



11 DERBYSHIRE DARLEY ABBEY

▶ Distance: 7½ miles/12.1km ▶ Time: 3 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



Boar's Head Mills by the River Derwent.

PHOTO: CAROL BURKINSHAW



CHOSEN BY...
**CAROL
BURKINSHAW**

Little remains of Darley Abbey's once flourishing ecclesiastical monument, but this much-sought after satellite of Derby is now part of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site that spins the revolutionary yarn of the birth of the modern factory system over a 15-mile stretch of the Derwent. Here in 1782 Thomas Evans set up his Boar's Head cotton mills and a model village. And next door to Derby Cathedral, you'll see the Silk Mill. It was on this site – not the present building – that in 1721 John Lombe stitched together all the

components of the manufacturing process to design the world's first factory. In between the cathedral and the mill is an impressive statue of Bonnie Prince Charlie marking one of the key turning points, quite literally, in British history when the Young Pretender marched south to claim the English throne and turned tail at Derby to beat a hasty retreat.

1 Start Exit car park R onto Darley Street and walk past The Abbey pub, converted from remnants of former Darley Abbey, to riverside viewpoint over Evans' mill complex. Cross bridge over Derwent and walk through former factory site. L

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

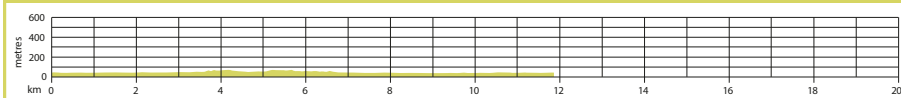
Start/parking Car park at Darley Abbey just off Darley Street to rear of the Paper Mill pub, DE22 1DX, grid ref SK352383

Is it for me? Level walking through parkland, along former railway line, fields & roads. Darley Abbey Park is prone to seasonal mud
Stiles 3

PLANNING

Nearest town Derby
Refreshments A choice at Darley Abbey, Starbucks on B6179 at Little Eaton and The Paddock pub on A608, plus plenty just off route in Derby city centre
Public toilets None along route, but facilities in Derby city centre
Public transport Bus 17 Derby-Duffield to Darley Abbey church, and various buses/ trains serve Derby city centre
Maps OS Explorer 259; Landranger 128

GRADIENT PROFILE



11 DERBYSHIRE DARLEY ABBEY

► OS Explorer map 259 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

at signpost onto track next to rugby club and when track curves R maintain direction. Soon move over to pond on R with Derwent on L. At end of pond turn L - unsigned - along field edges. In front of A38 jink R and L through road tunnel.

2 1½ miles/2.41km

Go R immediately after bridge and R again in 10m up steps to A38. L along walkway and L down steps after railway line. Head R at lane to B6179, then walk L for several hundred metres and divert R onto brideway.

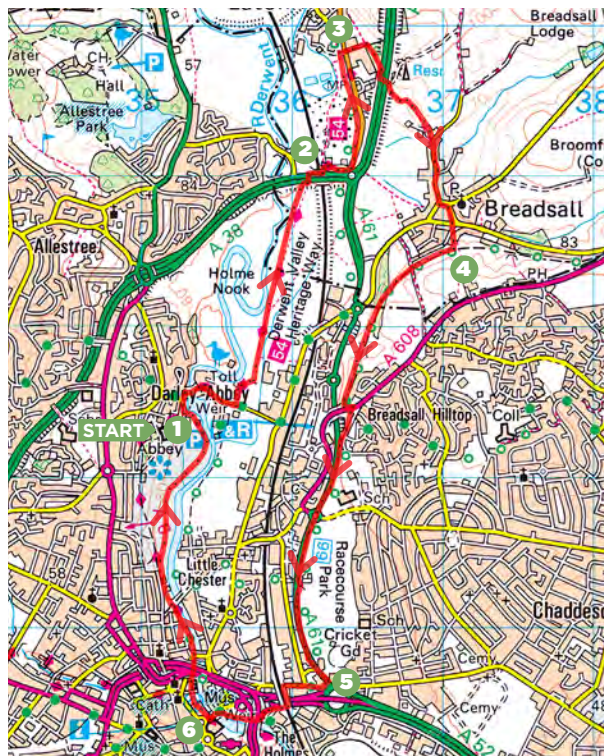
3 2¼ miles/3.6km

Track stream around to R to tunnels under A38. Choose R-hand tunnel and go L through hedge gap to follow field borders to lane in Breadsall. Keep ahead, and bear L at second junction towards church. Turn R along Church Lane and cross over Brookside Road into Pall Mall.

4 3¼ miles/6km

Divert R onto former railway line - National Greenway - passing Breadsall's former station, to road. Go L and cross by The Paddock pub into Old Mansfield Road. When road bends L, stick forwards on cycle trail, signed Derby city centre. At fork branch L to road. Cross over and continue towards city centre along perimeter of Racecourse Park passing hotel to roundabout.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2020 ORDNANCE SURVEY MEDIA 021/20



5 5¼ miles/9.25km

Go over A61 and follow cycle route between motor showrooms towards bridge. Climb steps L onto bridge over A52, and turn L along roadway under another bridge. Veer L to junction and cross over to follow Little Eaton sign beside River Gardens of Derwent to Exeter Bridge.

6 6¼ miles/10km

Negotiate bridge and rejoin riverside path R and walk upstream passing the city

cathedral, Derby Silk Mill and a rowing club to enter Darley Abbey Park. When the distinct path ends, hug the riverbank over a footbridge and swing L around cricket pitch to start point. CW

**VIEW THE WALK ON
OS MAPS ONLINE:**
lfto.com/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



© Country Walking January 2021

DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

