

Crumbly, creamy or tasty

A self guided walk around the Lancashire milk fields near Preston



Explore the tranquil home of a busy dairy industry

Discover how Lancashire cheese is made

Find out how farming methods have evolved and adapted

See how the landscape is shaped by political and economic forces

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the stories of our landscapes
discovered through walks





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Cover image: Cattle grazing in fields near Inglewhite © Mike Jackson

Crumbly, creamy or tasty

Explore the milk fields of Lancashire

Just to the north of Preston lies an area of small fields divided by hedges that were laid out over 400 years ago. Crops grew here until dairy farming took over in the nineteenth century to meet the demand for milk from Lancashire's growing industrial towns.

Dairy farming methods have changed a lot since then. Technology, economics and politics have all played a part.

Discover how this landscape is still changing as some farms strive for efficiency by becoming bigger while others stay small and specialised.



A selection of Lancashire cheese on sale
© Mike Jackson



Holstein-Friesian cow
© Mike Jackson

A handful of traditional cheese makers can also be found here. Find out how they make crumbly, creamy and tasty Lancashire cheese and why it is so different from other types. Learn why these cheeses almost disappeared during the Second World War but later gained European protection.

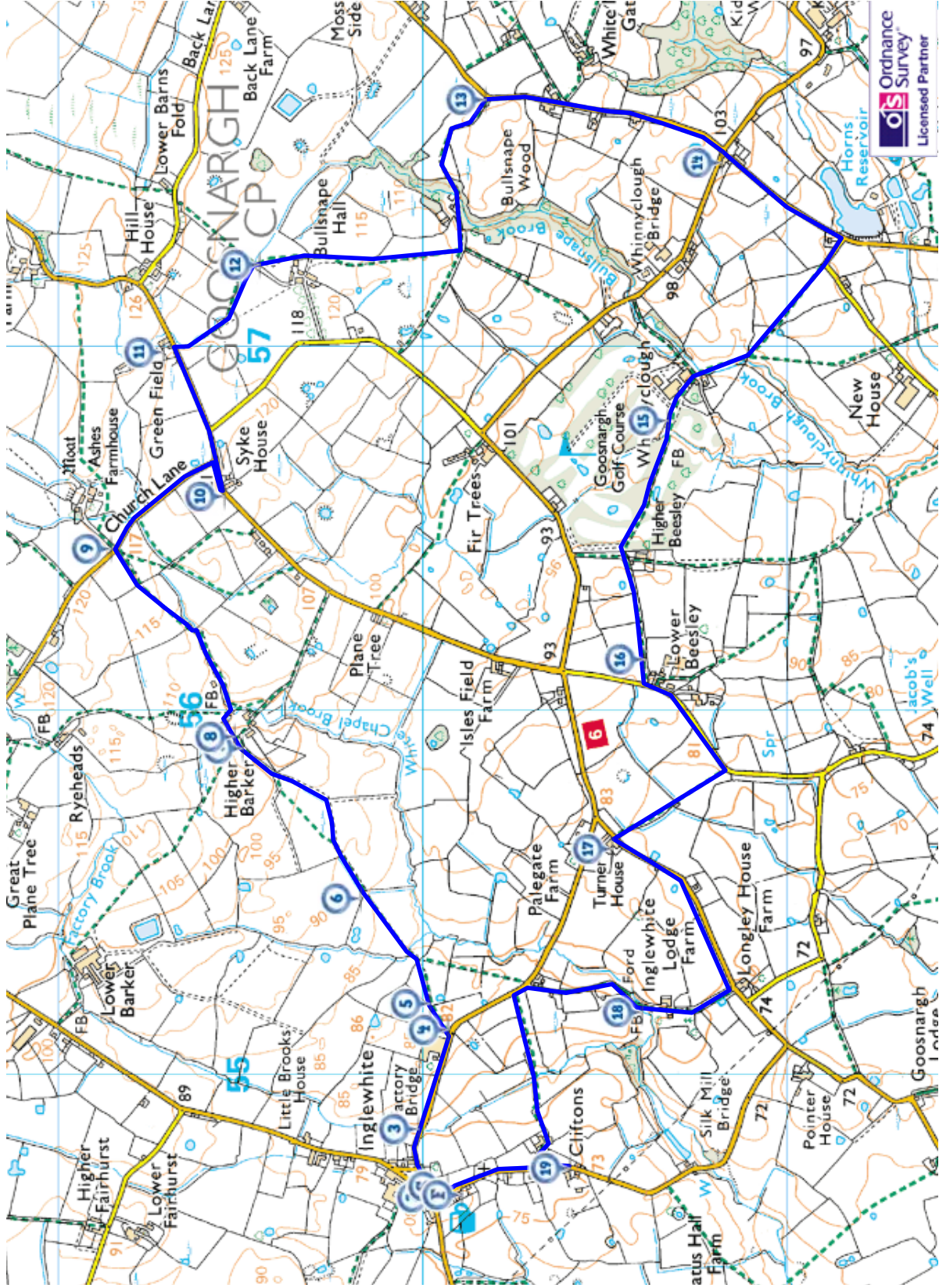
This walk through the Lancashire milk fields is about the cows that produce our milk, the farmers who look after them and the traditional Lancashire cheese makers.

Practical information

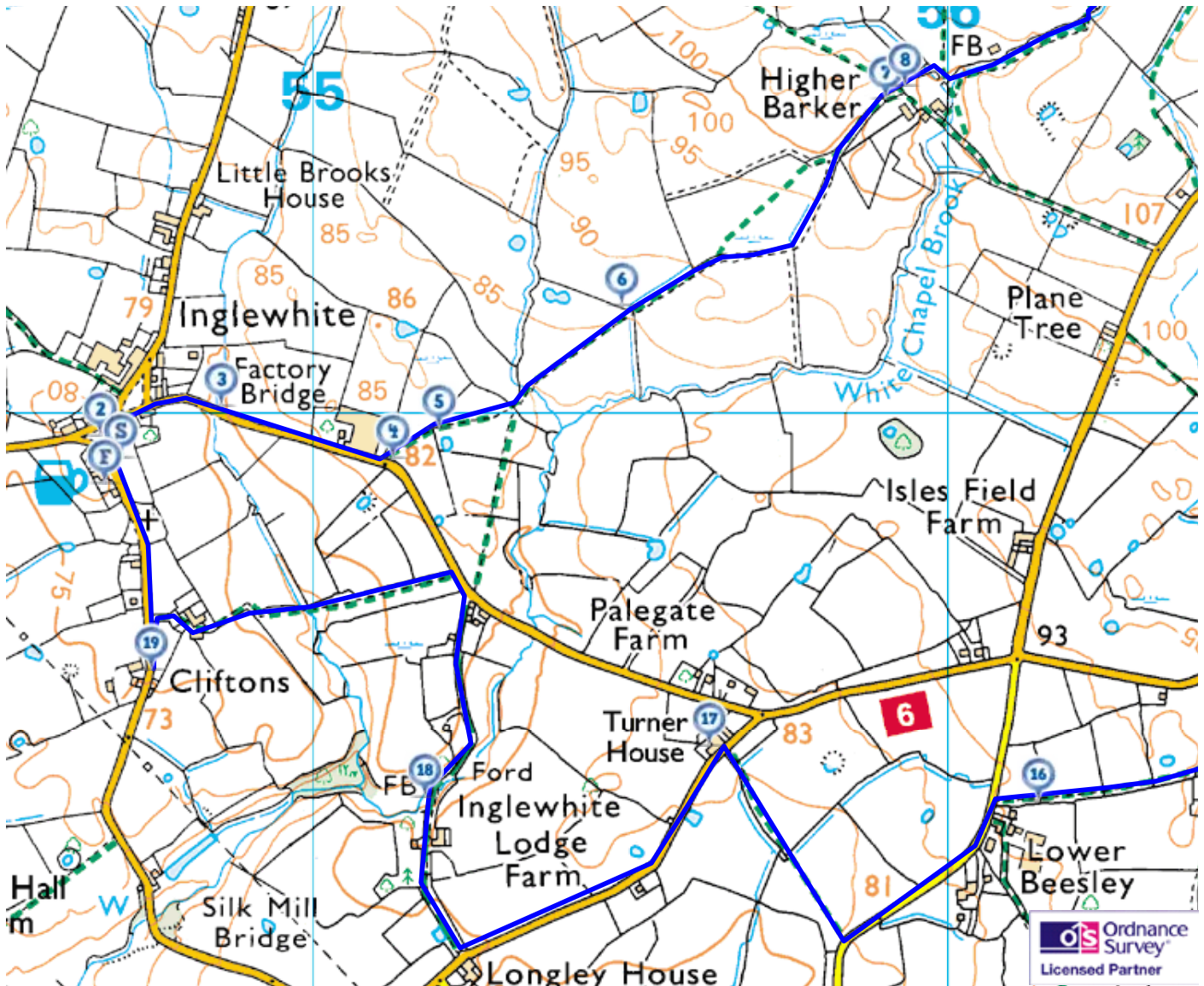
Location	Inglewhite, Lancashire, Northwest England
Getting there	<p>Train - The nearest station is Preston (7½ miles away). Preston station is on the West Coast Main Line. Direct destinations include; London Euston, Manchester Piccadilly, Liverpool, York, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Glasgow.</p> <p>Bus - No buses serve Inglewhite village. The nearest buses are 2½ miles away on the A6 at Bilsborrow. These can be reached from Preston, Garstang and Lancaster.</p> <p>Car - Inglewhite is located 3 miles east of the village of Bilsborrow which is on the A6 between Preston and Lancaster. Access via the A6 and M6 Junction 32. Parking is available in Inglewhite in roadside lay-bys.</p> <p>Bicycle - Inglewhite is on National Cycle Route Number 6 (Preston to Kendal)</p>
Start & finish point	The Green Man, Inglewhite, PR3 2LP
Distance	6 miles
Level	Gentle – a rural walk through fields and quiet lanes (see Conditions)
Terrain	A mixture of rural lanes, tracks and across fields. The fields can be very muddy, especially after rain, so wear sturdy shoes.
Conditions	Though a gentle route there are 25 stiles to cross along the way so the walk is unsuitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs and those with mobility issues.

Suitable for	<p>Families – Be careful for traffic along the lanes</p> <p>Dogs - Must be kept on a lead and under tight control</p>
Refreshments	Two pubs on the route serve food. The Green Man in Inglewhite (start and end of the route) and Ye Horns Inn (Stop 14) half way round the walk. Alternatively you may like to prepare a picnic.
Toilets	There are no public toilets along the route. Customers can use the facilities in the pubs.
Other information	<p>The route is 'Whey marked' as the Tasty Lancashire Cheese Trail. Look out for the yellow markers.</p> <p>The walk is best in the summer when you can see cows grazing. Cows are likely to be in the pastures between May and September. Do not disturb them and keep dogs under tight control.</p>
Places to visit	<p>The walk passes Mrs Kirkham's (Stop 16), a dairy farm that makes traditional Lancashire Cheese. Ask at the office and they are normally happy to show visitors round the dairy.</p> <p>At Dewlay Cheese Shop you can see traditional cheese making. Located 5 miles from Inglewhite at Garstang Bypass Road, Garstang PR3 0PR. Tel: 01995 602335 Web: www.dewlay.com</p> <p>Beacon Fell Country Park (viewed at Stop 9) is 300 acres of open access countryside home to many species of wildlife and a range of outdoor activities. Free entry all year. Tel: 01995 640557</p>
Visitor information	Nearest is Preston Visitor Information Centre , The Guildhall, Lancaster Road, Preston PR1 1HT. Email: tourism@preston.gov.uk Tel: 01772 253731

Route overview



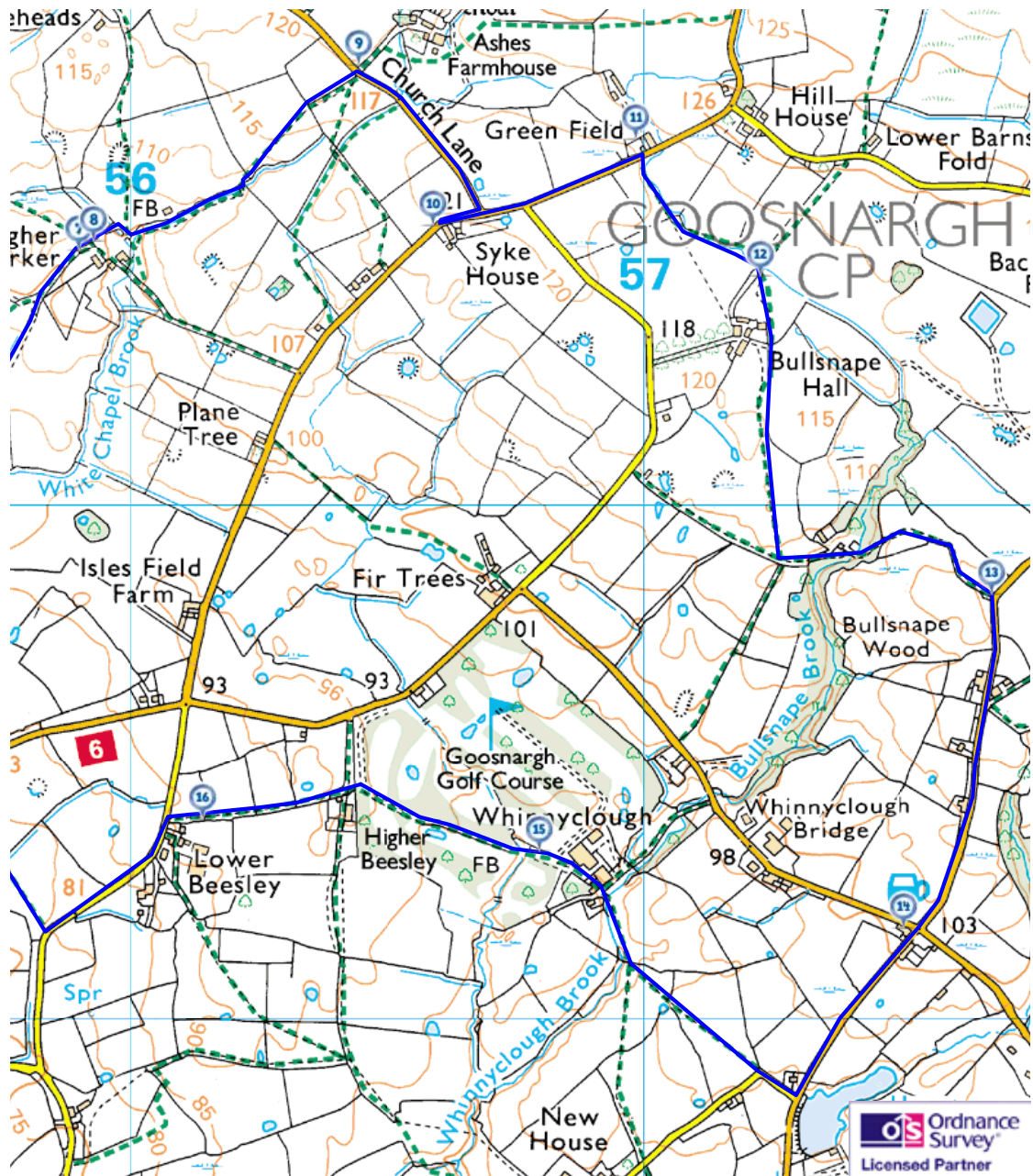
Start and end of the route



Stopping points

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The Green Man, Inglewhite | ... |
| 2. Market cross, Inglewhite village green | 16. Beesley Farm, Mill Lane |
| 3. Bridge over Factory Brook, Inglewhite Road | 17. Turner House Farm, Langley Lane |
| 4. Corner of first field off Inglewhite Road | 18. Sparling Brook |
| 5. Pond in the corner of the second field | 19. Cliftons Farm, Silk Mill Lane |
| 6. View of dairy field hedgerows | F. The Green Man pub |

Middle part of the route



Stopping points

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7. Muck heap before Higher Barker Farm | 11. Greenfields Dairy, Greenfield Lane |
| 8. Higher Barker Farm | 12. Bullsnape Farm |
| 9. View of Beacon Fell, Church Lane | 13. View of Edenfields Farm, Horns Lane |
| 10. Silage clamp, Higher Syke House Farm | 14. Ye Horns Inn, Horns Lane |

Directions

These directions are for use with the audio commentary. Listen to each track then read the directions below to get to the next stop.

1. Welcome to Inglewhite

The Green Man pub, Inglewhite

Directions 1

Walk to the market cross on the triangular village green. Listen to Track 2.

2. All the fun of the fair

Market cross, Inglewhite village green

Directions 2

With the Green Man behind you turn right out of the village along Inglewhite Road. Please be careful on this stretch of road - it is not normally very busy but there is no pavement and traffic can be fast moving. Stop after about 100 metres where the road crosses a small stream. Listen to Track 3.

3. Wet and mild

Bridge over Factory Brook, Inglewhite Road

Directions 3

Continue along the road for about 200 metres and you will reach a group of farm buildings on your left. You will see a footpath on your left just after these buildings. Go through the metal gate and stop just inside the field. Listen here to Track 4.

4. Dutch breeding

Corner of the first field off Inglewhite Road

Directions 4

Cross the field diagonally to a stile. Cross the stile and stop immediately by a pond. Listen to Track 5.

5. Heavy drinkers

Pond in the corner of the second field

Directions 5

With the pond on your right go directly across the field to another stile. Cross the stile and walk straight across the next field to another stile by a gate. Stop here to listen to Track 6.

6. Historic hedges

View of dairy field hedgerows

Directions 6

Continue through the field with the hedge to your left until you reach a gate. Bear left here and follow a track until you reach another gate. Stop just the other side of the gate where you may be standing by a muck heap. Stop here to listen to Track 7.

7. Where there's muck there's brass

Muck heap before Higher Barker Farm

Directions 7

Continue up to a group of houses on the right. Stop here to listen to Track 8.

8. Consolidation and conversion

Higher Barker Farm

Directions 8

Pass the houses and just after the track turns sharply to the right look for a footpath on your left by a very small stream. Cross the stile here and follow the path along the edge of the stream. Take care as this section can be very muddy. Cross over two more stiles and then follow the path straight across the next field to another stile by a gate. Continue along the track and stop when you reach a stile by a gate which leads onto a lane. Listen to Track 9.

9. A European beacon

View of Beacon Fell, Church Lane

Directions 9

Turn right into Church Lane. Follow it to a T-junction with Syke House Lane. Turn right and continue for about 100 metres to Higher Syke House Farm. Continue just past the entrance to Higher Syke House Farm and stop by a metal gate into the farmyard. Listen to Track 10.

10. Clamping up

Silage clamp, Higher Syke House Farm

Directions 10

Retrace your steps back along the Syke House Lane. Continue past the junction with Church Lane and the junction with Bullsnape Lane. Stop after about 400 metres when you come to a group of buildings on your left. Listen to Track 11.

11. Curds and whey

Greenfields Dairy, Syke House Lane

Directions 11

Cross the stile opposite the house next to Greenfields Dairy. Go into the field and follow the left edge. Cross another stile in the far left corner. Continue along the left of the next field and go through the gate. Look at the buildings to the right and listen to Track 12.

12. Beware of the bull

Bullsnape Farm

Directions 12

Continue towards Bullsnape Hall and cross the stile beside it. Then cross two more stiles in quick succession. Follow the left edge of the field then turn right at the corner. Continue down to a stile into a wood and follow the path to a house. Follow the track over a stream and onto a gravel path until you reach a road. Stop here to listen to Track 13.

13. Super sizing

View of Edenfield Farm, Horns Lane

Directions 13

Turn right onto Horns Lane and follow it for about 600 metres until you reach Ye Horns Inn. Listen to Track 14.

14. Travellers rest

Ye Horns Inn, Horns Lane

Directions 14

With Ye Horns Inn on your right continue into the road ahead. After about 400 metres turn right into Ford Lane. After 50 metres ignore the lane to the left and take the kissing gate ahead into a field. Cross this field diagonally to two stiles by a pond. Cross these and continue across the next field to a kissing gate on the right. Then follow the hedge on your left to a bridge over a stream. Go through two gates and straight through the farmyard. Stop when you reach the starting hut for Goosnargh Golf Course. Listen to Track 15.

15. Diversification

Goosnargh Golf Course

Directions 15

Follow the track past the starting hut. After about 300 metres leave the track as it turns right and take the stile on your left. Continue past Higher Beesley, crossing two more stiles and going through a gate. Go through a kissing gate to a road. Listen to Track 16.

16. Kirkham's cows

Beesley Farm, Mill Lane

Directions 16

With the farm behind you turn left and follow the track to the road. Turn left and after 300 metres where the road bends to the left take the stile on the right into a field. Follow the path across two fields until you reach a gate by a road. Listen to Track 17.

17. European mountains

Turner House Farm, Langley Lane

Directions 17

Go through the gate and turn left. Continue along Langley Lane. After about 500 metres you will come to a converted barn on your left. Take the track to the right directly opposite and continue past houses on either side. Go through the gate before the path descends into a wooded area. Stop when you reach a stream at the bottom. Listen to Track 18.

18. Mr Brock

Sparling Brook

Directions 18

Continue along the track and past Colbourn Cottage to a road. Turn left and after 50 metres take the stile on your left into a field. Keeping to the left of the field and cross it down to a stile and a bridge over a small stream. Continue towards a house. The path goes over a stile then through the garden and front drive. At the road turn left and stop after 100 metres by Cliftons Farm. Listen to Track 19.

19. Raw and organic

Cliftons Farm, Silk Mill Lane

Directions 19

Retrace your steps back along the road. Continue past the small church on your right to the Green Man where we started. Stop here to listen to Track 20.

20. Village local

The Green Man pub, Inglewhite

Directions 20

You have now reached the end of the walk. You may like to explore Inglewhite village further or visit the Dewlay Cheese Shop to see Lancashire cheese being made and find out more about Lancashire's cheesemaking heritage.

Further information

Lancashire dairy farms and cheesemakers

Cliftons Farm

Silk Mill Lane, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2LP
cliftonsfarm.wordpress.com

Greenfields Dairy Products Ltd.

Syke House Lane, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2EN
www.greenfieldsdairy.co.uk

Mrs Kirkham's

Beesley Farm, Mill Lane, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2FL
www.mrskirkhams.com

Butlers Farmhouse Cheeses

Wilson Fields farm, Inglewhite, Preston PR3 2LH
www.butlerscheeses.co.uk

Carron Lodge

Park Head Farm, Carron Lane, Inglewhite, Preston PR3 2LN
www.carronlodge.com

Dewlay Cheesemakers

Garstang Bypass Road, Garstang, Preston PR3 0PR
www.dewlay.com

Hollwood Cheese

Halliday's Farm Dairy, Moss Lane, Bilsborough, Preston PR3 0RU

Leagram Organic Dairy Limited

Green Lane, Chipping, Preston PR3 2TQ
www.cheese-experience.com

J J Sandham Ltd

Rostock Dairy, Garstang Road, Barton, Preston PR3 5AA
www.jjsandham.co.uk

Shorrocks Cheese

Newhouse Farm, Ford Lane, Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2FD
www.lancashirebombs.co.uk

Singleton's Dairy

Mill Farm, Preston Road, Longridge, Preston PR3 3AN
www.singletons.uk.com

Further information continued

British Cheese Board

www.britishcheese.com

DairyCo

www.dairyco.org.uk

Goosnargh Golf Course

www.goosnarghgolf.co.uk

Soil Association

www.soilassociation.org

This is dairy farming

www.thisisdairyfarming.com

UK Agriculture

www.ukagriculture.com

Ye Horns Inn

www.yehornsinn.co.uk

Credits

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 - **Caroline Millar** for editing the audio files
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