



Transport for
Greater Manchester

Greater Manchester Walking Weekend



3-5 March 2017

Over 30 free guided walks suitable for all ages and abilities



Welcome



Welcome to our Spring Walking Weekend, a series of 30 fun and friendly guided walks across one weekend, with something for everyone, whatever your age, ability or interests.

All walks are free and led by experienced guides. The walking weekend takes place 3rd to 5th March and showcases some of the best walks in the following areas: Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan. All ten districts of Greater Manchester will be showcased throughout our festival in May which will involve around 300 walks.

The Greater Manchester Walking Weekends and Festival are coordinated by Transport for Greater Manchester and delivered by our many walking partners, groups, organisations and individuals across the region. We'd like to extend a big 'thank you' to all those who will be guiding you on your walking adventure.

Walking is free, makes you feel great, is good for your health and it can be a very sociable activity, especially when part of an organised group. It is kind to the environment as well.

So please come and join us on a walk, you'll never look back – apart from to enjoy the view!

Carragh Teague

**Walking Coordinator,
Transport for Greater Manchester**

Getting to and from the walks

We do our best to ensure that all walks are accessible by public transport and where possible give details under each listed walk.

For more information and to help you plan your journey, have a look at our 'Journey Planner' my.tfgm.com/#/planner/

How to get involved

Please contact us if you are interested in finding out more about supporting or sponsoring Greater Manchester walking events, or if you are a walking group who would like to get involved with future events.

You can contact us on:

Tel: 0161 244 1145

Email: walking.works@tfgm.com

Safety and Guidance

What to wear and bring

Please wear comfortable and sturdy shoes or boots for all walks.

We can't guarantee the weather, so be sure to bring a waterproof coat or jacket in case it rains.

If it's sunny, pack a hat and some sun cream, especially for those longer walks. It's also a good idea to bring water and a snack, as not all walks offer opportunities for refreshments.

Health and safety

All walks are undertaken at your own risk. Walk leaders take every care to ensure that the walks are undertaken in a safe manner. Transport for Greater Manchester and walk leaders are not responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur.

Things to note

Some of the walks in this brochure are accessible to people with limited mobility. However, it is recommended that you check with the walk organiser prior to a walk if you have any specific requirements, including wheelchair access, or if you are unable to step over stiles.

Please arrive 10 minutes before a walk begins so that you can locate the group and be ready to start the walk at the right time.

Walks may also be cancelled or modified due to adverse weather conditions, so please ring the contact number listed to make sure the walk is taking place.

It is advisable to check the meeting location in advance with the organiser.

Walking key



-  Car park *
-  Toilets
-  Cafe
-  Public house
-  Wheelchair friendly
-  Buggy friendly
-  Dogs allowed (on a lead)





* Car parking may be on the street or there may be a charge



Walking – What's On








Walk name	Walk route & rating	Page
Friday 3 March		
Seven Acres to Ringley	 Kingfisher Trail – Bolton	8
Town Centre heritage walk	 Town Centre – Bolton	8
West Pennine Way – Peel Tower to Greenmount	 The West Pennine Way – Bury	10
Alexandra Park historic walk	 Lets go for a Walk – Oldham	13
Sunnybank walk & talk	 Sunnybank Vale – Tameside	16
The Parks of Sale	 Trafford Heritage Trees Trail	18
Three Sisters nordic walk	  Three Sisters – Wigan	19
Plank Lane health walk	 Leeds / Liverpool Canal – Wigan	19

Walking grades

-  **EASY** On well maintained flat surfaces
-  **FAIRLY EASY** On slight gradients and possibly some uneven paths
-  **MEDIUM** On uneven or unsurfaced paths with some steep gradients and possible steps or stiles
-  **CHALLENGING** Suitable for experienced walkers, longer distance with mixed terrain and gradients



Walk name	Walk route & rating	Page
Saturday 4 March		
Ringley Woods, Clifton Country Park & Philips Park circular	 Kingfisher Trail – Bolton	9
West Pennine Way – Affetside to Jumbles	 The West Pennine Way – Bury	10
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Sunday 5 March		
Leverhulme health walk	 Tonge Trail – Bolton	9
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West Pennine Way – Greenmount to Affetside	 The West Pennine Way – Bury	11
Fletcher Moss to Chapel street park	 Green Corridor – Manchester	12
Dovestone resevoir	 Lets go for a Walk – Oldham	13
Hollingworth Lake Xplorer	 Hollingworth Lake – Rochdale	14
Haigh Hall family fun walk	 Haigh Woodland Park – Wigan	21

The Kingfisher & Tonge Trails

The Kingfisher Trail is a 14 mile walking route linking the West Pennine Moors to Bolton, Bury and Salford along the Croal-Irwell Valley.

Bolton's Tonge Trail is a circular trail located in the heart of Bolton. The route gives an insight into the rich industrial heritage and beautiful natural environment at every turn throughout the 8 mile route.

Seven Acres to Ringley Kingfisher Trail

Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside
Friday 3 March, 10am

A walk along the middle section of the Kingfisher Trail taking in industrial heritage and wildlife along the way.

Booking required (details below).

Distance: 4 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Environmental Resource Centre, 499-511 Bury Rd, Bolton, BL2 6DH.

End point: Horseshoe Pub, 395 Fold Rd, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 1FT.

Public transport: Bus 471 at start point, Kearsley train station, bus 512 & 513 at end point.

Contact: Stephen Cartwright on 01204 663 754 or email scartwright@lancswt.org.uk

 lancswt.org.uk/kingfisher-trail



Town centre heritage walk Town Centre, Bolton

Bolton Library & Museum Service
Friday 3 March, 2pm

Our walk will begin with a brief showcase of artefacts from Bolton Museum archive. Tour Guide Suzanne Hinde will then lead you on a walk around Bolton Town Centre, taking you back in time through invention, architecture, radical ideas and quirky stories to present-day civic pride.

Booking required: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bolton-town-centre-heritage-showcase-and-walk-tickets-29256929263

Distance: 2 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Foyer Bolton Central Library, BL1 1SE

Public transport: Bolton train station & Bolton bus station.

Contact: Suzanne Hinde on 07853 181 299 or email suzannehindle@hotmail.co.uk

 boltonmuseums.org.uk/



Ringley Woods, Clifton Country park and Philips Park circular Kingfisher Trail

Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside
Saturday 4 March, 10am

A walk around two key country parks full of interesting industrial heritage and wildlife linked by a beautiful ancient woodland.

Booking required (details below).

Distance: 5.5 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Horseshoe Pub, 395 Fold Rd, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 1FT.

Public transport: Kearsley train station, bus stop 512 & 513 nearby.

Contact: Stephen Cartwright on 01204 663 754 or email scartwright@lancswt.org.uk

 lancswt.org.uk/kingfisher-trail



Leverhulme health walk Tonge Trail

Get Active, Walk This Way Programme
Sunday 5 March, 10.30am

A circular health walk taking in part of the Tonge Trail.

Distance: 3 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Leverhulme Park Community Leisure Centre (meet just inside), Long Lane, Brightmet BL2 6EB.

Public transport: Bus stop on Long Lane no 536.

Contact: Melissa Taylor on 01204 331 172 or email melissa.taylor@bolton.gov.uk

 tongetrail.co.uk/



Short Top walk Short Top

Get Active, Walk This Way Programme
Sunday 5 March, 1pm

A circular walk exploring Moses Gate Country Park and local waterways.

Distance: 4-5 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Moses Gate Country Park, Lower Car Park by Rock Hall, BL4 7QN.

Public transport: Bus stop on Lomax Street 524 or Moses Gate train station.

Contact: Melissa Taylor on 01204 331 172 or email melissa.taylor@bolton.gov.uk

 getactivebolton.co.uk



West Pennine Way

These walks give a taster of The West Pennine Way, a new 46 mile rural route around the West Pennine Moors. Once covered by the dirt and grime from mill chimneys, now back to their former glory, these 90 square miles of outstanding historical and environmental interest can be enjoyed by all.

West Pennine Way – Peel Tower to Greenmount West Pennine Way

Bury Sport & Physical Activity Service
Friday 3 March, 4.30pm

An interesting walk through ancient woodland then steeply uphill to the iconic local landmark of Peel Tower. Enjoy the magnificent views before leaving to follow old pack horse routes to the outskirts of Greenmount, before returning through fields to the start.

Distance: 4 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Outside Hare & Hounds, Holcombe Brook, BLO 9RY.

Public transport: Bus stop 472 & 474 nearby.

Contact: Maria Cranston on 0161 253 6396 or email m.cranston@bury.gov.uk

 westpennineway.org



West Pennine Way – Affetside to Jumbles West Pennine Way

Bury Sport & Physical Activity Service
Saturday 4 March, 10am

A very pleasant walk from the ancient village of Affetside with its Roman road and old village cross, down fields and through Jumbles Country Park before returning to the 15th Century Pack Horse Inn where the skull of Lord Derby's executioner is on display.

Distance: 4 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Outside Pack Horse, Affetside, BL8 3QW.

Public transport: Bus stop 480 nearby.

Contact: Maria Cranston on 0161 253 6396 or email m.cranston@bury.gov.uk

 westpennineway.org



West Pennine Way – Greenmount to Affetside West Pennine Way

Bury Sport and Physical Activity Service

Sunday 5 March, 1.30pm

A lovely countryside walk full of historical interest, passing through Hollymount, Bottoms Hall, then climbing steeply up and across Turton road before walking through the fields to then follow the Roman road to Affetside, returning through the Two Brooks Valley. Historical Information will be given on route.

Distance: 4 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Outside Greenmount Old School, BL8 4DS.

Public transport: Bus stop 472 & 474 half a mile away on Longsight road, walk along Vernon road turn right to centre of Greenmount or bus stop 468 & 469 to Tottington then 1 mile walk to Greenmount.

Contact: Maria Cranston on 0161 253 6396 or email m.cranston@bury.gov.uk

 westpennineway.org



The Green Corridor

Manchester's Green Corridor is a walking circuit made up of 14 routes which connect many of the beautiful green spaces and tree-lined streets around the city. Most of the walks on the circuit are about 4 miles long.

Fletcher Moss to Chapel Street park Green Corridor

Manchester and Salford Ramblers
Sunday 5 March, 11am

An easy linear walk linking five parks in South Manchester, using quiet roads between the parks.

Distance: 5.5 miles (**EASY**)

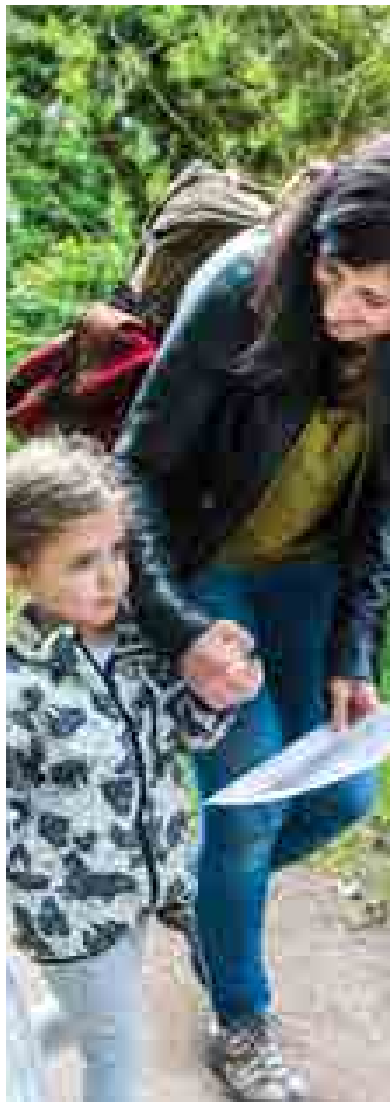
Meeting point: Old Parsonage Gardens, Didsbury.

Finishing point: Chapel Street Park, Barlow Road.

Public transport: Bus stop 23, 42, 142, 157, 171 & 196 nearby the start point. Bus stop 44, 145, 179, 22, 178, 194, 297 & 171 nearby the finish point. Mauldeth Road & Burnage train stations.

Contact: Salle Dare on 0161 861 8491 or email salle_e_dare@yahoo.co.uk

 manchestrandalsfordramblers.org.uk



'Let's go for a Walk'

Oldham has 36 Parks, as well as glorious meadows, lush woodland and picturesque canals. Oldham Council and UProjects are working together to encourage people in and outside the area to discover just how beautiful Oldham really is.



Alexandra Park historic walk Let's go for a Walk

Oldham Council & UProjects
Friday 3 March, 12.30pm

A circular walk around one of the North West's finest historic public parks.

Distance: 1.5 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Kings road car park, Alexandra Park, OL8 2BH.

Public transport: Bus stops nearby.

Contact: Euey Madden on 07801 204 782 or email Euey.madden@oldham.gov.uk

 walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/oldham-lets-go-for-walk



Dovestone Edges

Let's go for a Walk

Oldham Council & UProjects
Saturday 4 March, 9.45am

A walk around the edges of Chew valley in Saddleworth. Ascending Alphin Pike and following the edges passing Wimberly stones, Chew reservoir and descending at the Fox stone and returning through Chew plantation.

Distance: 7.5 miles (**CHALLENGING**)

Meeting point: The Clarence Pub, Chew Valley Rd, Greenfield OL3 7DD. www.theclarencepub.com

Public transport: Bus stops nearby.

Contact: Alan Keane on 07715 078 239 or email alan.keane@uprojects.co.uk

 walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/oldham-lets-go-for-walk



Dovestone Reservoir

Let's go for a Walk

Oldham Council & UProjects
Sunday 5 March, 10am

A circular walk around Dovestones reservoir.

Distance: 3.7 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: Dovestones Car Park.

Public transport: Bus stops nearby.

Contact: Euey Madden on 07801 204 782 or email Euey.madden@oldham.gov.uk

 walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/oldham-lets-go-for-walk



Charges

Hollingworth Lake

Hollingworth Lake is in fact, a reservoir, built in the early 1800s to supply water to the Rochdale Canal. The trail begins at the visitor centre and follows the lake side in a clockwise direction with some splendid panoramas of Blackstone Edge on the Pennine Edge along the route.



Hollingworth Lake Xplorer Hollingworth Lake

Link4life

Sunday 5 March, 11am

Hollingworth lake trail is a 4km circular walk that takes you around the lake and offers some good vantage points for nature lovers and photographers. The trail is flat but can be on rough ground in some places.

Grab a self-led map from the activity centre (£1 per group)

Distance: 2.5 miles (**EASY**)

Meeting point: Hollingworth Lake Activity Centre, Lakebank, Littleborough, Greater Manchester OL15 0DQ.

Public transport: Smithy Bridge train station.

Contact: Simon Duczak on 01706 370 499 or email holwac@link4life.org

 link4life.org/centres/hollingworth-lake-water-activity-centre



The Salford Trail

The Salford Trail weaves through picturesque country parks, urban heritage areas and borders canals and rivers. The trail uses 'looplines', old railway tracks now transformed into traffic free highways to reach every corner of this surprisingly rural city.

The trail is largely off road and easy to follow with its own markers.



Chat Moss walk Chat Moss Loop

The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside
Saturday 4 March, 11am

An informative walk into the vast social and natural history of Chat Moss. Taking in wildlife and historical features along the way. **Booking required (see below).**

Distance: 5 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: 1923 Café at Irlam train station. Irlam, Manchester M44 5AB.

Public transport: Train to Irlam station. Bus stop 67 and 100 nearby.

Contact: Lydia McCool on 01204 663754 or email lmccool@lancswt.org.uk

 lancswt.org.uk/chat-moss-project



Clifton Country Park Clifton Country Park Local Nature Reserve

Manchester and Salford Ramblers
Saturday 4 March, 11am

Fairly easy walking along marked paths by the River Irwell and through the woods and meadows of the Country Park where we will visit remains of the Wet Earth Colliery.

Distance: 4 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Clifton Country Park Visitors Centre, Clifton House Road, Clifton, Salford M27 6NG.

Public transport: Bus stop 8 from Shudehill and bus stop 22 from Bolton to Stockport nearby. The Country Park is off the A666.

Contact: Mags Metcalf on 0161 839 3865 or email margaretmetcalf58@hotmail.com

 manchesterandsalfordramblers.org.uk



Tameside Walks and Trails

If you're looking to explore Tameside's countryside there is a host of trails and routes to try. You could do a section of the Tameside Trail, a 32 mile trail passing through all nine towns, or the Tame Valley Way which runs from Stockport to Denshaw along the River Tame. Or there's parks and canals to explore if you prefer....



Sunnybank walk & talk Sunnybank Vale

Active Tameside
Friday 3 March, 2pm

A gentle circular walk through Sunnybank Vale in Droylsden.

Distance: 1.5 miles (FAIRLY EASY)

Meeting point: Sunnybank Vale car park, Greenside Lane (opposite Springfield Road) Droylsden M43 7SL.

Public transport: Bus stop 168, 169 & 231 on Greenside Lane.

Contact: Sean Vickers on 0161 366 4860 or email sean.vickers@activetameside.com

 livewelltameside.com



Audenshaw community walk Peak Forest canal/Jet Amber Fields

Audenshaw Walking group
Saturday 4 March, 10am

Two hour walk taking in the Peak Forest Canal and Jet Amber Field before returning to the hub for refreshments.

Distance: 2 miles (FAIRLY EASY)

Meeting point: Community Hub, Rowcon Close, Stanhope Estate, Audenshaw M34 5AS.

Public transport: Bus stop 347 from Ashton under Lyne nearby.

Contact: Brian Horsfall on 0161 336 3530 or email brianhorsfall@sky.com

 westpennine.org



Droylsden health walk Tameside Trail

Tameside Health Walks
Saturday 4 March, 10.30am

The walk covers a short section of the Tameside Trail north of Droylsden and along the Medlock Valley to Daisy Nook returning via the Hollinwood Branch Canal.

Distance: 3 miles (FAIRLY EASY)

Meeting point: Medlock Leisure Centre, Gardenfold Way, Droylsden M43 7XU.

Public transport: Bus stop 168 & 169 on main road by centre. Metrolink tram to Droylsden 800 metres away.

Contact: George Cope on 07855 984 586 or email gjcope@ntlworld.com

 walkingforhealth.org.uk



Stamford Park health walk Tame Valley Way

Tameside Health Walks
Saturday 4 March, 1pm

The walk covers a short section of the Tame Valley Way through Stamford Park and Silver Springs on the Ashton Stalybridge border.

Distance: 1 miles (FAIRLY EASY)

Meeting point: The Cafe Stamford Park, Ashton Under Lyne.

Public transport: Numerous bus stops along Stamford Street.

Contact: George Cope on 07855 984 586 or email gjcope@ntlworld.com

 walkingforhealth.org.uk



Trafford Heritage Trees Trail

Trafford is home to 30 municipal parks and a diverse range of historic open spaces and visitor attractions. The borough's parks and green spaces have a rich history and were at the forefront of the Victorian parks movement, which established the pattern of public green space we know today. City of Trees want to help people explore local areas they may not have visited before.

The walks are part of a series of walking guides which outline over 35 miles of recreational routes taking in local gems such as Sale Water Park, Walkden Gardens, Carrington Moss, Turn Moss and more.



The Parks of Sale Trafford Heritage Trees Trail

City of Trees
Friday 3 March, 10.30am

A circular route that leads walkers through some of the finest parks in Sale, including Worthington Park where you will discover The Wizard of Worthington Park and Walkden Gardens, Sales 'very own' secret garden.

Distance: 4.7 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: The Bridge Pub & Dining, Dane Road, M33 7QH.

Public transport: Brooklands & Dane Road Metrolink.

Contact: Janie Burrage on 0161 872 1660 or email Janie@cityoftrees.org.uk

cityoftrees.org.uk



Trans Pennine Trail trek Trafford Heritage Trees Trail

City of Trees
Saturday 4 March, 10.30am

A journey from Sale Water Park to Urmston and back, following the northern bank of the River Mersey before joining the Trans Pennine Trail to Stretford Meadows.

Distance: 7.5 miles (**CHALLENGING**)

Meeting point: Sale Water Park Visitor Centre, Sale Water Park, Rifle Road, M33 2LX.

Public transport: Sale Water Park Metrolink.

Contact: Janie Burrage on 0161 872 1660 or email Janie@cityoftrees.org.uk

cityoftrees.org.uk



Wigan Walking Routes

Wigan and Leigh boasts some attractive countryside and many interesting local landmarks. From Pennington Flash to the Amberswood Trail to country parks and even along the Leeds/Liverpool canal, there's something for everyone to try out. Also on offer over the weekend is a Nordic Walk which caters for beginners, intermediate and advanced.

Three Sisters nordic walk Three Sisters

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles
Friday 3 March, 10am

Nordic walking is an enhancement of our health walk programme. There are 3 walks to choose from, beginners, intermediate and advanced. All walks are instructor led with poles provided free of charge. Instructors are on hand to support with advice on Nordic Walking technique in addition to leading the walks.

Distance: 45 minutes (**FAIRLY EASY**)
60 minutes (**MEDIUM**)
80 minutes (**CHALLENGING**)

Meeting point: Three Sisters Road, Ashton WN4 8DD. Meet on the car park near the lake. Bus route 600/658.

Note: Arrive 15 minutes before the walk commences.

Public transport: Bus stop 600 & 658 nearby.

Contact: Tracy Morris on 07943 840 259 or email t.morris@wlct.org

inspiringhealthylifestyles.org/walking



Plank Lane health walk Leeds/Liverpool Canal

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles
Friday 3 March, 11am

Suitable for beginners. Ideal for people who want to increase their activity levels in a safe and social atmosphere.

Distance: 3 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Slag Lane, Leigh WN7 4QE. Meet at the Swing Bridge car park.

Public transport: Bus stop 584 & 588 nearby.

Contact: Tracy Morris on 07943 840 259 or email t.morris@wlct.org

inspiringhealthylifestyles.org/walking



Pennington Hall park
Pennington Flash

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles
Saturday 4 March, 10am

Nordic walking is an enhancement of our health walk programme. Our walk is instructor led with poles provided free of charge. Instructors are on hand to support with advice on Nordic Walking technique in addition to leading the walk.

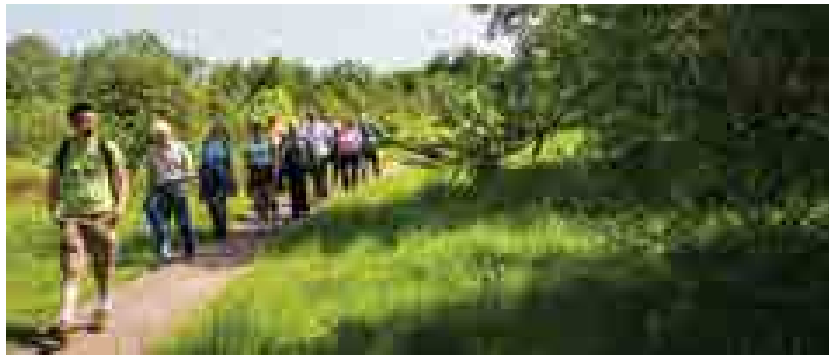
Distance: 3-6 miles (**MEDIUM**)

Meeting point: St Helens Road, Leigh WN7 3JD. Meet on the car park.

Public transport: Bus stop 600 & 34 nearby.

Contact: Tracy Morris on 07943 840 259 or email t.morris@wlct.org

 inspiringhealthylifestyles.org/walking



Amberswood waggy dog walk
Amberswood Trail

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles
Saturday 4 March, 10.30am

Approximately 4 miles of fun with your four legged friend. All dogs must be on non-extendable leads.

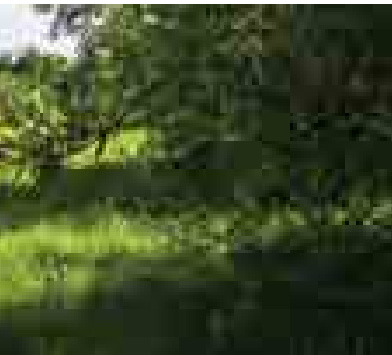
Distance: 3-4 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Car Park on Wigan Road, opposite La Cava restaurant, Hindley WN2 3BU.

Public transport: Bus stop 598 & 652 nearby.

Contact: Tracy Morris on 07943 840 259 or email t.morris@wlct.org

 inspiringhealthylifestyles.org/walking



Haigh Hall family fun walk
Haigh Woodland Park

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles
Sunday 5 March, 10.30am

A fun friendly family walk around Haigh Country Park. The walk will incorporate fun activities for the whole family whilst exploring the beautiful scenic views of Haigh Hall.

Distance: 3-4 miles (**FAIRLY EASY**)

Meeting point: Car park on Copperas Lane, Wigan WN2 1PA.

Public transport: Bus stop 715 nearby.

Contact: Tracy Morris on 07943 840 259 or email t.morris@wlct.org

 inspiringhealthylifestyles.org/walking



Your notes



 Transport for
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Greater Manchester Walking Festival

1 May - 31 May 2017

Over 300 free guided walks
across Greater Manchester



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