

ROE GREEN TO WALKDEN
WALK 5 6.5M/10.5KM about 3.5 hrs

From Roe Green bus shelter, near the Post Office, keep to the right hand side of the Green to where the children's playground stands. Turn left and walk along to Old Clough Lane then right to the A580 (East Lancashire Road) and cross over to the opposite side via the crossing point. Turn right, passing the bus stop and walk along by Ellesmere Golf Course. At the side of the golf course a footpath runs between it and the motorway access road. Follow the footpath, with the motorway on your right for about 250m, then turn left to go through a wooded area for 650m, to where the path crosses the railway via a concrete footbridge with a raised blue, metal, coping. Immediately after crossing the railway, pass down a small slope, then turn sharp left, back on yourself, onto a path that runs through a field alongside the railway for a short distance before it comes out into a lane. Go RIGHT for a few metres (*Ignore the sign ahead which says Blackleach Country Park*) then take the footpath immediately on the left. (*There is a footpath sign here*) This is a narrow path, with fields on the left and the local angling club premises on the right.

At the end of the path, cross the A6 and continue on the path opposite. Follow the path through the middle of the field where old stone setts are in evidence underfoot. This once led towards Linnyshaw Colliery. When you reach the wood on the right walk alongside it, then take the path that turns to the left, passing over the stile. You now head towards a short row of white bungalows or cottages. Turn left through the gate and walk to the end of the lane past the Linnyshaw Garden Centre. Just after the Garden Centre there is a choice of three paths to the right, take the second path. (Not the first which is over a stile and into a field.) This second wide path leads straight into Blackleach Country Park where the large lake is home to a wide variety of bird species. The Trail passes close to the lake and it's worth deviating slightly to have a look.

Carry on, passing the lake on your left, carefully crossing the A575, Worsley Road North, to Grosvenor Road. Immediately drop down back on to the loop line path.

Walk on until an open area is reached, this is Ashton Fields, a former colliery.

Take the main path, straight ahead, which is red tarmac and meanders across the open fields heading towards the overhead power lines.

At the end pass through the gate onto Cleggs Lane. Go left for a short distance then cross over on the crossing. Now go left for less than 100m to the small black and white traffic roundabout. Turn right into the entrance of a large open area of football pitches, bordered on the right by trees. Take the footpath, which passes alongside the left of the fields for about 700m, before bearing left onto a loop line.

Follow the loop line for about 3km, passing under a number of bridges until you come to the Walkden Road bridge (signed). Pass under the bridge and turn left up the steps. At the top there is a bus stop or you can turn right for Walkden railway station.

Comments, feedback and reports of problems are welcome!

Please send to salfordtrail@ukwalkers.com