

Plough Walks



WALK No: 2

MEADOWS AND WOODS OF WHITEGATE.

- **START/FINISH:** **THE PLOUGH**
 - **MAPS:** **OS EXPLORER 267**
 - **DISTANCE:** **8KM / 5MILES**
 - **ALLOW:** **1HR 50MINS**
- ***FIRM SURFACE, SOME SLIGHT ELEVATION & SOME SECTIONS CAN BE WET/MUDDY IN WINTER.***

About the Walk.

The walk is approximately 5miles (8km) and is a gentle ramble that takes you on a loop of the picturesque village of Whitegate & Marton, starting & finishing at the Plough. The walk has many features, beginning with a stroll across the meadows of Foxwist green and panoramic views of the village, before reaching the fairways of Vale Royal Golf course, which is set in idyllic countryside and the grounds of the historic Abbey. A change of scenery follows, as the journey meanders through the woods along the edge of the golf course and then onto the woods at New Pool and beyond. Emerging at Daleford's lane, the loop is complete with a short walk through Marton and back to The Plough.



1. Beauty Bank to Whitegate Village.

Turn left out of the Plough car park and walk alongside the row of semi detached dwellings and near the end of the lane take a left between the gap in the houses. Continue along the edge of a field to a second Kissing gate, cross and descend to a footbridge and continue up the field opposite. **Side-step right** through a gate in the hedge and continue upwards with the hedge on your left before reaching the road at Foxwist Green. Turn right at the road & then left over the stile just beyond the drive to **'Swallow's Nest'**. Continue over a further two stiles and then bear right at the bottom of the field and go left through the gap in the hedge, by the 2nd telegraph pole. Descend to the bottom of the field and cross a footbridge to reach the road that leads to Whitegate Village. **(Grange Lane) 1.7km**

2. Whitegate – Vale Royal Golf Course.

At the road, cross straight over, turn right & then bear left up the bank & past the entrance to Sutton Fields. Turn left just after the dwelling called **"The Knoll"** and follow the dirt track for a short distance and take a left through the field (**opposite the gate to the wood**). Walk through the open stile and turn right, after a short walk take the next left, passing between some large dwellings and down to the main road (**St Mary's Drive**). Cross the road and walk between the two houses ahead and then through the gate and along the path that meanders through the golf course. Bear left after the 13th tee and then take a right through the gap and into the woods. **(Rookery Wood – next to yellow warning sign) (3.2km)**

Descend and cross the footbridge and turn left before the stile ahead that leads on to a field. Continue through the woods with the field boundary to the right; on leaving the wood walk on with the golf course to the left and boundary field still to the right (**beware of golfers teeing off**). Take the narrow track on the right, past the 7th Tee and past the gate on the right next to the main road. Continue up and around with the road to the right, past the kissing gate also to the right. Walk past the 6th and 4th Tees on the left, before finally emerging out onto the road. Turn left (**4.8km**).

3. New Pool Wood – Sherratts Rough

Walk past the entrance to St Mary's Drive and then cross over to the footpath sign and turn right through the gap in the fence. Continue along past the metal gate (**not the kissing gate to the right**) and through the small wooden gate ahead. Continue on with the pool (**New Pool**) to your right & into the woods, walking along by the stream.

After a short distance you will come to a signpost on the right, just before a stile ahead. (**The signpost is very tall with the path marker above your eye line! You will have missed the sign if you cross a footbridge and section of raised duck boards, so please turn back!**)

Turn left at the signpost (**marked permissive path**) and follow the path next to the stream (**Can be muddy in wet conditions**), crossing over the footbridge before bearing right and then left around the tree & continue on.

Keep to the right as the track continues upwards, then as the path levels out & then drops slightly, take the path that descends to the right. After a short distance you will come up to a stony path, turn right and continue along the path and wooded area until you reach the road at **Sherratts Rough**. (**6.4km**)

4. Daleford's Lane – Beauty Bank

Turn left at the road (**Daleford's Lane**) and continue along the grass verge until you reach the cross roads. Go ahead past the Village Hall hut. Do not take the first footpath sign but carry on a few yards and bear left down the track to take you back to the Plough (**8km**)

- **Why not complete your walk with refreshments in our welcoming hostelry.**

Hidden in a quiet corner of beautiful Cheshire countryside that is popular with walkers and steeped in history, the Plough Inn offers traditional beers, fine wines, and quality home cooked food served in a comfortable and friendly atmosphere.

We have one of the most varied menus in the area. Favourites such as steak pie and chips are served alongside starters, salads and a continually changing specials board. A wide variety of fish and seafood is also available. All our dishes are prepared on the premises using fresh sustainable produce from local meat and fish suppliers.

<p>We would appreciate any feedback regarding our walks, please forward them to Nigel Durose at the following email address. Nigedurose05@googlemail.com</p>
--

Contact us.

01606 889455

www.ploughwhitegate.com

Further walks are available from the Plough or by visiting the above website.