BARTON BRIDGE TO SALFORD QUAYS WALK 8 3.5 M/6KM about 2hrs

Before you start off take a look at the Pocket Park. Walk along the board walk to the end where you will get a good view of the Ship Canal, Swing Aqueduct and Swing Road Bridge. From the crossroads and traffic lights near the end of Barton Bridge go down Barton Lane on the right hand side, passing underneath the Bridgewater Canal. Pass the King's Head and continue onwards along Barton Lane towards Eccles.

For an interesting variation alongside the Ship Canal, turn right 100 m past the King's Head into Grand Union Way and then right into Havenscroft Avenue. Go left into Caldon Close and then walk along the path by the side of the Ship Canal. At the end the path swings back into Caledonian Drive. Take the first right up Blisworth Avenue. At the end there is little "snicket" that you pass through into Harecastle Avenue. Take the first left down Newry Road and the turn right up Kiel Close. Carry on, emerging onto Barton Lane and turn right. You are now back on the Trail.

Continue on until you see the Royal Oak pub (now sadly closed) just before Eccles town centre. Turn right here and walk along the footpath. At the mini roundabout cross the road to the right of it and carry straight on passing Morrisons on your left. This is Bentcliffe Way. Soon come to the traffic lights and Gilda Brook Road. Turn right here to the next roundabout then cross Lankro Way and go left along the pavement. You will soon see the Ship Canal on your right. At the next roundabout carry on passing, but not crossing, the Centenary Bridge. Continue onwards passing Allied Mills "Coronet Flour Mill". You are on Coronet Way. Cross over a railway bridge with the Ship Canal very obvious on your right and a sewage works on the left.

After passing the sewage works the road bears right and the footpath ends. Cross over to the other side of the road. There is a sign for Ordsall and Media City UK parking.

Carry on until the traffic lights and turn right across the road, signed Media City UK. Go straight ahead heading for the BBC building. Pass between the BBC and the dock10 building to enter the large open area. (*Lots of cafes and bars here*) Go diagonally left here to walk through the gardens adjacent to the Media City tram stop. At the end bear right, cross the tracks and head for the distinctive Lowry building. Carry on past the Lowry but do not cross the bridge ahead, instead pass to the left of it towards the water. Walk along the waterside passing the Salford Quays operation tower. Go up some steps to cross a bridge over the Mariner's Canal and go back to the waterside again.

This is Ontario Basin. Walk to the end of the Basin and turn right. About 200 metres ahead of you is the Salford Quays tram stop which is the end of the Trail. (And the beginning!)

(The Matchstick Man pub is nearby, for a celebratory drink if you have just completed the Trail.)

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