

The National Forest Way takes walkers on a 75-mile journey through a transforming landscape, from the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire to Beacon Hill Country Park in Leicestershire.

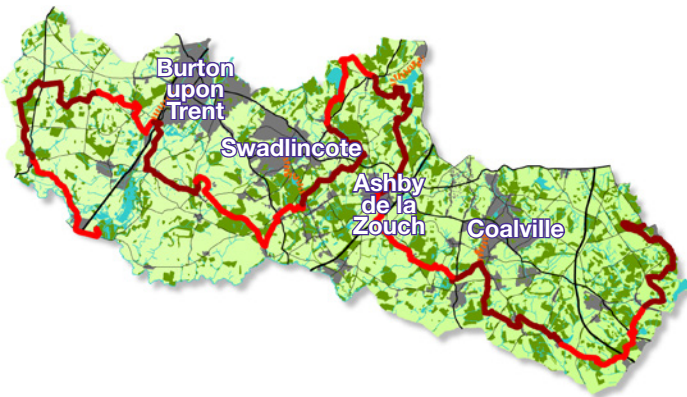
On the way, you will discover the area's evolution from a rural landscape, through industrialisation and its decline, to the modern-day creation of a new forest, where 21st-century life is threaded through a mosaic of green spaces and settlements.

The trail leads through young and ancient woodlands, market towns and the industrial heritage of this changing landscape.



Stage 8: Moira to Rosliston

Length: 7½ miles / 12 kilometres



About this stage

Start: Conkers Waterside, Moira (DE12 6BA)
End: Rosliston Forestry Centre (DE12 8JX)

This stage takes you through young and established woodlands including Cadborough Hill Wood and alongside the ancient woodland of Grange Wood. As you emerge from the woodlands look out for the characteristic tall church spires rising above rolling fields as you walk through the Mease Lowlands.

The National Forest Way was created by a partnership of the National Forest Company, Derbyshire County Council, Leicestershire County Council and Staffordshire County Council, with the generous support of Fisher German.



To find out more, visit:
www.nationalforestway.co.uk

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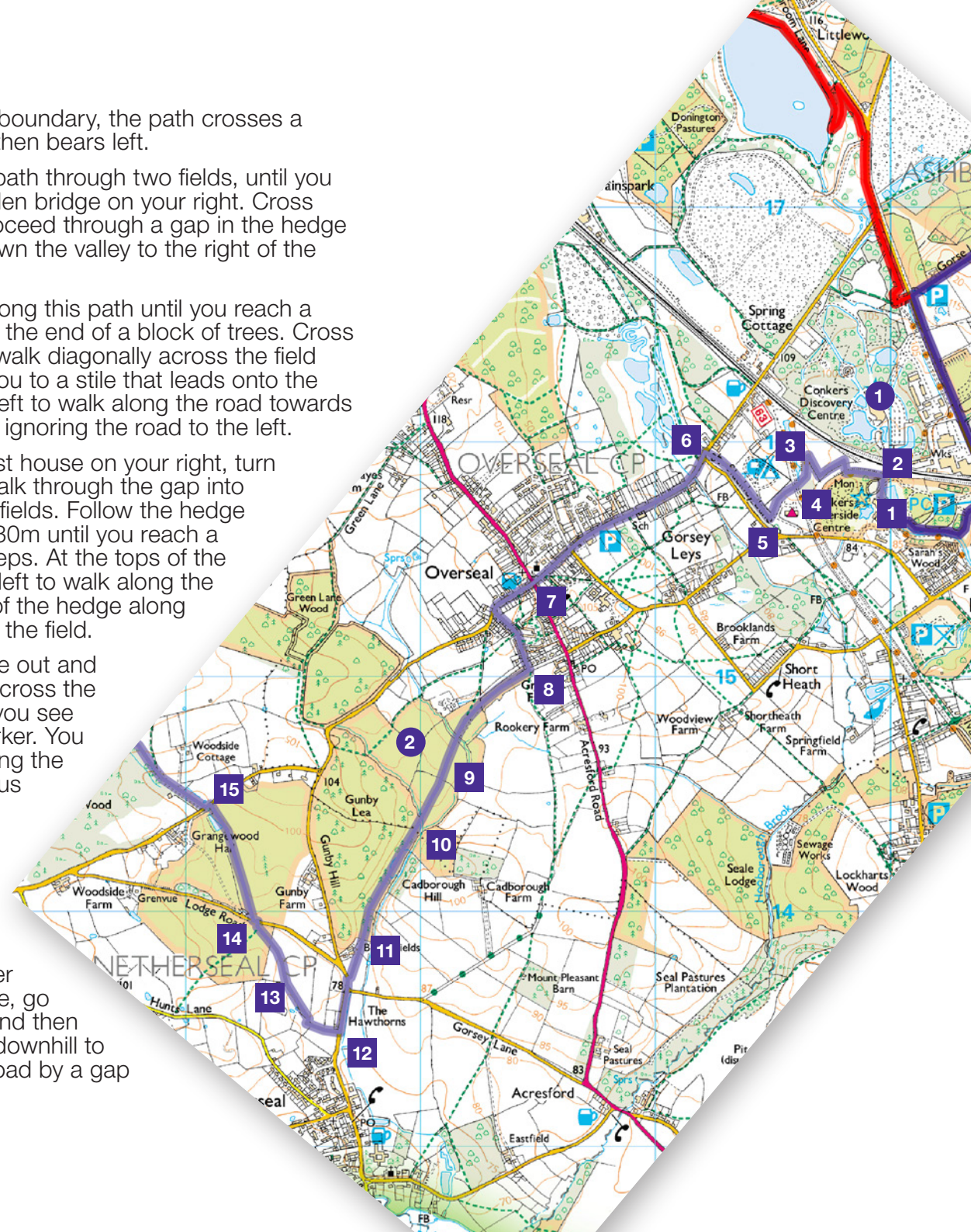
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Moira to Rosliston

- 1** From the car park of Conkers Waterside, walk north with the canal to your right. After about 150m, before you will reach a railway tunnel, the path turns left to cross a miniature railway line.
- 2** Pass through the barriers onto the stone path and continue to another bridge. Follow the path under this, bearing left to continue on the surfaced path around the edge of the field.
- 3** When you reach a fingerpost and wooden sign, you need to keep following the tarmac path as it bears to the left. Follow the tarmac path until its T-junction with the Ashby Woulds Heritage Trail.
- 4** Cross the Heritage Trail and pass through the barrier to take the path which runs between a caravan site and the National Forest Youth Hostel.
- 5** When you reach the access road, cross over and take the path which bends to the right to run along the edge of the caravan site. After about 400m you will pass through a chicane and onto Spring Cottage Road.
- 6** Turn left to walk up the road towards Overseal. Follow the road straight ahead, past the school and war memorial until you reach the main road (A444) with the church to your right.
- 7** Cross the road at the traffic lights and continue ahead onto Lullington Road, past the shop. After about 200m, take the first turning on your left onto Valley Road. Follow this road for about 300m until it takes a sharp left turn.
- 8** Turn right to enter the field alongside the last house, ignoring the path straight ahead of you. Follow the path across the first field, through a gap in the hedge and across the second.

- 9** At the field boundary, the path crosses a brook and then bears left.
- 10** Follow the path through two fields, until you see a wooden bridge on your right. Cross this and proceed through a gap in the hedge heading down the valley to the right of the pond.
- 11** Continue along this path until you reach a step stile at the end of a block of trees. Cross the stile to walk diagonally across the field in front of you to a stile that leads onto the road. Turn left to walk along the road towards Netherseal, ignoring the road to the left.
- 12** After the first house on your right, turn right and walk through the gap into the playing fields. Follow the hedge for about 130m until you reach a gap with steps. At the tops of the steps, turn left to walk along the other side of the hedge along the edge of the field.
- 13** Keep an eye out and bear right across the field when you see the waymarker. You will be leaving the more obvious track at a point when it bends to the left. When you reach a gap with a waymarker in the hedge, go through it and then bear right, downhill to reach the road by a gap and gate.



14 Head left, over the road, then bear left on the path into a field. You need to walk along the edge of the field, passing a cottage on your left. Keep following the path as it contours along the edge of the field, passing a small fenced woodland and pond, and crossing a stile. Just after this, go through a kissing gate and bear left across the road in front of you.

15 Take the driveway, which is signed Woodside Cottage, until it begins to bend to the right. At the fence, bear left off the driveway and onto a pathway between the woodland and a fence.

16 After 150m, bear left after the fence barrier to walk alongside Grange Wood. Keep following this footpath for about 1,000m until you reach a stile on your left, with a Woodland Trust sign welcoming you to Top Wood.

17 Cross the stile and immediately turn right to walk into the wood, effectively keeping going in the same direction as before. At the crossroads in the paths, keep going straight on. At the kissing gate, go straight on following a gravel lane past houses on your right.

18 Leave the track when you see a wooden fence with a Woodland Trust sign on your right. Bear right through the barrier, then turn left to walk through the woodland, parallel to the track you were on. Follow this until you reach a kissing gate at the end on your left. Go through it onto the track, then turn right to join the road.

19 Cross the road, bearing left, and go through a gap at the side of the gateway in front of you to enter Penguin Wood at Botany Bay. Follow the path until you come to a gap in the hedge on your left. Pass through the gap before turning right to walk along the other side of the hedge.

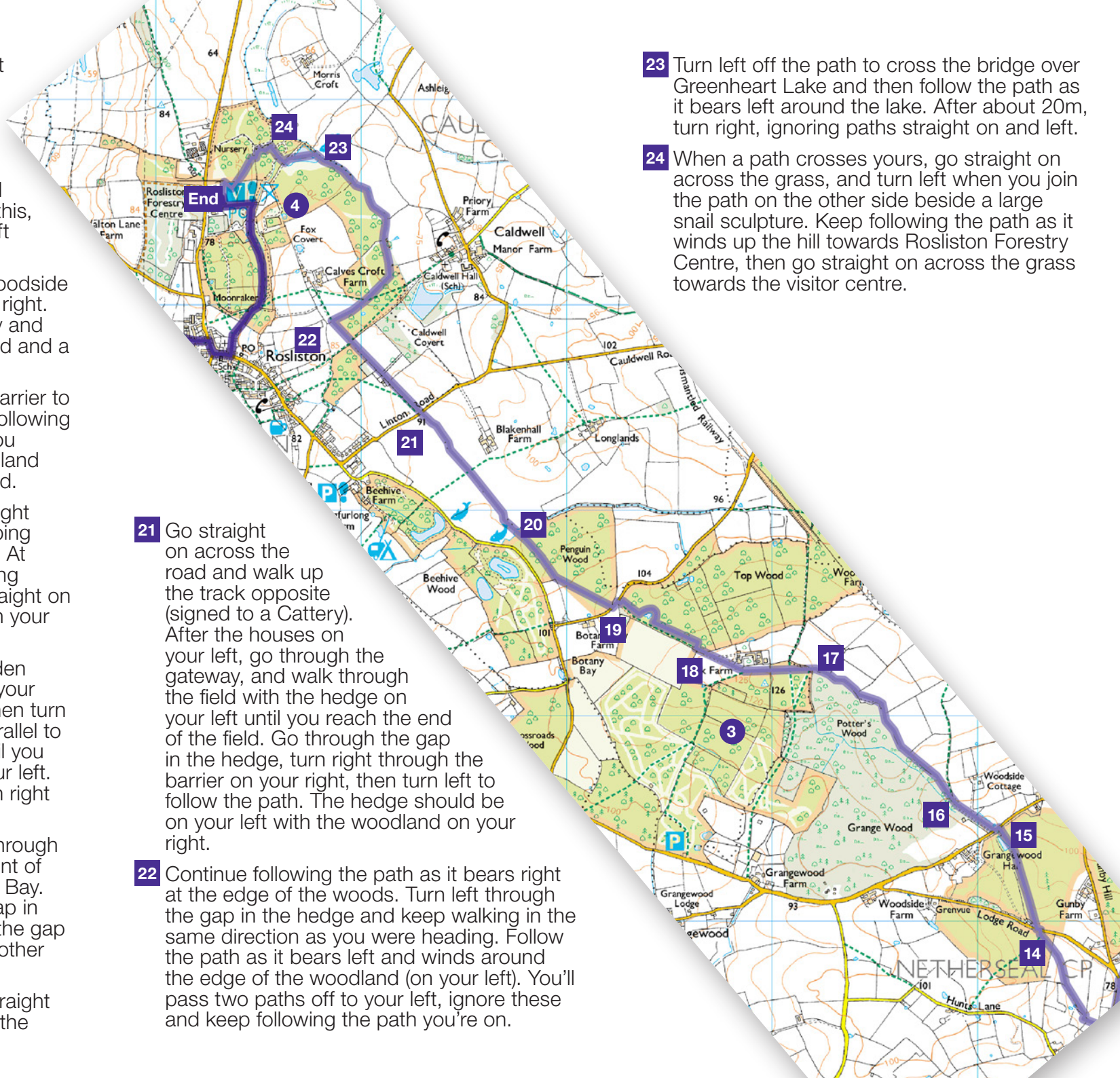
20 Cross the wooden bridge and walk straight across the large field ahead of you to the road.

21 Go straight on across the road and walk up the track opposite (signed to a Cattery). After the houses on your left, go through the gateway, and walk through the field with the hedge on your left until you reach the end of the field. Go through the gap in the hedge, turn right through the barrier on your right, then turn left to follow the path. The hedge should be on your left with the woodland on your right.

22 Continue following the path as it bears right at the edge of the woods. Turn left through the gap in the hedge and keep walking in the same direction as you were heading. Follow the path as it bears left and winds around the edge of the woodland (on your left). You'll pass two paths off to your left, ignore these and keep following the path you're on.

23 Turn left off the path to cross the bridge over Greenheart Lake and then follow the path as it bears left around the lake. After about 20m, turn right, ignoring paths straight on and left.

24 When a path crosses yours, go straight on across the grass, and turn left when you join the path on the other side beside a large snail sculpture. Keep following the path as it winds up the hill towards Rosliston Forestry Centre, then go straight on across the grass towards the visitor centre.



Useful Information

Parking

Parking is available at Rosliston Forestry Centre and at Conkers in Moira.

Please note that there is a charge for parking at Rosliston Forestry Centre and also be aware of car park closing times before setting off.

Public transport

Moira is on the 9A Coalville-Burton bus route (Mon-Sat).

Rosliston Forestry Centre is on the 22 Swadlincote-Burton bus route (Mon-Sat). Change at Swadlincote to travel between the start and finish of the stage.

For detailed information on timetables, call **Traveline** on 0871 200 22 33 (charges apply).

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

Points of interest along this stage

1 Conkers

Conkers was one of the earliest visitor attractions to be developed in The National Forest. Built on a former deep coal mine, you can now explore 120 acres of woodland, enjoy adventure play and over 100 indoor interactive exhibits.



3 Grangewood Estate & Penguin Wood

This is an extended section of connected woodlands where new planting on a large scale sits next to ancient and maturing woodlands. It is a bold demonstration of the intention to create a connected forested landscape.



2 Cadborough Hill Wood

At the base of Cadborough Hill is a valley known locally as Dead-Dane Bottom. If you walk up the steep slope of Cadborough Hill you can enjoy a dramatic panorama of the developing National Forest.



4 Rosliston Forestry Centre

This popular visitor centre was the first to open in The National Forest. You can walk and cycle through the woodlands, spot the wildlife or take part in the Centre's environmental education programme.



How to use this leaflet

The maps in this leaflet are based upon the Ordnance Survey's 1:25,000 scale Explorer maps and are presented at the correct scale if printed on A4 paper.

- 1 Square symbols on the maps link with the route directions that are provided alongside the map.
- 1 Circular symbols represent key points of interest along the route of the trail.

About The National Forest

The National Forest is one of Britain's boldest environmentally-led regeneration projects: the creation of a new forest across 200 square miles of parts of Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire, linking the ancient forests of Needwood and Charnwood.

Over the last twenty years, The National Forest has trebled forest cover within its boundary, creating habitats for wildlife, a woodland economy and a beautiful landscape for everyone to enjoy.

