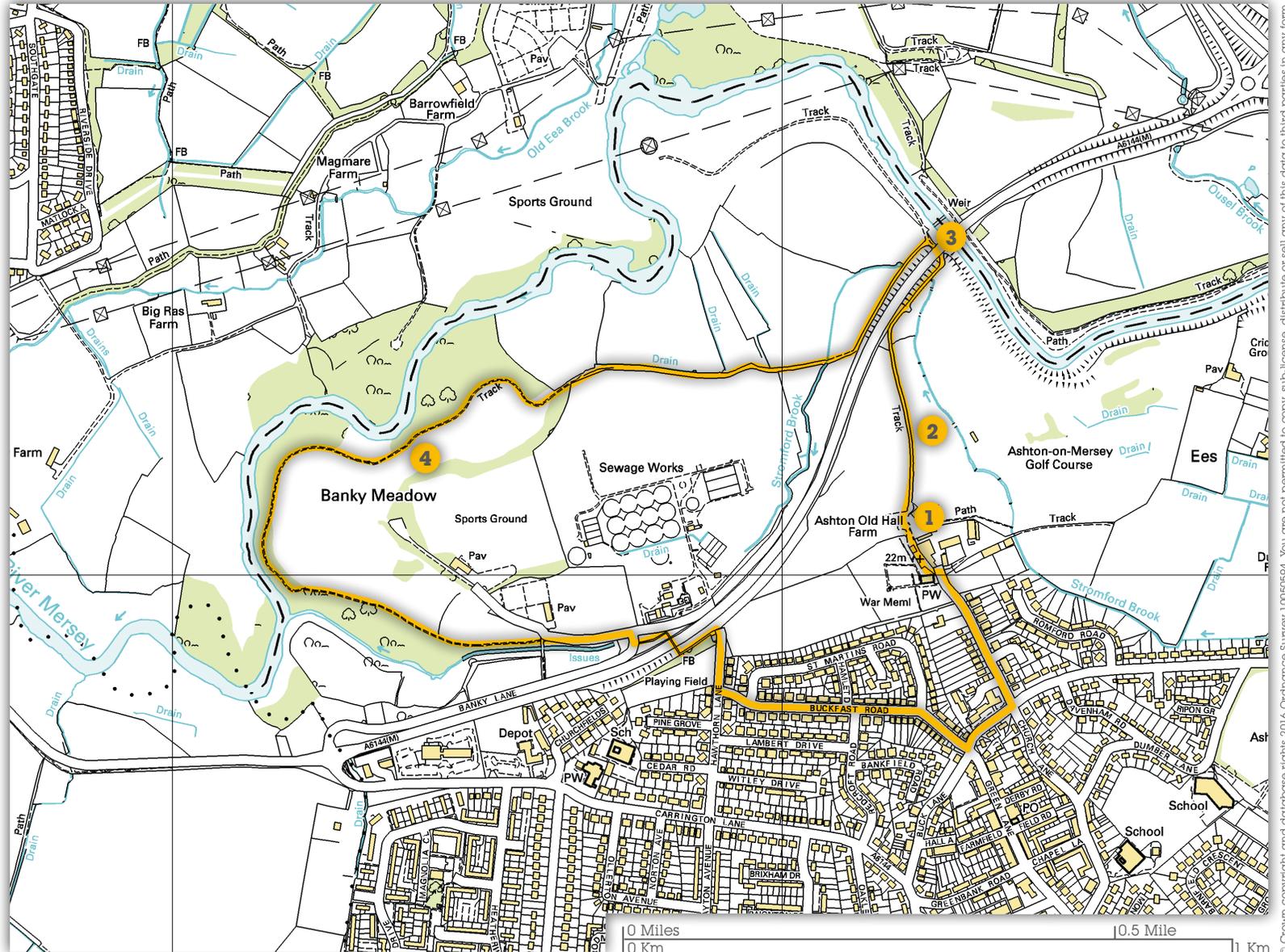


BANKY MEADOWS AND ASHTON UPON MERSEY

 Distance: 2 miles / 3.3 km  Allow 45 mins

This walk is one of ten exciting routes designed to help you explore some of Trafford's most beautiful countryside and parks on foot.

Trafford supports a diverse range of open spaces from the historic Longford Park, to visitor attractions such as Sale Water Park and Dunham Massey. Recreational routes, such as the Trans Pennine Trail and Bridgewater Way, pass through the borough's heart, linking local communities and visitors to the Mersey Valley and beyond.



WALK DESCRIPTION

This circular route explores Banky Meadows and the urban fringes of Ashton-on-Mersey. Discover the grounds of St Martins Church and enjoy walking along hedge lined paths past grazing horses. Walkers are encouraged to turn left before the millennium footbridge and pass through Banky Meadows where they will eventually join the Trans Pennine Trail.

Those looking for a longer walk or wishing to visit Ashton-on-Mersey should cross the footbridge on Banky Lane and return via Buckfast Road, Green Lane and Church Lane. The area is particularly popular with dog walkers and is ideal for autumn foragers.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Trans Pennine Trail offers access for wheelchairs, prams and cyclists. Other paths are soft underfoot and prone to becoming muddy after rainfall.

TOILETS

None.

START POINTS

Church Lane, M33 5QQ (recommended)

Banky Lane, M33 5NS

TRANSPORT LINKS

Bus Stop: Carrington Lane / Buck Lane

Car: Parking available near Ashton-on-Mersey Golf Club

POINTS OF INTEREST

1 St Martin's Church: There has been a church on this site since the late 9th century. Explore the grounds and discover the magnificent oak tree which shelters the aging headstones.

2 Hedgerows: Over 200,000 miles of hedgerow were planted during the 18th and 19th centuries. They remain an important feature in Trafford's landscape, providing food and shelter for insects, birds and small mammals.

3 Millennium Footbridge: The footbridge is an important crossing along the Trans Pennine Trail over the River Mersey. The weir below marks the eastern end of the river's canalisation.

4 Davin's Field: The river banks and eroding cliffs near Davin's field provide a feeding ground for wading birds and support locally rare plant species such as wood stichwort.



Banky Meadows



Hawthorn hedge



Oak, St Martin's Church