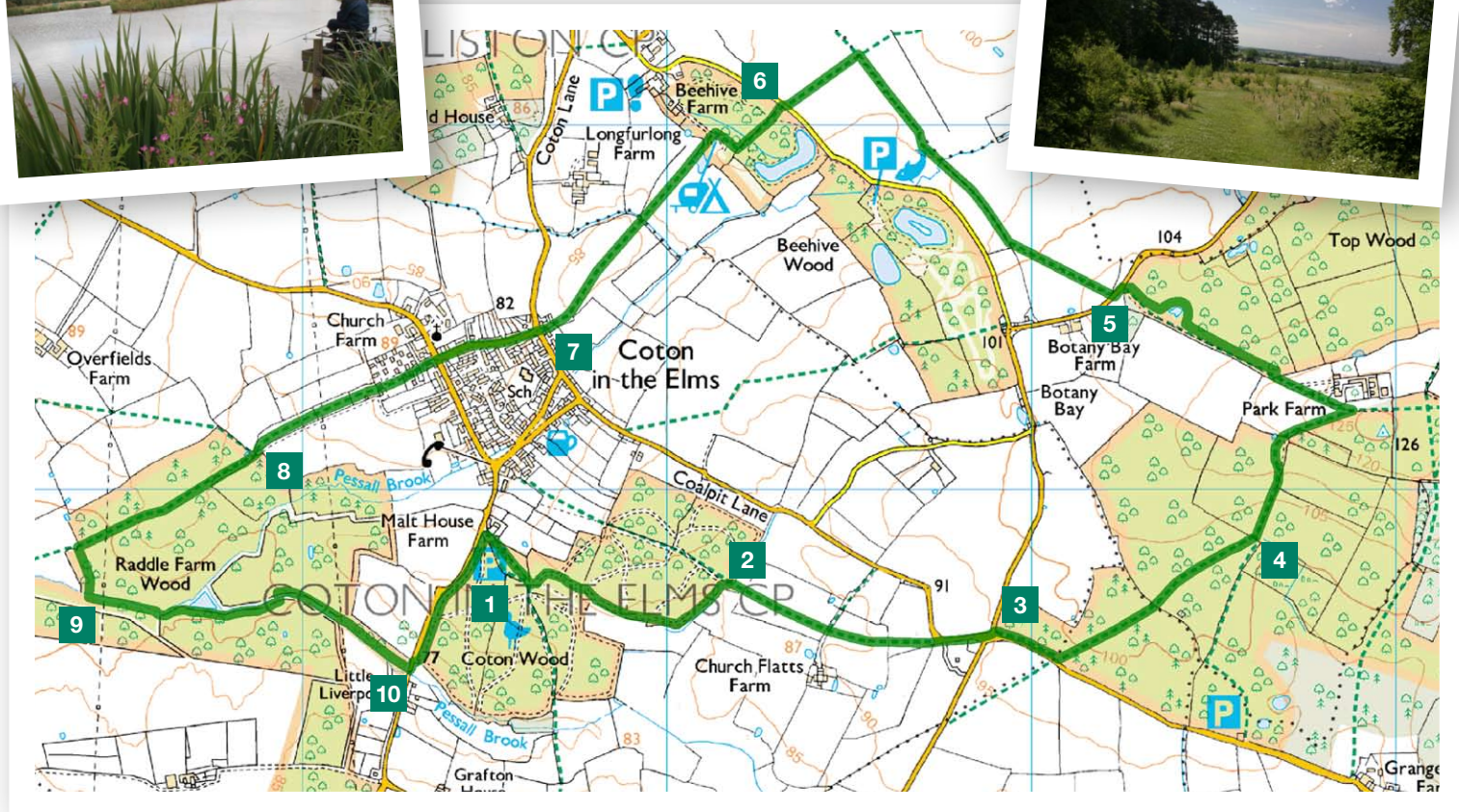
6 mile medium walk



# Coton Circular

This 6-mile walk links new woodlands in the attractive rural landscape of the Mease Lowlands.

- 1 Starting at Coton Wood, take the gate opposite the car park entrance and walk straight ahead along the broad, well-defined central path. Where the path divides, keep left. Ignore the next track on the left and walk on to the T-junction, where you turn left. After 20yds, turn right where the tracks cross and follow this path around the perimeter of the wood, keeping the hedge on your right.
- 2 When you come to a stile and plank bridge, cross them and follow the footpath across the field to a stile in the middle of the hedge. Cross a farm track and another stile to continue on the footpath. Where the footpath meets a road, follow the road ahead to the crossroads. On the corner of the roads to Botany Bay and Grangewood, there is a wooden entrance in the hedge marked by a footpath finger post. Go through this entrance into the Grangewood woodland site.
- 3 Follow the footpath along the inside of the hedge, turning left after 200yds onto a wide grass track. Continue along the footpath and through a gap in a hedge. Continue on for 350m until you reach some mature trees at the corner of an older plantation. Pass through a gap in the hedge to enter Top Wood (marked by a Woodland Trust sign).
- 4 Take the footpath uphill alongside the hedge and cross the triangular stile. Follow the edge of the wood through paddocks until you meet a farm track by Park Farm. Turn left and continue down the track for 200m before turning right to enter another section of Top Wood. Follow the path that runs parallel to the track, veering away briefly to pass an old field pond before exiting the wood where the track joins the road. Turn left along the road and after a few yards, turn right to enter Penguin Wood via a new gate.
- 5 Follow the footpath through Penguin Wood and on in to the field beyond. After about 700m, there is a crossroads of two footpaths. Turn left and follow this footpath to the road.



- 6 Cross the road with care and enter Beehive Wood. Continue ahead along the fenced track to T-junction. Turn right and walk along the right of way between hedgerows and the caravan site to stile. Turn left over the stile and follow the footpath to Coton in the Elms.
- 7 Enter the village via a kissing gate to the left of some garages. Cross the road and walk along Elms Road to Church Street. Turn right and then cross the road into Greenacre Park. Walk straight through the development, along the path to the right of the garages and into a long, narrow field fenced off in paddocks. Follow the footpath through the paddocks and into Hill Close Copse.
- 8 Follow the footpath past a lone mature tree to the edge of the plantation, then turn left. Follow the inside edge of the wood until you reach a pond. Follow the grass track to veer right towards a wooden power pole, crossing the overgrown Pessall Brook. Turn immediately left, keeping the brook on your left, into Garlands Wood.
- 9 Follow the brook straight on ignoring any tracks on the right then pass a large fishing pond on the left. After a further 150m, turn left over Pessall Brook. Turn right to continue to reach road.
- 10 Cross the road and turn left. After a few metres, turn right to cross a stile back into Coton Wood. Turn left to follow the hedge to the car park.