

Trail Trips - Heron's Reach Anglers Country Park to Stanley

Anglers Country Park to Stanley and return - approximately 16 miles (25.5km)

Suitable for cyclists and walkers, the route can be shortened accordingly

TPT Map 2: Derbyshire and Yorkshire



Anglers CP visitor centre



Information sign at Anglers CP car park



Direction signs just inside Haw Park

Start the route at Anglers Country Park, Haw Park Lane, Winterset. Leave the car park and turn right to Haw Park Wood. On entering the wood you will find a sign post and interpretation board where you need to follow the sign for Walton North. On reaching Walton turn right into Shay Lane and follow the road downhill under the railway bridge. On finding Walton Colliery Nature Reserve on the left, enter the car park and into the reserve. Take the track up the slope and keep right through the reserve.

Follow the Trail through the park staying to the right until taking the track left across the footbridge, continue straight on to the end of the reserve. At the road take the right turn (sign posted) onto the road until you meet up with the main Doncaster Road from Wakefield—the route is well signed. Follow the Trail signs for Heath until you have passed through Heath village on the road, then once again follow the Trail signs (to the left) taking you back off road.

Travel down hill for approximately 400 yards where care must be taken to turn left into the Southern Washlands Nature Reserve. You will then continue through the reserve across the ramp and follow the Trail to Stanley Marina, take care when leaving the reserve to turn directly left, across the river and then right and down the Trail onto the towpath. After passing the Stanley Ferry pub go directly across the road and continue to Stanley where the route ends at the A642.

On the way you will see all the local beauty and biodiversity. The surface is good and rides well there are some road sections but they are not too busy although care should be taken, especially when crossing the A638 Doncaster Road.



Walton Colliery Nature Reserve



Leave the reserve car park and bear right



Cross the bridge and onwards to the road

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**



Trail on leaving Doncaster Road



Leave Doncaster Road taking the lane, turn right immediately after the pylon



Village green at Heath

Anglers Country Park is a local nature reserve which is managed to conserve and improve its habitats for the benefit of wildlife and for the visitor to enjoy. Spring sees the arrival of swifts and swallows and summer brings damselflies and dragonflies. Autumn sees waterfowl from northern Europe, including goldeneye and widgeon which spend winter on site. Current wildlife sightings are noted on the board between the car park and visitor centre.

Many different species, including the grey heron and great crested grebe can also be seen in Walton Colliery Nature Park where there are four stretches of water and the Barnsley Canal.

The Southern Washlands Nature Corridor is also spectacular with its variety of habitats—ponds, grassland, woodland and scrub as well as the River Calder—make this area a great spot for a wide variety of wild flowers and wildlife. The various ponds and wet areas attract dragonflies and damselflies as well as birds such as kingfishers and sand martins. Look out for hares in the fields at Parkhill and listen out for skylarks singing above you.

Getting there: Anglers Country Park is near to Wakefield and Barnsley and can be accessed by road from the A61, A645 or the A638 following signs for either Notton, Ryhill or Walton—Anglers Country Park is well signed and in the middle of those three places.

Useful information: There are parts of the Trail on this route which are spent on road but fortunately the roads are not too busy. Care needs to be taken when crossing the Doncaster Road, although the crossing facility is excellent.

The facilities at Anglers Country Park are good, with tea room and visitor centre—read about Charles Waterton, the famous 19th century naturalist who created what is thought to be the world's first nature reserve at nearby Walton Hall (now the Waterton Park Hotel). There is a car park and toilet facilities.



After passing through Heath village watch out for the Trans Pennine Trail sign, which takes you off road to the left and down to the Southern Washlands Nature Corridor in 400 yards



Southern Washlands Nature Corridor 400 yards from the road through Heath



Ramp over the Aire Calder Navigation



At the end of the reserve turn left



Cross the road after Stanley Ferry pub



Route terminates in Stanley at the A642