

Raglan Past & Present

Walk 1: Raglan Castle

(Approximately 2 hours, 3.5 miles)

Excellent views of Raglan Castle and glimpses of the Black Mountains.



The walk starts at Raglan Castle and follows the track north past the historic Castle Farm and then veers slightly to the west across pasture fields. As you cross the first stile into the field you will see the artillery position from which 'the breach' was made that caused the surrender of the castle during the civil war. This battery can be seen today as a depression around the hill summit, below the water tank.

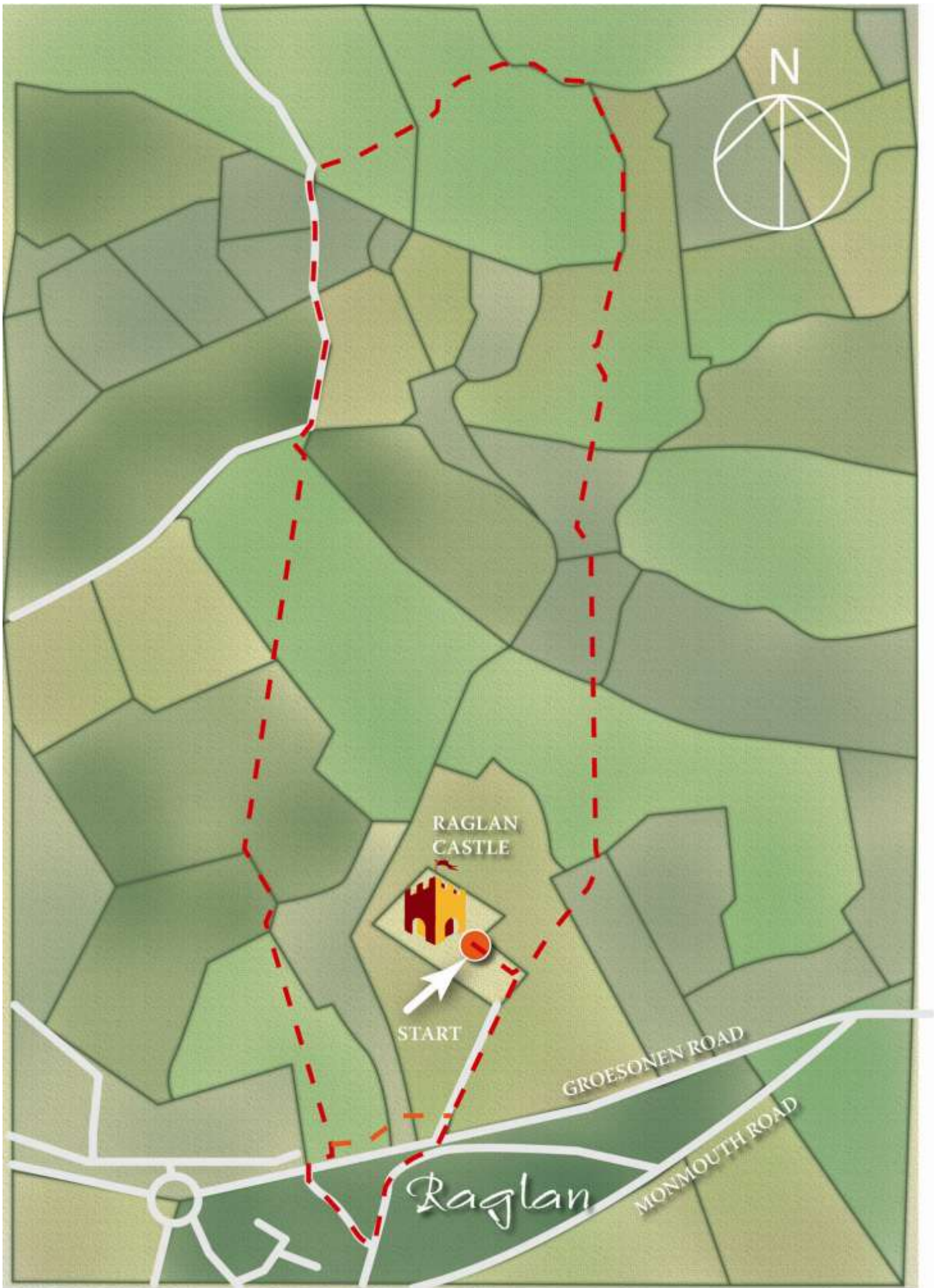
A second stile brings you to the next field. The exit here is a rusty iron gate into the next field in which there is a footbridge (if you cannot see a footbridge it is either too foggy to walk or you have lost the path). The footbridge is a good 20 yards to the west of the statutory footpath so you need to return this distance to the east and continue north to another good stile into the next field (the stile is not clearly visible unless you cross back to the official path).

From this field there is another footpath leading east to the Artha Farm, but the Castle walk continues north to the end of the field and then crosses by stile into the adjacent field and continues north, through a farm gate into another field and north along the hedgerow to a green lane, which can be quite muddy. Turn left (West) onto the green lane, ignoring the fingerpost pointing east. The green lane leads slowly down through the woods to Pen y Parc lane, which is followed south for 50 yards to a dogleg in the lane. From here it is back across arable fields (please remember to walk single file to avoid crop damage). To cross the first field, find the redundant stile by the fence and stride off in the direction of Raglan Castle (there should be a visible path through the field).



From these fields there are the most spectacular views of Raglan Castle and you can clearly see the terraces which were once part of the Castle's formal gardens. To cross the field, aim at the way-marking post on the opposite side and then follow the field boundary towards the castle to the next field. Again follow the field boundary through the fields keeping close to the boundary to the A40 dual carriageway.

At this point turn east through a bramble thicket, over a stone bridge on an ancient lane and onto the Castle road and back to the Castle.



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