



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

North Cheshire CAMRA
Circular Pub Walk no. 2

8 miles / 4 hours: Walton Hall Gardens – Walton Hall Golf Course - Hatton - Daresbury - Moore – Walton Lea – Walton Hall Gardens

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 276 for “Bolton, Wigan and Warrington” and the “Street A-Z Atlas of Warrington, Runcorn & Widnes” both cover the route.

This walk starts at the Walton Hall Gardens car park (pay and display) WA4 6SN in Higher Walton village, grid ref SJ 600 849. The car park is about 400 yards off the A56 at the Walton Arms. Alternatively Arriva’s X30 and Halton Transport’s No. 62 stop at the Walton Arms, which is only a 5 min walk from the start point. For local travel information, see <http://www.transportdirect.info>. Of course if you use public transport you can enjoy the ales and ciders on offer without worrying about driving your car!

1. From the car-park, approach the entrance to Walton Hall Gardens, take the steps down to the left and follow the canal towpath left for approx. 400yds until you reach a humpback bridge over the canal at Houghs Lane.
2. Cross the canal and take the footpath immediately on the left over the bridge, signposted Hillcliffe 2/3m. Follow alongside the canal, then bear right to the cottages at Hillfoot Farm. On reaching the cottages, take the footpath to the right, signposted Hillcliffe ½ m, then pass through the courtyard, exiting in the far left corner.
3. Continue down the tarmac bridleway following the Delamere Way signs which stay with you until Hatton. Follow this round to the right, head left at a bridleway sign, staying on this until it rejoins the road. Continue on the road, turning left at a signpost up to Walton Hall golf course.
4. Cross the golf course, following the path, waymarked by posts, to the right of the brook. By a fork in the brook cross a wooden footbridge. Pass first the 9th tee and then the 12th tee on the left, and walk up the hill to Park Lane.
5. At Park Lane turn right on the road and immediately left opposite a house on a well-hidden, but signposted, path. Follow the path through the wood passing ponds on the left and right, and up to a junction of paths.
6. Here turn left, signposted Hatton 1¼ m, then, at a further junction in front of a new barn, turn right, signposted Hatton 1m. Follow this well-established path through the woods, then across several fields, passing through a gate onto Goose Lane. Follow the lane into Hatton, where the **Hatton Arms** provides a welcome pitstop at the junction of Goose Lane and Warrington Road.
7. From the Hatton Arms turn right on Warrington Road, passing several houses and eventually Blue Coat Farm on the right. When the pavement finishes, continue for about 200 yds. As the road bends to the right, cross and take the footpath on the left, signposted Moore 2m.
8. Follow the path for approx 20 yds and turn right with a stream on your right. Pass through a gap in the hedge in the centre of the field, marked

Timberland Trail, heading across the field to a kissing gate at the bottom, where you enter a small wood. Walk through the wood and turn right at the field edge as you exit.

9. Follow the path around to the right and up the hill skirting the trees. Continue through a gate following Timberland Trail signs until you reach a fingerpost on the edge of another wood. Turn left here and follow the edge of the wood through another kissing gate. Here turn left up the hill with the hedge on your left, through a gate onto a stony path which soon becomes Hall Lane. Continue past the stables and houses on the right. When the lane bends sharply to the right, take the path on the left through a hedge and onto Daresbury Lane (B5356).

10. Turn right and follow the road into Daresbury, passing Daresbury Hall on the left and the church and Lewis Carroll Centre on the right. At the T-junction the **Ring o'Bells** is opposite.

11. Turn left and continue along the road to a path on the right signposted Daresbury Firs 1/4m, just before Dutton Mowers World. Follow this path for about 100 yds, turning right, continuing along the edge of the field and then crossing the dual carriageway, A56, with great care.

12. On the far side of the A56 follow the path up steps and into Daresbury Firs wood on Keckwick Hill. At the junction where there are information boards, go straight on down the hill. At the next path crossroads turn left and continue to a small clearing, where turn right signposted Mersey Valley Timberland Trail. Follow this path downhill and leave the wood through a kissing gate.

13. Continue around the edge of the field, with a view of the cooling towers in the distance, and bear left into Delph Lane. Here turn right and cross Keckwick Hill bridge then immediately right again onto the canal towpath, turning left towards Moore. Stay on the towpath passing Daresbury Laboratories on the right, under first Keckwick bridge, then the Expressway road bridge and finally under Moorefield bridge. Just beyond Moorefield bridge at the end of a line of concrete posts, join a track parallel to the towpath on the left.

14. Follow the track which bends away from the canal towards Moore and crosses a railway line. Immediately after the railway bridge, take a footpath at a stile to the right which crosses a field, bears left and exits the field at a kissing gate into a path leading down the side of the **Red Lion**, which you can see from a distance.

15. From the Red Lion, continue in the same direction along Runcorn Road, passing signs for the Gentlemen of Moore RUFC. Bear right over the railway line, and continue until meeting the towpath again just before the humpback bridge.

16. Turn left on the towpath, signposted Stockton Heath 2½m. Pass Moore Village stores on the left, under first Acton Grange bridge then Thomasons bridge. Continue under the “toast rack” A56 bridge and up to Walton bridge, where turn left up to Warrington Road.

17. The **Walton Arms** is straight ahead a further 200 yds. From here follow the “Walton Hall and Gardens” sign up Walton Lea Road back to the car park.

To find out more about the pubs featured, including opening hours and the range of beers normally available, visit:

www.whatpub.com.

NOTE: If you have any comments, corrections or suggestions concerning this walk, please contact North Cheshire CAMRA:

secretary@northcheshirecamra.org.uk.

Further copies of this leaflet can be obtained either from pubs mentioned along the route or you can download the latest version from our website <http://www.northcheshirecamra.org.uk>.