

The Bollin Valley Way and other recreational routes between Hale Barns and Bowdon, including Altrincham.

Town meets Country

It's easy to get out into this part of the Valley via Metrolink, rail, bike or on foot.

The River Bollin is a short tributary of the Mersey which rises in the Pennine foothills. It now flows into the Manchester Ship Canal near Warburton.

The Bollin Valley Partnership started as a pioneering experiment in 1972, managing land around towns for wildlife. farming and recreation. We now look after over 100 miles (160 km) of way-marked paths; several picnic sites; a Country Park and Visitor Centre; the Aviation Viewing Park; part of the Trans Pennine Trail; and coordinate the Bollin section of the Mersey Basin Campaign.

We work with others to improve woodlands, ponds, grasslands and hedgerows, for both wildlife and people. Partnership Rangers, helped by an Education Group, also run a varied annual activity programme (please ring for a leaflet) which includes a Taster Day for people with disabilities.

Encouraging people to enjoy the countryside (preferably without a car) is an important part of our work. This leaflet is one of 5 indicating the Bollin Valley Way and other recreational routes and opportunities diagrammatically. For more detail, please refer to OS Explorer Maps 268 and 276. See www.ordsvy.gov.uk.

The 25 mile (40km) Bollin Valley Way from Macclesfield Riverside Park to Partington gives walkers a feel for the Valley's variety. It ranges from views of the hills above Macclesfield, through fields and woodlands, towns and villages, under and over roads, railways and canals and past Manchester Airport, to the industries near Manchester Ship Canal.

Please remember: most of these walks cross private farm land. Keep to the paths, take all litter home, fasten gates and keep your dog under control. Country paths are not pavements, so wear sturdy footwear and be prepared for the British weather. Not all paths shown are managed by the Bollin Valley Partnership.

People with disabilities. Sadly it is impracticable to make all country footpaths fully accessible, although ambulant but less mobile visitors will find many paths in the Valley suitable because they are reasonably level - please ring and check. However, two Trafford parks (John Leigh and Halecroft) are accessible, as is the Trans Pennine Trail. Dunham Massey and Tatton Park (both National Trust) are also largely wheelchair accessible.

See www.cheshireforall.com or ring 01244 603107 for more details.

Bollin Valley Partnership funding partners: Cheshire County Council Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council

Contacts for further information:

Bollin Valley Partnership: Countryside Area Manager, Macclesfield, Town Hall, Market Place, Macclesfield, SK10 1EA. Tel 01625 534790. Email bollin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Altrincham Tourist Information Centre

0161 912 5931, tourist.information@trafford.gov.uk

Cheshire Cycleway (National Cycle Network, NCN 70 - a 186 mile/282km signed, circular route around Cheshire), Leaflets from Bollin Valley or Cheshire Countryside Management Service countryside@cheshire.gov.uk. www.cheshire.gov.uk/countryside or /cycling

Cheshire Ring Canal Walk 100 miles (160km) of towpath walk. Anticlockwise from Macclesfield, take the Macclesfield Canal to Marple, then the Peak Forest, Ashton and Rochdale Canals into Manchester to join the Bridgewater at Castlefield Trace the Bridgewater to Preston Brook before turning South along the Trent & Mersey to Hardings Wood Junction near Kidsgrove, then back up the Macclesfield Canal to the start.

Cycling Project for the North West (North Tatton Trail 'B' and Dunham Circular)

0161 745 9088/9099, cpnw@cycling.org.uk, www.cycling.org.uk

Dunham Massey (National Trust) Georgian house; Edwardian interiors; gardens; deer park; working Elizabethan saw-mill. 0161 941 1025. dunhammassey@nationaltrust.org.uk. Buses: 38 Altrincham-Warrington via Dunham Town.

Rostherne Mere National Nature Reserve (wintering wildfowl, especially pochard) Permits: Bird observatory - D.Clarke, 0161 973 7122; Reserve - English Nature, 01743 282000.

Tatton Park

(National Trust, managed by Cheshire County Council) One of the most complete historic estates open to visitors: house, deer park, gardens, Old Hall, working farm, children's play area. 01625 534400. tatton@cheshire.gov.uk.

Buses: 27 Macclesfield-Knutsford (3 journeys daily extend into the Park). 288 Altrincham-Wilmslow-Knutsford (Mon-Sat hourly. walk into Park via Knutsford lodge entrance). 289 Altrincham-Knutsford-Northwich (Mon-Sat 2-hourly, walk in as above).

Trans Pennine Trail (National Cycle Network NCN 62) 01226 772574, transpenninetrail@barnsley.gov.uk

Rail Services: ring 08457 48 49 50

Bus Services

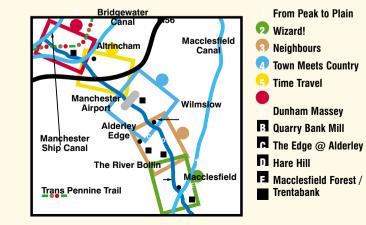
- 13 Altrincham - Oldfield Brow circular
- 19.19A Altrincham - Wythenshawe - Airport - World Freight Terminal via Well Green
- 19B. 19C Altrincham - Wythenshawe - Airport - World Freight Terminal via Hale
- 37/37A Altrincham - Lymm - Warrington via Little Bollington
- 38 Altrincham - Lymm - Warrington via Dunham and Warburton
- 246 Altrincham - Bowdon Vale
- 285/6 Altrincham - Hale Barns circular
- 288 Knutsford - Mobberley - Wilmslow - Hale Barns -Altrincham
- 289 Altrincham - Knutsford-Northwich

These services run at least 5 days/week. For full details of all bus services ring Traveline on 0870 608 2 608 (or 01625 534850 for Cheshire journeys, 0161 228 7811 for Greater Manchester including Metrolink, 01925 444250 for Warrington).

From Peak to Plain

Time Travel

Dunham Massev







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