

# Trail Trips - Longdendale Trail - Woodhead Tunnels to Hadfield

**Woodhead Tunnels to Hadfield and return - 14 miles (22.5km)**

**Suitable for walkers, cyclists and equestrians - the section is also suitable for families who can access the route at Torside**

## TPT Map 1: West



Torside information centre and toilet facility



Leave the car park via the memorial pathway



When you arrive at the Trail turn left (east) to Woodhead Tunnels

Start the route at the Torside information centre where there is a large car park and toilets. At peak times there is a refreshments point in operation. To join the Trail leave the car park in its top left hand corner and proceed uphill through the memorial area. When you reach the Trail turn left (east) and proceed towards Woodhead Tunnels. You will need to cross over a small car park (which could be used as an access point to the Trail). There are spectacular views of the Woodhead Reservoir and the “nine holes” bridge, then across to Pikenaze, Audenshaw Clough and Holme Moss.

When you arrive at the tunnels, you can see the layout of the old station before turning round and heading back towards Torside. There is little danger of getting lost because the Trail is almost single track to Hadfield, After passing Torside you will eventually need to cross the B6105 Glossop road at the Torside crossing to continue the journey down the Longdendale valley. You will pass the Torside Reservoir, Rhodeswood Reservoir, Valehouse Reservoir and Bottoms which all add to the spectacular views.

On reaching Hadfield you can leave the Trail and go on into the village where there are toilet facilities, shops and a café. Hadfield is famous as the place where the TV programme “League of Gentlemen” was filmed.



Proceed straight across the car park



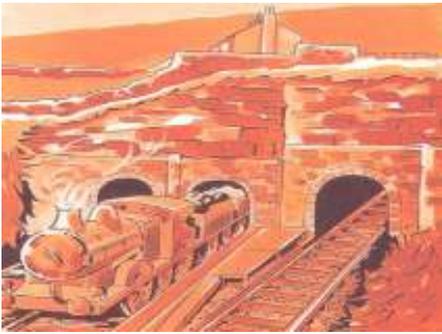
Spectacular view of “nine holes” bridge



Woodhead station with the tunnels in the background

***TPT route maps can be obtained from the Trans Pennine Trail office if required:***

**Trans Pennine Trail, c/o Economy Culture and Housing,  
PO Box 597, Barnsley. S70 9EW Tel. 01226 772574  
info@transpenninetrail.org.uk www.transpenninetrail.org.uk**



Artists impression of the Tunnels before their closure in 1981



Cyclists heading back to Torside from Hadfield



Just follow the Trail to Hadfield

As you watch the white sails of the dinghies as they dart across the Torside Reservoir, it's worth remembering the water used to be used to power cotton and paper mills but now supplies nearly a quarter of the water used in Greater Manchester.

You could explore the rugged moorland or shady woods along the Trail. Look out for foxes and the rare blue mountain hare on the moors. Listen for grouse and curlew, or the drumming of woodpeckers in the trees.

Discover the rich railway heritage of this historic valley. The Woodhead Tunnels now carry electricity via power cables but once they were a wonder of the great railway age. Over 3 miles long, at least 60 workers died building them.

**Getting there:** Get to Torside from the A628 Manchester to Sheffield Road and then onto the B6105 across the reservoirs at Woodhead. You can also access Torside from Glossop by taking the B6105.

It is worth remembering that although this route is written from Torside the Trail can also be accessed at Hadfield.

There is frequent train service to Hadfield from Manchester.

**Useful information:** There are excellent facilities in Hadfield and also refreshments at peak times at Torside. The route is particularly friendly for families of all ages and the surface is good for the majority of the year. If you want to connect to the Trail on the east of the Pennines proceed from Woodhead Tunnels over Windle Edge to Dunford Bridge which is approximately 3.5 miles.

**Cycle Hire:** Longdendale cycles in Hadfield have a fleet of bikes available for hire and offer guided rides. Telephone 01457 854672 for information and bookings.



Interpretation sign where the Trail meets the B6105 to Glossop



Take care crossing the B6105, where the signage is excellent



There are spectacular views down the Longdendale valley



One and a half miles from Hadfield the Trail splits, go straight forward



View to Bottoms Reservoir to Tintwistle



Centre of Hadfield