

How It Works

This map is designed to be used in conjunction with an audio walking podcast. The podcast creates a narrative of the route using first hand accounts of local people, heritage experts, and businesses who know about the current and historical points of interest on the route. Spinning a tale of the landscape throughout the years.

To download the audio:

1. Visit the stockport website at - www.stockport.gov.uk/walkingpodcasts
2. Click the link to the Peak Forest Canal (South) walk.
3. To listen to the audio as you walk, click **download** to begin the .mp3 file transfer to your computer, then upload to an mp3 player before going on the walk.

Alternatively

4. By clicking on **Play**, you can listen to the audio accompanied by a slideshow, illustrating the sights and locations, past and present, along the route of the walk.

If you do choose to listen to the audio as you walk, please do take care and ensure you **pause the podcast when crossing roads**, until you are in a safe environment to resume listening.

This walk is part of a series. For more information and other walks in the series visit:

www.stockport.gov.uk/walkingpodcasts

Other walks in the series include...

Peak Forest Canal (South)

Manchester & Stockport Canal

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all those involved in the making of this publication, as well as those who volunteered their time to feature on the podcast, without whose help these productions would not have been possible.

A free interpreting service is available, if you need help with this information. Please telephone Stockport Interpreting Unit on 0161 477 9000. Email: eds.admin@stockport.gov.uk

如果你需要他人為你解釋這份資料的內容，我們可以提供免費的傳譯服務，請致電 0161 477 9000 史托波特傳譯部。

W przypadku gdybyś potrzebował pomocy odnośnie tej informacji, dostępne są usługi tłumaczeniowe. Prosimy dzwonić do Interpreting Unit pod numer 0161 477 9000.

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If you would like this information in large print, on audio tape, in braille or on disk please contact **0161 474 4351** for a copy.

Free downloadable tour guide online!
www.stockport.gov.uk/walkingpodcasts

STOCKPORT Walking Podcast

Talks...

The
Peak Forest Canal (South)

Marple Locks and other locations



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Marple
Village
www.marple-uk.com

The Peak Forest Canal

Construction of the Peak Forest Canal took place between 1794 to 1805.

Once used as the principal method of transporting goods to and from the industries along it, the canal is now mainly used for leisure. The canal is popular all year long, seeing activity from narrow boats, anglers, walkers and cyclists.

This particular route offers many beautiful scenes to

enjoy as you walk, passing through fields, rivers, lakes, forests and parks. **On the Podcast:** Ann Hearne introduces us to the walk and parks at Memorial Park.

Memorial Park & The Marple Locks

The circular walk begins and ends in Memorial Park. Follow the directions on the map and exit the park onto the Peak Forest Canal, turning right heading up the Marple Locks.

On the Podcast: Peter Clarke tells us the history of the canal and its locks.

Consisting of 16 locks, and completed in 1804, the Marple Locks link the north and south channels of the Peak Forest Canal. A major engineering achievement of the time, with each movement through each lock requiring around 44,000 gallons of water.

Prior to the completion of the locks, a tram system was used to transport raw materials to the mills on the South Peak Forest Canal.

On the Podcast: Sue Day, of the Horseboating Society, tells us a bit about Maria, the oldest horse drawn wooden narrowboat in the UK!

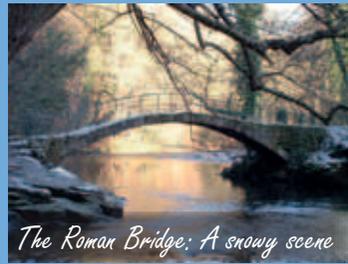
Route Length: 60-90 Minutes
Podcast Length: 35 minutes
Accessibility: Mainly flat, with a few steep footpaths down embankments.
Parking: Memorial Park (small charge)



A canal arm veers off close to top lock



Photo courtesy of www.marple-uk.com - The Marple Website



Samuel Oldknow & Mellor Mill

A name you can't escape in these parts. Samuel Oldknow, a man instrumental in the development of Mellor and Marple during the industrial era.

On the Podcast: Ann talks us through the route, and the life of the famous Samuel Oldknow.

He was a substantial contributor towards the construction of the Peak Forest Canal and the lock system. Seemingly a man that did not do things by half, he even re-routed the Goyt River to satisfy his mills need for flowing water.

Close to the Roman Lakes, stood Mellor Mill, the largest mill of its kind in the north west. Built in 1792, it produced finely woven muslins. It stood for 100 years before burning down in a tremendous fire in 1892. Little can be seen of the remains of the mill today, however archeologists have shown interest in excavating the site.

The majority of the funds used to set up his various business endeavours were raised on credit. A large proportion of which came from the Arkwright's, another prominent milling family in the area. By the time of his death, at the age of 72 in 1828, he had accrued debts of over £200,000.

On the Podcast: Miranda Galloway performs a theatrical reading of life at the mill.

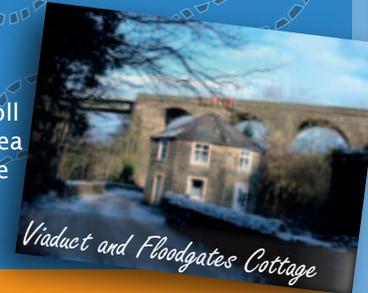


Roman Bridge & Viaduct

The Roman Bridge is perhaps one of the most photographed bridges in the north west! Curiously enough the area has no known connections to the Romans, but in fact it was simply named so to attract tourists in the Victorian era.

Following the path towards the Roman Lakes, we pass Floodgates Cottage on our right, and head underneath a viaduct.

The cottage, resembling a toll house, was once used as a tea rooms for those visiting the nearby Roman Lakes.



The Roman Lakes

We arrive at the Roman Lakes, deep in the middle of Goyt Valley, but only a short distance from Marple town centre.



Once a popular day out in Victorian times. The history books talk of droves of tourists being brought by train to enjoy the amenities and green surroundings, away from the pollution of the big cities. The park offered rowing boats on the lake, a dance floor, and tea rooms among other things.

Now it is a leisure park open to the public. With plenty of green spaces for a picnic, and a nearby cafe, with free entry and parking.

On the Podcast: Rachel Sewart, of the Roman Lakes, describes the history of the lakes and development of Mellor Mill.





- 1 Memorial Park
- 2 Marple Locks
- 3 Peak Forest Canal
- 4 All Saints Church
- 5 Roman Bridge
- 6 Marple Viaduct
- 7 Roman Lakes
- 8 Old Mellor Mill Site



Map Key

	Walking route
	Café
	Pub
	Golf course
	Bowling Green
	Tennis Court
	Cricket Pitch
	Basketball pitch
	Shops
	School
	Bus stop on busier routes
	Postbox
	Cycle path
	Church
	Telephone
	Parking
	Post Office
	Residential area
	Greenspace
	Allotments
	Industrial area
	Dog waste bin
	Chemist/health centre
	Pedestrian crossing
	Recycling
	Station
	Number of steps



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