

Hollingworth Lake

and the South Pennine foothills

Choose from two wonderful walks, easily accessed by public transport.

Hollingworth Lake stands in a hollow beneath an open collar of beautiful high moors and edges – and these walks take in marvellous views, by the water and up on the hills with the chance to see a fantastic selection of local wildlife and natural and historical attractions.

Shorter walk

Gentle circular walk around the lake with pleasant views

Start: Littleborough rail station.
Finish: Smithy Bridge rail station.
Distance: 3½ miles.
Time: Allow 1½ – 2 hours.
Terrain: No hills, easy walking mostly on footpaths and lanes.

Family friendly: Yes.
Accessibility: Excellent.

Recommended footwear: Light walking shoes/boots.

Longer walk

An energetic walk around the lake and across hills and moors

Start: Littleborough rail station.
Finish: Newhey.
Distance: 4½ miles.
Time: Allow 2 – 2½ hours.
Terrain: Moderate hill climb with some rough muddy paths and tracks.

Family friendly: Older children.
Accessibility: Not suitable for wheelchairs.

Recommended footwear: Walking boots/Wellingtons essential.



Start of both walks

1 1
 From Littleborough station walk down Station Approach to the main road and turn right. Go under the railway bridge onto Halifax Road. After the Red Lion pub turn right along the “No Entry” Eales Road.

Cross the canal and fork half-right, and then keep to the left of the mill complex, passing Old Mill Cottage. At a sharp-left bend in this rough lane turn right across a flat bridge at a sign for Hollingworth Lake. Go through four kissing gates above a brook, cross a wooden footbridge into to a picnic area and walk along the rough lane to Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre.



Both walks continued

2 2
 Turn left along the road across the dam. Off to your left is the craggy Blackstone Edge, up onto which the route of a supposed Roman Road can clearly be seen. Stay with this tarred lane, heading towards the imposing Rakewood Viaduct that carries the M62 motorway overhead. Just after the lake gives out you'll reach a mini-roundabout.

This is where the short and long routes diverge. For the short route fork right into the Country Park and cross the brick bridge; for the long route keep ahead.

Shorter walk to finish

3
 Once across the bridge simply remain on the tarred lane. Within 400 yards is a path to a bird hide at the waters edge. At the next junction keep right (signed footpath) to reach the Pavilion on an outcrop in the lake (toilets here, also seasonal café and a ferry stop). The track narrows briefly before reaching the sea cadet building. Remain on the shoreline track beyond this, which will eventually bring you round to the cafes, restaurants and inns at Hollingworth.

To find Smithy Bridge station, cross the road in front of The Beach Pub (Immediately to your left as you reach the main road) and go straight ahead with the pub behind you for half a mile down Smithy Bridge Road. Allow plenty of time however, to take a trip on the lake, hire a rowing boat or indulge in a coffee or ice cream.



Longer walk continued

3
 Keep ahead at the mini-roundabout and walk through the hamlet of Rakewood. Pass the old derelict mill, then keep right, cross the flat bridge and take the waymarked footpath, right, through a gate and alongside the rugby pitches. In 120 yards go left at the fingerpost and walk across (or around) the pitches towards the far corner. Here look for a gap in a wall just behind the posts, walk ahead a few paces then turn left along the footpath, shortly passing under the motorway viaduct.

Step over a small stile and keep ahead on the path. In 150 yards keep right at a fork near a tall lone tree, picking up a well-walked path that angles up around the snout of a hill to reach a stile (Rochdale Way disc here). Climb this and turn right on the moorland road to reach a gate and fingerpost.

Longer walk to finish

4
 Turn right along the rough (signposted) Tunshill Lane, following this gradually uphill to reveal stunning views across to Pendle Hill and North Lancashire, whilst below is the Piethorn Valley. About 300 yards past a stile, fork left at the junction along a rougher track that drops to pass Carr Farm. Remain on this to the next farm complex dropping down alongside the motorway.

At the farm, as soon as the track becomes cobbled, fork left on a path, climb a stile and rise beside a fence. Take another two stiles and keep ahead on the higher path to the next farm with the church spire rising behind it. Join the access road here and follow it left past the church to the main road.



Things to look for and do

Nature & Wildlife: Country park with birds and waterfowl, small mammals, waterside plants, moorland flowers and birds.

History: Coach House Heritage Centre (Monday to Saturday 9.30am - 4.30pm), Roman Road (remains).



General Interest: Visitor Centre, boat rides and rowing, shops.

Food and Drink: Café (seasonal), Pub and restaurant at Hollingworth Lake. Pubs at both Newhey and Smithy Bridge.

Toilets: At lakeside.

Planning your journey

When you go by bus, train and tram you won't need to worry about driving unfamiliar routes, finding somewhere to park or keeping the kids entertained along the way.

You will all be free to relax and enjoy the views on your route.

Both walks start at Littleborough rail station, which is served by trains and buses – and finishes at either Smithy Bridge rail station or Newhey. Littleborough is east of Rochdale, on the north eastern side of Greater Manchester. So if you live some distance away you may need to make a connection.

Littleborough has train services every half hour from Manchester Victoria, Rochdale and intermediate stations during the daytime on Monday to Saturday. On Sundays and public holidays the service is hourly.

Trains continue to and from Leeds. If you live near the eastern side of Greater Manchester it may be more convenient to make your connection at Rochdale. Frequent buses also run to Littleborough from Rochdale.

For the return train journey, train services run every half-hour (hourly Sundays and public holidays) from Smithy Bridge to Rochdale and Manchester Victoria. There are also regular bus services from Smithy Bridge and Newhey to Rochdale.

Most public transport services run until around 11pm Mondays to Saturdays. On Sundays and public holidays, services run less frequently and last services may finish a little earlier.

We've made general recommendations for your journey, based on starting points in different districts of Greater Manchester below but for details of exact times and routes please phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 33***

Starting and finishing from (area or district).	The information shown is for your guidance. Please phone Traveline 0871 200 22 33* for details of exact routes and times.
Rochdale Oldham	If you live near Littleborough there may be a bus or train service direct to the start point. If not, catch a bus or train to Rochdale then another direct to Littleborough town centre. There are direct bus and train services from Rochdale to Littleborough. For your return journey there are direct train services from Smithy Bridge or Newhey to Rochdale. There are also direct bus services to Rochdale bus station from Smithy Bridge (services 455, 456) and Newhey (services 58, 181, 182, 451).
Bury	Catch a bus or tram to Manchester centre. Then catch a direct train from Manchester Victoria to Littleborough. Alternatively, it may be more convenient to catch a bus to Rochdale bus station and another connecting bus direct to Littleborough centre. Choose from services 454, 457, 528, 589 and 590. For your return journey there are direct train services from Smithy Bridge to Manchester Victoria. There are direct bus services to Rochdale bus station from Smithy Bridge (service 455, 456) and Newhey (services 58, 181, 182, 451).
Bolton Stockport Tameside Wigan	Catch a bus or train to Manchester centre. Then catch a direct train from Manchester Victoria to Littleborough. For your return journey there are direct train services from Smithy Bridge to Manchester Victoria. There are direct bus services to Rochdale bus station from Smithy Bridge (service 455, 456) and Newhey (services 58, 181, 182, 451).
Trafford Salford Manchester	Catch a bus, train or tram to Manchester centre. Then catch a direct train from Manchester Victoria to Littleborough. For your return journey there are direct train services from Smithy Bridge to Manchester Victoria. There are direct bus services to Rochdale bus station from Smithy Bridge (service 455, 456) and Newhey (services 58, 181, 182, 451).

* Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff.



Getting more information

By phone (ideal when you're out and about!)

Buses, trains and trams: Phone Traveline on 0871 200 22 33* (7am – 8pm Mon to Fri, 8am – 8pm Sat & Sun and public holidays) for information about bus, train and tram times and the tickets that will suit you best.

Trains: For up-to-the-minute information about the next train from any Greater Manchester rail station, simply phone 'How's my train running?' on 0161 228 0322 and follow the instructions given. Our automated service will tell you what time the next train is and if there are any delays.

Buses: You can check bus times from most bus stops using your mobile phone.

- **Key in** the bus stop code on your mobile phone – the code is shown on the bus stop plate.
- **Text** the code to number 84268.
- **Read** the text reply giving you timetable information for buses using your stop. (Service costs 25p plus the standard charge from your mobile phone service provider.)

Online

Full information about public transport services and a journey planner is available online at www.gmppte.com

In print

GMPTe produce a range of timetables and information about public transport which you can pick up at any **GMPTe Travelshop**.

By post

Ask for leaflets to be posted to you by phoning 0871 200 22 33* saying which leaflet or timetable you require.

*Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff.

Choosing and buying tickets

You'll enjoy great value when you travel by public transport. Travel costs less 'off-peak' – after 9.30am on weekdays, or anytime at the weekends or on public holidays and so we recommend that you make the most of the bargain priced 'off-peak' tickets shown below.

Single tickets are available for every public transport journey and some companies also offer returns and their own 'day' tickets that are valid on their services only. If your trip involves changes or multiple journeys, there's an excellent choice of 'off-peak' tickets which allow you to travel throughout Greater Manchester, making as many journeys as you want. They last the whole day so you don't have to keep paying fares each time you travel – and these tickets can be used on nearly all companies' services.

Whichever ticket you choose for yourself, accompanied children under five travel free. A special fixed low fare called the 'concessionary fare' is available for under 16's and on trains and trams they pay approximately half fare. Child fares are also available for all the tickets featured except DaySaver.

National Concessionary Travel Passes are issued throughout England and allow free off peak travel on bus services. GMPTe passes issued to residents of Manchester also allow free travel on trams and local trains in Greater Manchester at off-peak times and for reduced concessionary fares at other times.

An Under-16 Card is needed to travel on Metrolink if you are aged 13 to 15. These are available free and you can get an application form from GMPTe Travelshops or visit www.gmppte.com

For bus, train and tram

OFF-PEAK

DaySaver tickets are available for various combinations of bus, train and tram travel. Simply buy your ticket from the bus driver, rail station booking office (or the train conductor if closed) or Metrolink ticket machine before your first trip of the day.

- **DaySaver Bus only** £4.30 (also available before 9.30am for £4.60)
- **DaySaver Bus and Train** £5.30
- **DaySaver Bus and Tram** £5.80
- **DaySaver Train and Tram** £6.30
- **DaySaver Bus, Train and Tram** £7.00

For train only

OFF-PEAK

Rail Ranger gives you unlimited 'off-peak' travel on all trains in Greater Manchester for a whole day. Buy Rail Ranger from the booking office or the train conductor if the booking office is closed.

- **Rail Ranger** Adult £4.00, Child £2.00

For tram only

OFF-PEAK

MetroMax gives you unlimited 'off-peak' travel on all Metrolink tram routes for a whole day. You can buy MetroMax from Metrolink ticket machines at all tram stops.

- **MetroMax** (off-peak price depends on boarding stop) Adult £2.90 – £4.00, Child £1.10 – £1.70 Also available before 9.30am - Adult £5.60, Child £2.60
- **MetroMax Four-Adults** £10.00
- **MetroMax Family** £6.20 any day Monday to Friday, £5.00 Saturday or Sunday (up to three children, accompanied by one or two adults)
- **MetroMax Weekend** Adult £5.00, Child £2.50, Family £7.00

To travel further by bus, train and tram

OFF-PEAK

Wayfarer tickets are ideal if you're travelling further afield for the day. You can use them for travel throughout Greater Manchester and also parts of Derbyshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Staffordshire. With a Wayfarer ticket you can travel by bus at any time and by train and tram after 9.30am Monday to Friday and all day at weekends and public holidays.

- **Wayfarer Adult** £10.00
- **Wayfarer Group** £20.00 (up to four people, including two adults)
- **Wayfarer Concession** £5.00 (aged 5-15 or 60 and over)

Available in advance from GMPTe Travelshops, staffed rail stations and tourist information centres in the Peak District. You cannot buy them on the bus, on the train or at Metrolink tram stops.

Season ticket holders

Don't forget if you have a Traincard, CountyCard or County Bus Saver you can use it to travel throughout Greater Manchester. And if you have a Greater Manchester rail season ticket (for journeys between two Greater Manchester rail stations) you can travel by train anywhere in Greater Manchester at weekends and public holidays.

For more information about day tickets visit www.gmppte.com/daytickets or phone 0871 200 22 33 for a leaflet. (Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff).

All prices shown correct September 2009.

Places to GO... Hollingworth Lake and the South Pennine foothills

Walk routes and public transport information



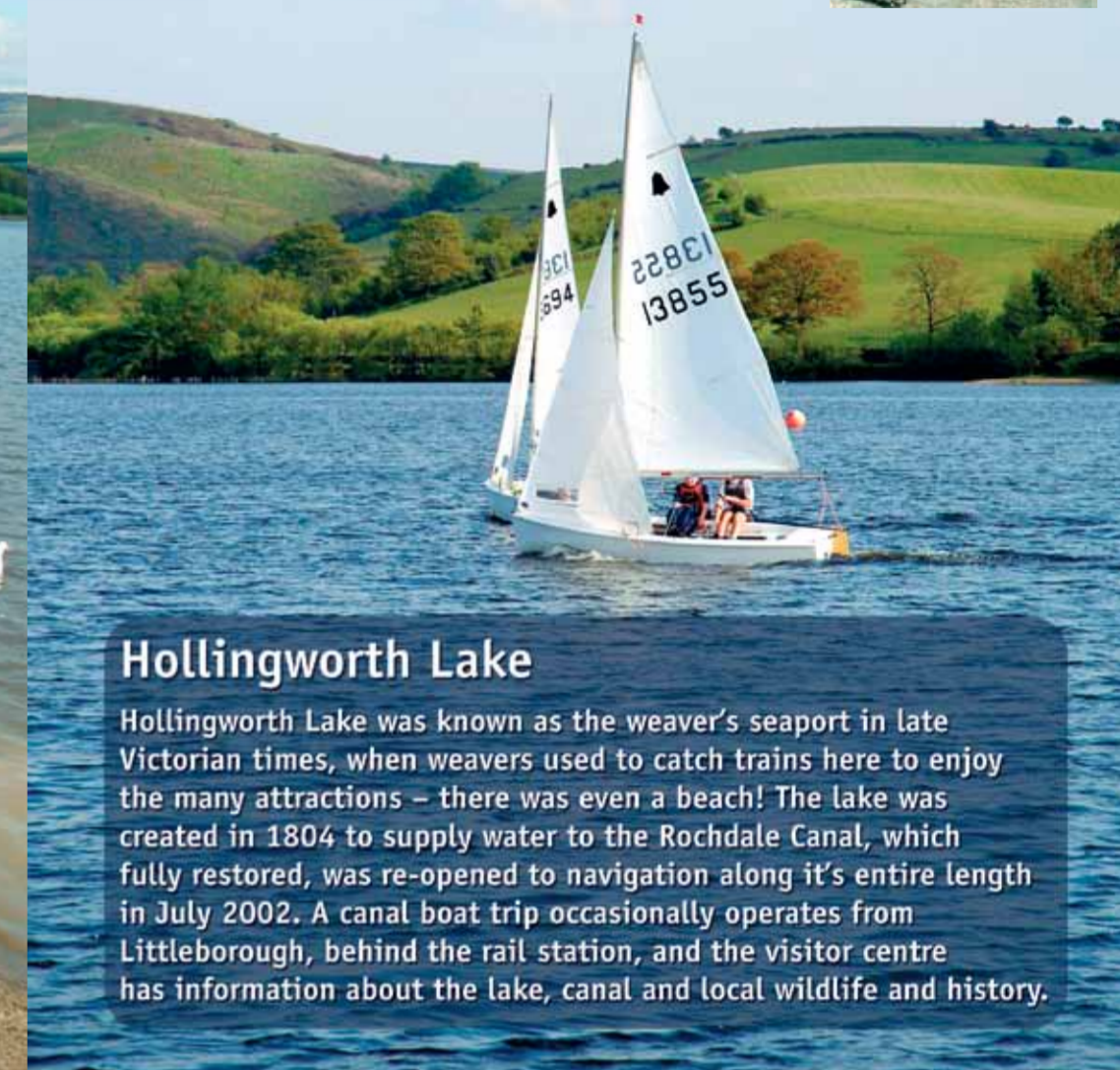
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Please note that some of this information is now out of date.

This may include the walking route, contact numbers and public transport information.



Welcome to GMPTe's 'Places to Go' guide to
Hollingworth Lake
and the South Pennine foothills



Hollingworth Lake

Hollingworth Lake was known as the weaver's seaport in late Victorian times, when weavers used to catch trains here to enjoy the many attractions – there was even a beach! The lake was created in 1804 to supply water to the Rochdale Canal, which fully restored, was re-opened to navigation along its entire length in July 2002. A canal boat trip occasionally operates from Littleborough, behind the rail station, and the visitor centre has information about the lake, canal and local wildlife and history.

Connecting People with Places



FREE pocket guide

Greater Manchester has lots to offer when it comes to connecting people with places. Whether it's shopping, sight-seeing, visiting friends or just getting to and from work; you can do it using buses, trains and Metrolink trams.

Our pocket guide is crammed with useful tips and info such as:

- Planning your journeys
- Choosing the best tickets
- Free travel in the city centre
- Useful maps
- Information on the move

Order your copy today.

Phone: 0871 200 22 33

(Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.)

or visit: www.gmppte.com



This is one of a range of GMPTe 'Places to Go' guides, giving you ideas for walks, attractions, places to visit and things to see in Greater Manchester and surrounding areas. The guides are completely **FREE** and each one gives you carefully researched, helpful information about the places featured, recommended routes for superb walks and details of how to get there and back by public transport.



If you would like other 'Places to Go' guides:

- **Call at a GMPTe Travelshop (at bus stations in Greater Manchester).**
- **Visit www.gmppte.com where you can order online.**
- **Phone 0871 200 22 33 and leave your details.**

(Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays)

If you have any comments about this leaflet or suggestions for new guides please email publicity@gmppte.gov.uk or write to **Marketing Communications, GMPTe, PO Box 429, Manchester M60 1HX**

Disclaimer: The information provided in this guide has been carefully checked but GMPTe cannot accept responsibility for inaccuracies or errors.



PO Box 429
Manchester
M60 1HX

Tel 0161 244 1000
Fax 0161 244 1011

public transport information

0871 200 22 33
10p a minute from landlines
traveline.info
7am - 8pm Mon to Fri • 8am - 8pm Sat, Sun & Public Hols

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Littleborough

Before you set off on your walk, take time to visit the **Coach House Heritage Centre**, next to **Littleborough Parish Church** (behind The Falcon Inn, opposite the station approach). This has excellent information and displays about the town and its vibrant history.



Make it an even better day out

Start your walk by stepping onto a bus, train or tram.

You don't need a car to get out there and enjoy yourself! Simply step onto a bus, train or tram and you're on your way to a great day out, by yourself or with friends or family. The adventure begins from the moment you step out of the door.

Greater Manchester has an excellent public transport system that'll take you where you want to go quickly and easily. It's a fun way to get out and about, no-one has to drive so you can all enjoy the journey – and you don't have to worry about traffic jams, getting directions or parking problems. Better still, at the end of the walk everyone is free to relax in the pub!

See inside for a handy guide to:

- **Planning your journey**
- **Getting more information**
- **Choosing and buying tickets**