

no134 Hardwick from Sywell

Sywell is on minor roads NE of Northampton and W of Wellingborough



The walk shown is for guidance only and should not be attempted without suitable maps.

With thanks to David Geerson

Details	
Distance:	13.5km (8½ miles)
Total Ascent:	75m (246ft)
Time:	3½ hrs Grade: 2
Maps:	OS Landranger® 141 & 152 or OS Explorer Map™ 224
Start/Finish:	Sywell Church, Northamptonshire
Grid Ref:	SP822673

Quiet country churches and villages

S Go NW from the church to reach a T-junction. Go NE (right) and follow the road E and NE past Sywell Aerodrome until it suddenly bends SE (right). Continue N (straight-on) on a signed path that skirts round the edge of a field following black waymark arrows. At the junction of two streams go left through a gap in the hedge and follow the left-hand edge of a long narrow field to reach a single gate. Go through into pasture and continue N and NW along the edge of Sywell Wood. Follow waymarks through a five-bar gate and then a 2nd single gate to reach a 2nd five-bar gate in a field corner. (3½ km)

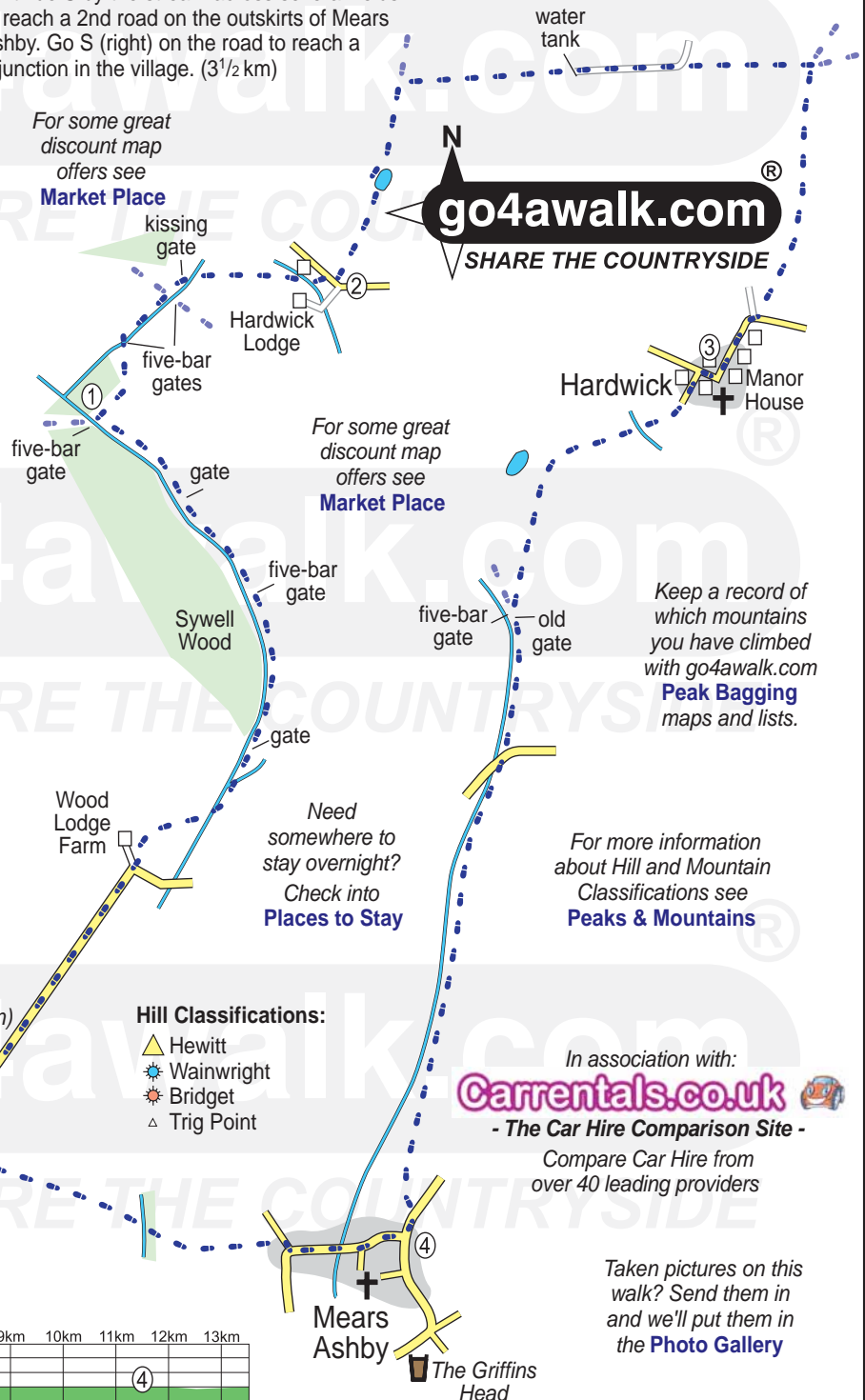
① Don't go through but bear NE (right) along a field edge past a point-to-point fence jump before going N (left) through a wide gap in the hedge. Continue N through an aluminium five-bar gate and immediately turn NE (right) along the field edge to reach another waymarked five-bar gate. Ignore this gate and continue NE for 100m to reach a (new) wooden kissing gate. Go through and bear E (half-right) on a faint path across a field to pass behind Hardwick Lodge to reach a signed footbridge over a stream. Cross and follow the path beyond to reach a lane. (1km)

② Cross the lane and continue N on a signed path through a crop field. Skirt round a small pool and continue N to a hedge. Continue N beyond, descending gently beside a hedge to reach a waymark about half-way across the next field. Go E (right) and cross the crop field to join a track at a field corner. Follow the track E until it bends N. Continue E along a field edge to reach a 4-way footpath signpost. Go S (right - signed 'Hardwick') across a field to a footbridge. Cross and continue S ascending gently to a road. Go S (right) on the road into Hardwick village. (3½ km)

③ Follow the road as it bends W (right) past the church and then go S (left - 'no through road' sign). Beyond the farm buildings bear half-right to cross a waymarked stile. Continue SW across the field beyond to reach a 2nd stile beside a gate. Ignore the gate and go SSW across the next field to reach a single gate beside a large double aluminium gate in a field corner. Go S (left) through the single gate and follow a stream S to reach a road. Cross and continue S by the stream across several fields to reach a 2nd road on the outskirts of Mears Ashby. Go S (right) on the road to reach a T-junction in the village. (3½ km)

④ Go W (right - North Street) through the village to a second junction. Go N (right - Glebe Rd) for a 20m and then W (left) on a signed footpath that descends and bears WNW to a footbridge. Cross and continue WNW across the field beyond to reach a road at a bend. Go WNW on the road to return to Sywell Church and the start. (2km)

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