

TPT Coast to Coast

The Trans Pennine Trail crosses northern England from the Mersey to the Humber running through the cities of Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield and Hull. It is a purpose built route for walkers and cyclists with many miles available for horse riding and wheelchair access wherever possible.

Mostly off-road, the TPT uses existing rights of way, riverbank paths, canal towpaths and disused railway lines. With its robust surfaces and generally gentle gradients, it is suitable for people of all ages and capabilities.

The Trail offers a wide contrast of landscape from deep rural areas to river estuaries and towns and cities where former industrial sites have become woodlands and nature reserves.

Twenty seven local authorities are partners in the project and each authority is responsible for management of the Trail in its own area. The TPT is coordinated by a project officer based in Barnsley.

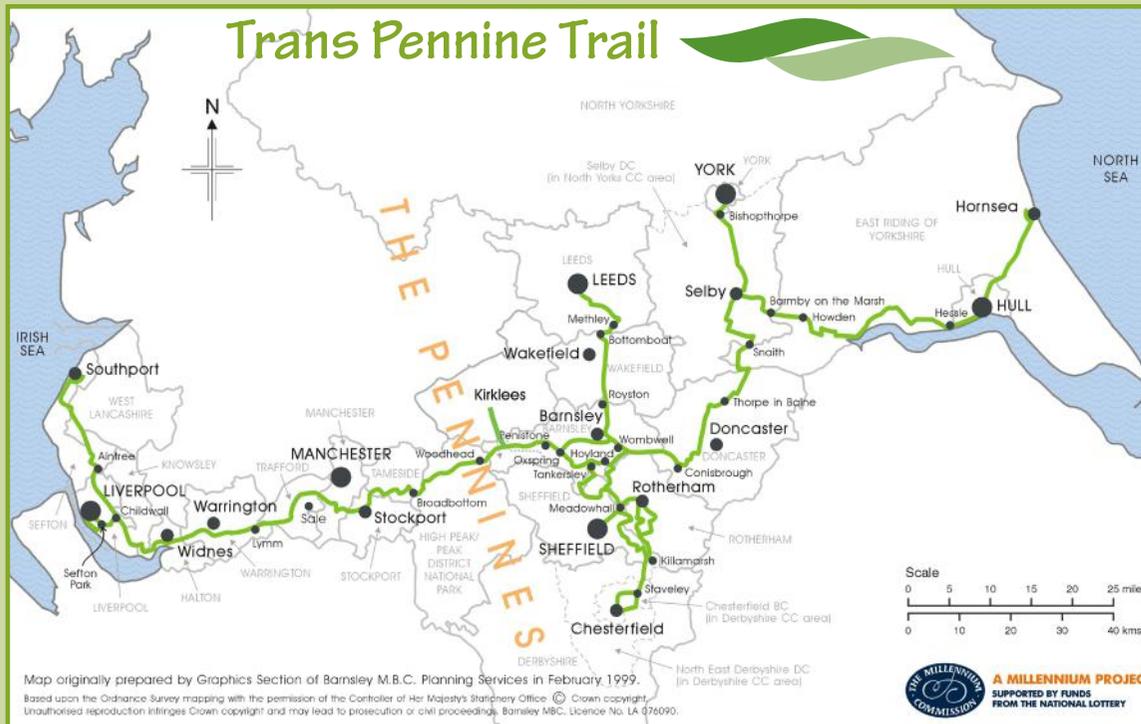
If you would like to venture further afield on the TPT or maybe even do the full coast to coast, route maps and an accommodation guide are available from the TPT head office. Call 01226 772574 or visit www.transpenninetrail.org.uk to order the maps and guide and discover more about the national route.



Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail

The Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail is a voluntary group who support the project in many ways, including assisting with the production of this leaflet. If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the TPT visit www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/friends

Trans Pennine Trail in Warrington



WARRINGTON
Borough Council



Route through Warrington

The route of the TPT through Warrington is 11.5 miles long and mainly follows the Sankey Canal, the Manchester Ship Canal and the line of the former Warrington - Altrincham Railway. The map below shows how these sections link and can be accessed. If you would like more information on the TPT in Warrington please contact the Ranger Service on 01925 758195.

Opened in 1757 the Sankey Canal was Britain's first canal and was built to carry coal from the Lancashire coalfields to the markets of Liverpool. The advent of the railways triggered the long decline of the canal with the northern section closing in 1931 followed by the complete closure in 1963. The seventeen mile route of the canal from St Helens to Widnes remains in water and the TPT runs alongside a 5 mile stretch between Spike Island and Sankey Bridges.

The Manchester Ship Canal's opening in 1894 was preceded by several years of fierce opposition from the Port of Liverpool and the railways who were able to levy charges on goods being transported from Liverpool docks to Manchester. Traffic on the canal is now far less than in its heyday, but Trail users may still catch a glimpse of the occasional large tanker at very close quarters on the length between Chester Rd and Latchford Locks.



The TPT alongside the Sankey Valley Canal, heading west towards Fiddlers Ferry Power Station



The tanker Arklow Moon passes alongside the TPT between Latchford Locks and London Rd Station

Local TPT links

As the TPT passes through Warrington it links with a number of the borough's parks, trails and rights of way including Sankey Valley Park, the Sankey Canal Trail, Blackbear Park, Lymm Heritage Trail and the Cheshire Ring (Bridgewater Canal section). For more information on TPT links contact the Rangers on 01925 758195. You could also pick up a Cycling in Warrington leaflet from libraries, the Ranger Centre in Lymm or by calling 01925 443249 The OS Explorer map no. 276 also shows the route of the TPT in the borough together with the rest of the rights of way network.



Bevan Price www.disusedstations.com

Two photographs of the same view - the first showing a train passing through the now disused Lymm Station in 1968, and the next is forty years later showing the TPT Ranger Centre.

The Warrington to Altrincham Railway opened in 1853 and the section now forming part of the TPT served four stations - Thelwall, Lymm, Heatley and Dunham. Very little remains of Lymm station, which is now the site of the local Ranger Centre, but the three others survive; Thelwall as an office, Heatley and Dunham as private residences. Passenger services ceased in 1962, with the line carrying freight only until its closure in 1985.

