

Walks Around Grimsargh

Walk 2 – Brockholes Nature Reserve – 4-5 miles+

This walk can be viewed on the following maps:

OS Landranger Map No 102 – 1:50,000 scale

OS Explorer Map No 286 – 1:25,000 scale – preferable for walking.

Please note – the Brockholes Nature Reserve has restrictions for dogs, due to issues with nesting birds.

The route is described from the skew bridge.

Walk towards Preston until you come to the very last house in Grimsargh on the left hand side of the road. You will see (look carefully!) a footpath sign and a gap in the fence. Go through and follow the path all along the edge of the industrial estate.



You will come to a stile – cross over. You will then see another stile immediately on the left. Don't cross this one – continue along the path that runs to the right hand side of the fence. There can be nettles along this path, so good leg protection is recommended.

At the end of the path you will come to another stile. Cross over onto the track – which can be very muddy!

Continue following this track. It will go through a sharp right hand bend – keep going until the track comes to an effective end.



At this point turn sharp left through 90°.

Head directly across the field – there is a crooked tree in the distance standing some way forward of the main woods – head towards it.

Like many fields in this area, being clay soil it can be very wet!

As you get closer to the tree you will see there is a stile beyond it – cross over into the woodland.

You are now on the Ribble Way.

Turn right and follow the path.





It is a fairly well maintained path and easy to follow.

You are walking along the top edge of the Ribble Valley, through Boilton Wood, with the river down to your left. At times it can be glimpsed through the trees of this ancient, unspoiled woodland.

After the path turns a little left and is travelling south, you will be aware of routes through to the right which lead to a gravel track which runs in parallel with the Ribble Way at this point, and will form part of the Guild Wheel, once complete.

You can either walk along the track, or stick to the woodland path.



The track will lead more directly to the newly constructed path which leads down to the Brockholes Nature Reserve.

The Guild Wheel is, generally, intended to be suitable for cycling. For this section, cyclists are going to be requested to dismount.

It is a very pleasant, though quite steep path.

There are barriers placed across the path to ensure that cyclists don't hurtle, unchecked, down the hill! This photo is taken looking back up the hill.



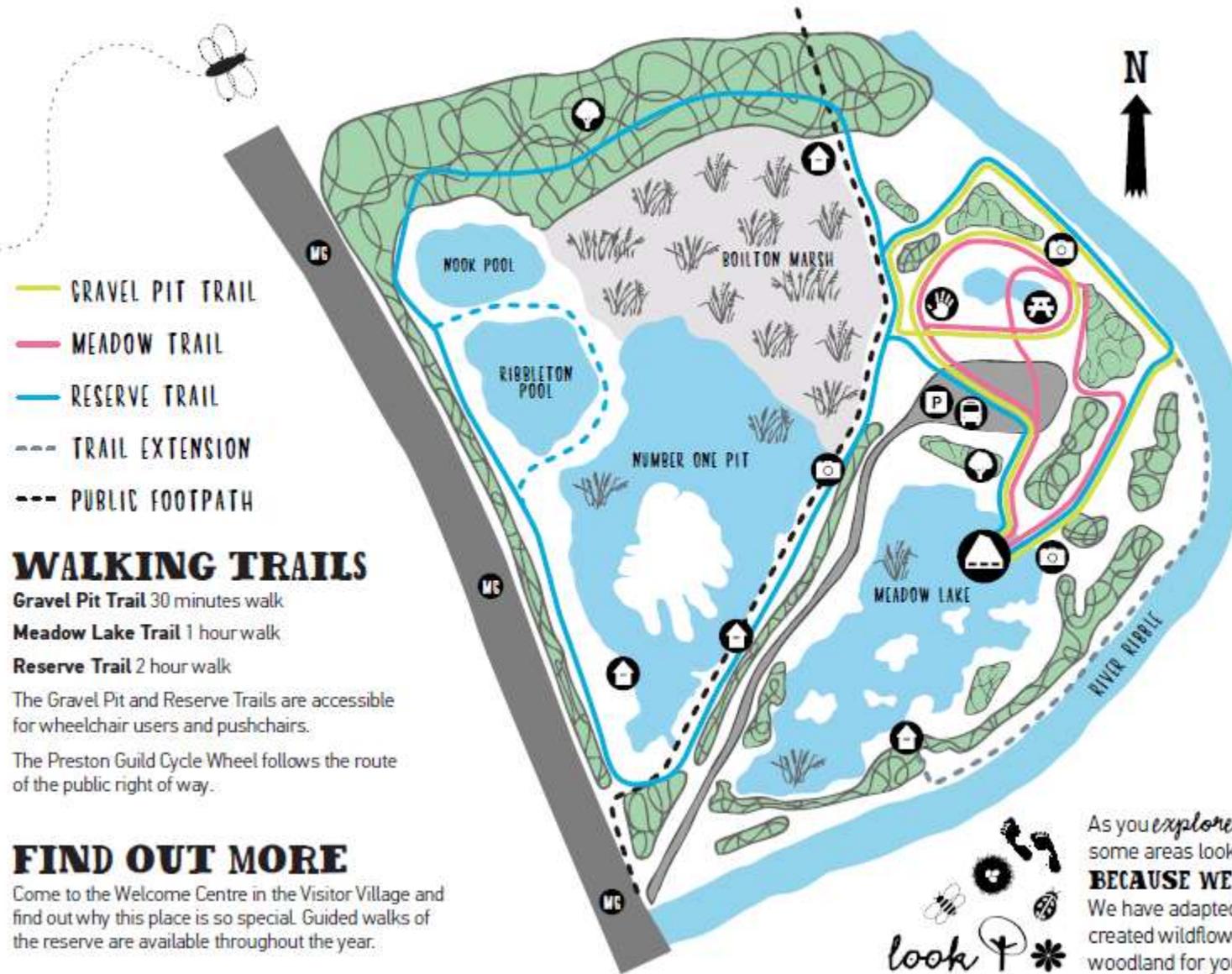
There are a couple of choices of route into the nature reserve, marked by these "motorbike prevention" gateways.

See the map on the following page (which can be downloaded from the Brockholes website). You will be entering the reserve from the north Boilton Wood direction.

You will be able to get a copy of the map in a leaflet from the Brockholes Visitor Centre.

There is a series of walks that you can do around the reserve.

FIND YOUR WAY AROUND



- GRVEL PIT TRAIL
- MEADOW TRAIL
- RESERVE TRAIL
- - - TRAIL EXTENSION
- - - PUBLIC FOOTPATH

WALKING TRAILS

- Gravel Pit Trail** 30 minutes walk
- Meadow Lake Trail** 1 hour walk
- Reserve Trail** 2 hour walk

The Gravel Pit and Reserve Trails are accessible for wheelchair users and pushchairs.

The Preston Guild Cycle Wheel follows the route of the public right of way.

FIND OUT MORE

Come to the Welcome Centre in the Visitor Village and find out why this place is so special. Guided walks of the reserve are available throughout the year.

KEY

- COACH PARK
- HIDE
- PARKING
- PICNIC AREA
- PLAY AREA
- VIEWPOINT
- WOODLAND
- VISITOR VILLAGE
- TOILETS
- INFORMATION
- RESTAURANT
- GIFT SHOP
- FOOD STORE
- ACTIVITY ROOM
- FIRST AID
- BABY CHANGE
- TRAILS START

As you *explore* the reserve you may notice some areas looking a little bare, why?
BECAUSE WE ARE STILL GROWING!
 We have adapted the disused gravel pits and created wildflower meadows, reedbeds and woodland for you to **ENJOY**.



These photos show some of the reasons to take this walk!



Not a bad view for a November day!



Not sinking – but floating! Part of The “visitor village”.



One of the walkways across a lake to the Visitor Village.



View from the café window.



One of the numerous information boards.



You can take a gentle stroll along the Ribble.

The reserve is very well laid out and the staff at the visitor centre are extremely friendly and helpful – and it’s all free – if you walk!

For more information, see the website: www.brockholes.org.

The return journey is the reverse of the route to get there.

Sometime during early 2012, the Guild Wheel will be completed giving a gravel or tarmac pathway from Longridge Road – around about the entrance to the Crematorium, alongside Pope Lane recreation ground and joining the route at Boilton Wood. This should be a more “friendly” route for those without good water/mud proof boots!