

## DID YOU KNOW?

The River Irwell rises from the Pennine hills north of Bacup and flows for 39 miles before it meets the Mersey River near Irlam. The first known crossing was a ford, built by the Romans with rectangular stone blocks at Cornbrook. Before the Industrial Revolution, it was well stocked with fish including salmon, and people would use the water for drinking in the early settlements around Manchester Cathedral.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Downstream of Manchester, the Irwell's course was altered forever when the river was straightened and canalised to become the Manchester Ship Canal in 1896. This allowed ocean ships to bring their cargo direct to Manchester, bypassing the tariffs at Liverpool. Manchester Docks, or what we now know as Salford Quays, was once the third busiest port in Britain, but the river and docks had filthy waters from all the years of sewage outfalls and chemical dumping.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Manchester Docks declined in the 1970S, due to the advent of large containerised ships which were too big to come up the Manchester Ship Canal. In the 1980s, the derelict waterfronts were redeveloped as Salford Quays. The polluted waters of the industrial years was improved using an oxygenating system in the docks, enough to allow fish to thrive and people to swim. Now it's one of the most popular leisure waterfronts in the country.

# HIDDEN WALKING GEMS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
 For further information contact Salford Ranger Team.  
 Email [rangers@salford.gov.uk](mailto:rangers@salford.gov.uk)  
 Clifton Country Park Visitor Centre, Clifton House Road, Swinton, M27 6NG

Go to [www.salford.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/cycling-and-walking/walks-in-salford](http://www.salford.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/cycling-and-walking/walks-in-salford) for more walks from our hidden gems series.



# HIDDEN WALKING GEMS in Salford

APPROX  
**7m/11.2k**  
 CIRCULAR WALK

WALK **8** FREE ROUTE MAP

**Crescent Meadow to Salford Quays**

# CRESCENT MEADOW TO SALFORD QUAYS HIDDEN GEMS TO EXPLORE

## START



Start in the car park at the end of Meadow Road, M7 1PA. Take the path and go right, right again towards Peel Park, cross the bridge over the River Irwell. Then turn left and walk alongside the river with Peel Park on your right. Go up the ramp before the park keeper's base, then take the steps up out of the park. Turn right, follow the top of the park, then cross the road and walk past the front of Peel Hall, the big red brick and stone building. Cross the main road, turn right, and walk along the road, passing Salford Crescent train station. At McDonald's, turn left down Cross St. Continue to the end of Cross St, go under the first underpass, then the second underpass, and then at the third which is split, take the left hand one.



1.

Follow the signs to Salford Lad's Club, walk along the A57, but go right onto Goodiers Drive and then turn left, and keep walking, parallel to Regent Road. Walk down West Crown Avenue. At Salford Lad's Club, turn right down St Ignatius Walk. Pass the church building. At the end you should come out at the little corner café, then bear left, walk down Tatton St, at the corner of Ordsall Community Allotments turn right onto Belfort Drive.



Turn right onto Robert Hall St, then next left down the alleyway at the corner of the green space. At the end, cross Coleman Gardens and walk down Groves Avenue.

2.

After St Clements Church, turn left and then go through the entrance into Ordsall Park. Keep to your right when walking through this park, walk all the way to the end and then turn left, leave the park at the exit onto Trafford Road, opposite the old Dock Office. Cross Trafford Road and walk straight on down the Quays street.



3.

Cross the tram lines, turn right, and then follow the walkway all along the quayside of Ontario Basin. Cross the bridge, pass the Watersports Centre, and follow the walkway all around Central Bay towards the Lowry. Just before reaching the Lowry, turn left and cross the bridge over the Manchester Ship Canal. Turn left, along the quayside, and walk all the way to Trafford Road Bridge (you will have to cross at Wharfside Tram station). Turn left and cross Trafford Road Bridge, keep walking, cross where you can and head for the Shell Garage.



4.

Before you reach the garage turn right down Ordsall Lane. After about 100m turn left into Monmouth Park, then exit onto Taylorson St straight ahead. Keep walking until you get to Ordsall Hall.

Pass around the back, then turn right down Guy Fawkes Street. You can stop to admire this place and the beautiful grounds, but for the walk, turn left onto Ordsall Lane.

5.

Things are continually changing along Ordsall Lane, but you are looking for a turning right to get onto the riverside walk. At this time of writing, Woden Street is the nearest access point, but look out also for Fairbrother Street and Worrall Street. At the end of Woden Street, turn Left onto the Riverside Walkway, or Irwell Linear Park.



6.

Keep going for some distance, passing Wilburn St Basin on your left. When you get to the multitude of bridges with circular pillars passing overhead, come up onto the road. Go under the railway bridge. Cross over and walk up Hampson St. Turn right onto East Ordsall Lane, walk up slightly and then turn left. You are now at Middlewood Locks. Follow them upstream.

MIDDLEWOOD LOCKS ARE THE FIRST LOCKS OF THE MANCHESTER, BOLTON AND BURY CANAL

7.

Turn right onto Oldfield Road. Pass the rain gardens along the edge of the road. At the end, cross over the A6 again and straight on down Adelphi St. At Adelphi Wharf 1, turn left, walk under the building between blocks A and B, then turn right along the riverside. Head downstream for Adelphi Bridge. Turn left and cross the River Irwell at the bridge, take the immediate left and walk up beside the river. Come out onto Meadow Road, turn left, and back to the car park at Crescent Meadow.

