

Burrs Country Park – Short Walk

This is a 2.5 mile walk in Burrs Country Park on a mixture of country paths, farm tracks and tarmac and passes a few of the Sculptures on the Sculpture trail. It's outward leg can be used as an alternative to the Irwell river stretch of the longer Sculpture trail described in that walk. However, while not quite as prone to mud in really poor weather as the Sculpture trail, gaiters/wellies would be useful. This mainly applies to earlier in the outward route and later in the return path. In good weather the paths should be easy.

The path follows a rough figure of eight route and has views to Peel Tower, over the East Lancashire Railway (steam trains some weekends). There is a station in the park

The walk is described starting from the Brown Cow pub near the tall chimney in the park. There are two car parks, one near the chimney, one earlier in the park, just head towards the chimney to find the pub. There is also a caravan park in the same area of the park.

In addition to the pub there is a café with good cakes and (usually) food.

Starting point: SD799127 BL8 1DA (or start from the Park station)



It is important to always be appropriately dressed for the conditions and carry, and know how to use, a suitable map for the walk.

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1: SD 799127 Walk past the pub away from the chimney and through the gate. Shortly there is a split in the path. Head right (**not** the path to trains). This leads under the railway and beside a tributary of the Irwell. After 300yds(270m) at a Y junction bear left. (the other path leads to a footbridge). After another 140yds(125m) there is a footpath to the left a little before another footbridge.



2: SD 803128 Ascend a few steps up to the left but **do not** continue up the rest of the steps. Rather go left on the narrow path contouring around the hill. (the steps are the return route). Follow this for 300yds(270m) (muddy in poor weather). Pass through some stiles/footbridges to meet a stile/gate onto a farm track.



3: SD 802131 Go left up the track and as it levels and turns right, take a moment for the view over the park, railway and campsite. Then go through the gate (not the stile), walk through the farm and follow the tarmac farm driveway (NE) towards Walmersely. Good view of Peel Tower. On reaching Walmersley, turn left and head along what appears to be a cul-de-sac.



4: SD 802135 At the end of the Cul-de-Sac is a Y junction entry to three farms. Take the left hand branch. This is the centre of the figure of eight route. The right hand branch is the return. In 350yds(315m) the drive reach a house. It's not immediately obvious how to continue but there is a path ahead.

5: SD 799136 Walk ahead over the grass to find an entrance into a path via a stile. This leads down a (possibly muddy) stretch and another couple of stiles onto a tarmac driveway. Turn right on the road and head up the incline.

NOTE: this driveway is part of the larger Sculpture trail at **Point4/5**.



6: SD 799138 Shortly look out for a Sculpture of a Stag on the left.



7: SD 799138 And a few feet further there are some more Sculptures of animals and children.

NOTE: About 100yds further up the road just where it bends right, is a turning point on the Sculpture trail **Point 5**

Continue up the road which returns to **Point 4** above.



8: SD 802135 Go through the gate and follow this road all the way to a main road A56 at traffic lights. Turn right and look for a footpath to the right in 176yds(160m).





9: SD 806133 turn right down the path and follow it as it bears left. It is mainly fenced and opens to views towards Peel Tower again. In poor weather this will be somewhat muddy. After 1/3rd mile a Y junction appears. Despite muddy appearances the right hand fork is fairly solid. Shortly some steps down are reached and a solid track is found.



10: SD 803128 Coming down these steps this is point 2 above again. Turn right and follow the riverside path back to the railway underpass and then onto the Brown Cow pub, or perhaps the Lamppost Café.



11: SD 799127 The Lamppost Café.

END OF WALK.

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