

PEEL PARK TO KERSAL

WALK 2 Route A. 5 miles/8km, about 2.5 hours Route B. 3 miles/5km, about 1.5 hours

Starting at Salford Museum and Art Gallery, this section crosses the Wetlands by the River Irwell to Kersal Vale and includes a walk around Kersal Moor.

Facing the Salford Museum and Art Gallery turn right, walk along to the end of the building and turn left, passing through a barrier and carry on to go down the steps into Peel Park. Walk through the Park to the statue of Joseph Brotherton and the flood marker obelisk. Go right here to the river. Walk along the riverside path to Frederick Road, cross the road and then turn right, crossing the river using the road bridge. Immediately after crossing the river, turn left onto a clearly marked footpath following the river, with the river on your left.

At the end of the short path turn left crossing over a footbridge and turn right along a footpath alongside a housing estate. There are information boards here and children's decorations on the path. Follow this path with the river on your right till you get to the next road, Cromwell Road. Cross over Cromwell Road and go through the gate opposite into the Wetlands area. Go along the path to enter the new Wetlands flood defence area. Carry on along the path which rises to meet the higher path that encircles the flood basin, or go up the slope to meet it earlier. Continue on this until you see a metal bridge spanning the river. *(You may like to deviate slightly to ascend the man made knoll for a good view of the area).*

Cross over the bridge. There are 2 options here.

A. Kersal Vale and Moor or **B.** Short route back to Littleton Road

A. Taking in Kersal Vale and Moor this is a longer route (an extra 2 miles).

Turn right on a well defined path to enter an open green area. Cross this and continue into a more wooded area until you come to a T junction. (There is a bench 50m past this, a lovely spot for a rest.) Take the path going left *(There should be a waymark post here)* up to a junction with a small stream at the side. Turn right and take the right fork and then turn left uphill. At the top of the hill turn right and continue climbing to come out on Bury New Road where you turn left. Keep on Bury New Road till you reach Blackfield Lane where you turn left. At the end of Blackfield Lane cross the road and continue ahead into North Blackfield Lane. At the end of this road, cross Neville Road into Moorside Road. At the end of Moorside Road you come to a T Junction with Moor Lane and a church in front of you. Cross Moor Lane and turn left. Continue past the front of the church until you come to some open land, Kersal Moor, turn right onto the footpath leading onto the Moor. The official route follows the edge of Kersal Moor so you follow the path down the side of the church yard and at the end turn left and go as far as you can, then follow the path back round to the left which will eventually bring you back to Moor Lane.

(There is an alternative route, which is more attractive, that goes across the top of the Moor. Simply follow any of the footpaths that lead away from the church. Eventually you come out again on Moor Lane.)

As you come out onto Moor Lane you will see Oaklands Road opposite. Walk down this road until you come to Christie Lane, a new housing development. On the opposite side of the road there is a path rising up to the left along some railings and a fence.

(Look carefully for this. It is easy to miss!)

The path is indistinct at first but becomes clearer and descends back towards the river. At the bottom of the hill you will see some flats. Ignore the path off to the left and go straight ahead through a cycle gate. Continue on this path back to the river and the metal bridge. Here you can follow **B.**

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B. Short route back to Littleton Road.

Having come across the bridge turn left and continue along the top bank of the river. After a short distance you will see gates and a path off to the right leading to some houses. Take this path onto the road, Rushley Avenue. Follow this road, along the line of the river, to the end and turn right into Northallerton Road, to reach Littleton Road.

Comments, feedback and reports of problems are welcome!
Please send to salfordtrail@ukwalkers.com