

# Miles Without Stiles



**Cumbria**  
**County Council**

## Miltonrigg Woods

### Route Information

**Distance** 1.5 kilometres (1 mile)

**Time needed** 2 hours (approx)

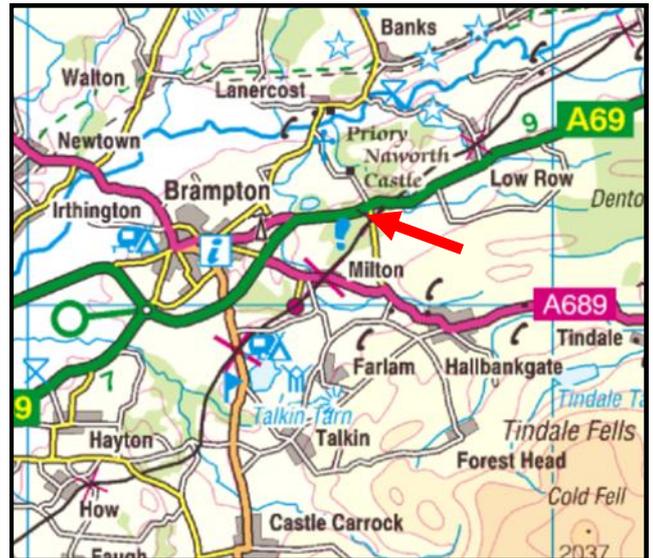
**Terrain** Crushed stone surface,  
some steep gradients

### Start point

The car park is reached via the A69, to the east of Brampton (**OS Grid Ref:** NY 664 618 **Post Code:** CA8 2QT)

### Public Transport

Miltonrigg Woods is served by the Arriva/ Stagecoach 685 bus service. It is not a low floor vehicle.



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Owned by the Woodland Trust, Miltonrigg Woods lies just off the A69 near Brampton. The site is complex and diverse, stretching across some 154 acres with semi-mature oak, ash, beech and occasional chestnut trees. Popular with visitors, it provides a habitat for red squirrel and roe deer, kestrel, sparrow hawk and tawny owl as well as great spotted woodpecker, redstart and coal tit.

The site contains some gradients up to 1:8 as you leave and return to the car park. Once these have been overcome a crushed stone surface provides a pleasant circular route through the woodland which changes in appearance through the seasons.

The car park is crushed quarry stone providing an uneven but useable surface, and there are no marked disabled parking bays.

Two short paths leave the car park to drop down to the site entrance. The right hand one has exposed tree roots which provide breaks across the entire width of the path and should be avoided. There is a 2° down slope (gradient 1:20) over 25 metres to reach the entrance point.



*Entrance barrier, to the right of the gate*

The entrance barrier is designed to prevent motorbikes gaining access to the site but is suitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs and most scooters. Larger scooters can gain access to the site via the adjacent field gate which has a RADAR key padlock. If you use the gate, please ensure it is locked securely afterwards.

A nearby interpretation panel provides background information on the site and the wildlife you might expect to find and see. Depending on the time of year that you visit, you will see numerous animals and plants including fox gloves, butterflies and amphibians.

There is a 4° down slope (gradient 1:12) along the next 25 metres as the path continues in to the woodland. The width of the crushed quarry stone surface is 2.4m.

As you round the first corner the route steepens with a 6° upslope (gradient 1:9) over 20 metres. The surface of the route here also suffers from water erosion and narrows down to 2.0m in width. A corner takes you around to the left: this has a slight slope across the path so may require extra care.

There is a further 7° upslope (gradient 1:8) over 30 metres before the footpath levels off. Continue along the footpath until you reach a junction and waymarker post.



*Way marked junction*

It is recommended that users head straight (the left fork) on at this junction as this forms the loop section of the walk. The footpath surface is generally 2.0m wide but occasionally the surface is rough and uneven.

As you travel onwards you will come across a short side path which leads left to a picturesque pond that often provides magnificent views of the woodland's wildlife. You may also want to take a breather at the rest point provided and study the interpretation panel.



*Rest point overlooking the pond*

Continuing onwards through the woodland, there are two upslope sections over 20 metres of 4° and 5° (gradients 1:12 and 1:10 respectively) before the next footpath junction is reached (waymark post), where you should bear right.

This section provides some of the best views of the woodland and you can see some fine specimens of oak, ash, sycamore and particularly beech. One such beech tree has an interpretation panel adjacent to it, sheltering beneath its canopy. This tree and indeed the woodland is particularly striking during the autumn.

As you continue around the loop section you will pass another rest point bench and have further impressive woodland views.

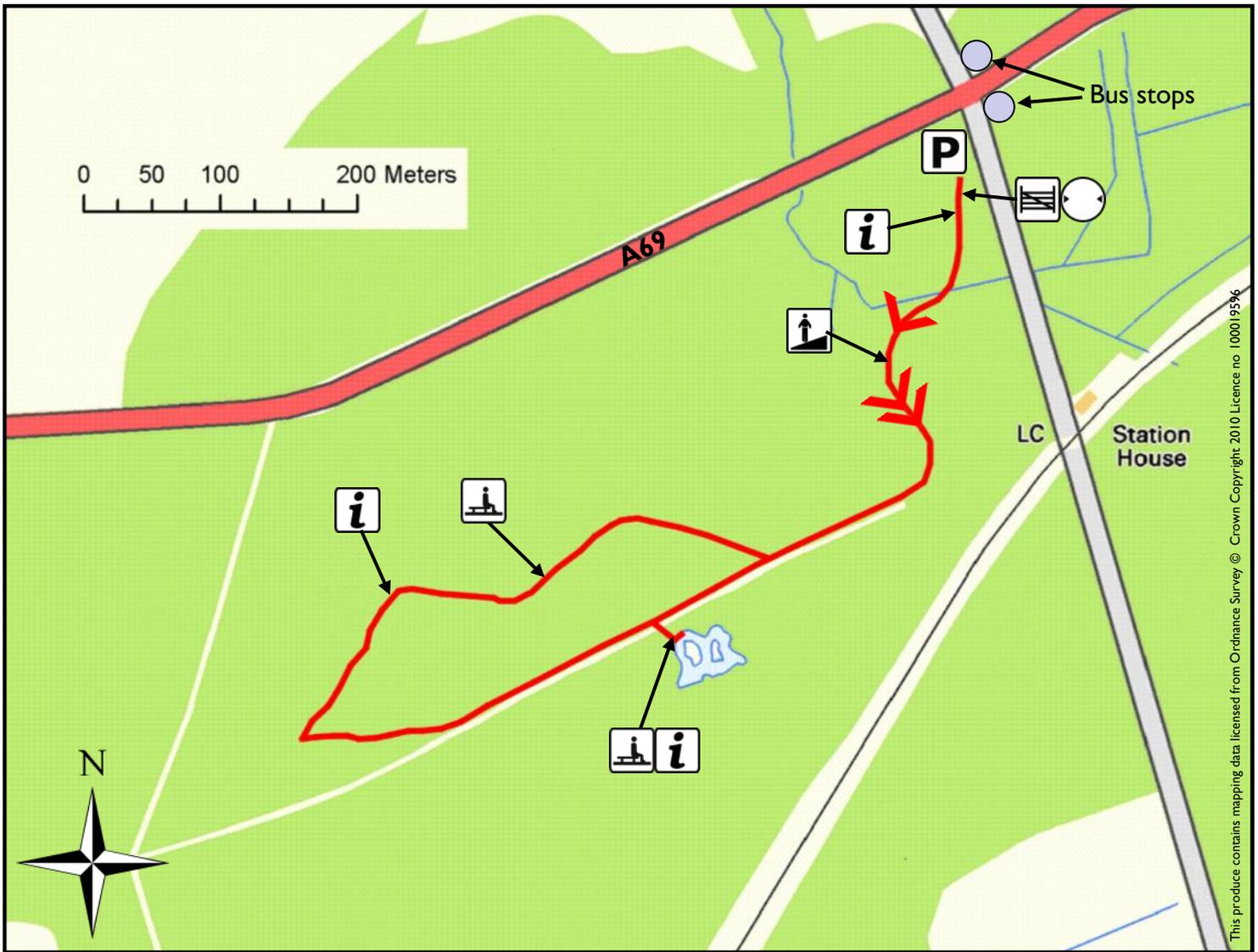


*Second rest point*

As you approach the next footpath junction (which marks the end of the loop section) there is a 5° downslope (gradient 1:10) over 40 metres.

You are now back on the path which brought you from the car park. There is one short upslope of 3° (gradient 1:18) over 15 metres before you need to negotiate the two downslope sections of 7° (30 metres, gradient 1:8) and 6° (20 metres, gradient 1:9), including the corner which has a slight slope across the path which needs extra care before you approach the site entrance once more.

Finally, is a slight climb towards the entrance at 4° (gradient 1:12) over 15 metres before you arrive back at the start point.



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### Route Map Key

-  Car parking
-  Site interpretation point
-  Width restriction feature
-  Access gate and chicane
-  Rest points
-  Gradient 1:9
-  Gradient 1:8
-  Cross camber
-  Recommended Route

### Useful Number and Points of Information

- Brampton Tourist Information Centre 01697 73433
- RADAR key toilet facilities located at Talkin Tarn (6.5km away by road)
- Brampton Library 01697 72189
- Traveline 0871 200 22 33
- Miltonrigg Woods is on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 315
- There is no specific disabled car parking area, but the car park is flat and has space for approx 15 cars
- The car park is flat and has space for approx 15 cars
- Refreshments can be found nearby in Brampton
- More information on about Miltonrigg Woods and the Woodland Trust can be found at <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk>