

Section 4: Portland Basin to Stockport Road

Distance 6 miles (9.6 Km)

Time 3 hours.

- 1 From Portland Basin cross the humpback bridge, doubling back right, under the bridge to the Peak Forest Canal towpath. Follow the towpath for over a mile, going under four bridges, 500 metres after bridge No. 3 go right through a gap in the trees and up the steps and over a stile.
- 2 Cross the field passing a small pond to the left to cross a further stile and down the steps to the river. Continue left along the path over three more stiles to emerge on a wide bridlepath near a river bridge.
- 3 Turn left along this wide riverside track passing under the M67 motorway to Manchester Road, A57.
- 4 Cross over Manchester Road going right over Broomstairs Bridge then left down an unmade road, Watson Street. Pass through two sets of gates then through a gap and continue left along the track. At the next two path junctions bear left and then take the second left along the riverside path to emerge onto Mill Lane.
- 5 Cross Mill Lane into Haughton Dale and follow the path through Dan Wood. Ignore any paths going right, eventually climb a long flight of steps and then down more steps to Gibraltar Lane at Gibraltar Bridge.
- 6 Do not go over the bridge but continue through a stile, with the river on the left, and at the fork go right alongside the goit (watercourse) at the far end go up the slope. Bear left along the riverside track continuing around the loop, passed the site of Haughton Dale Wireworks, to reach Meadow Lane car park.
- 7 Continue up Meadow Lane for a short distance and just before Ivy Cottages, on the right, turn left through a stile and follow this main bridlepath for about 1 mile (1.6 Km) passing Hulmes Wood to reach Stockport Road.