

Eighty two MARPLE –STRINES- NEW MILLS.

This is an attractive stroll along the Goyt Valley. (For a very easy short walk go as far as Strines Station - trains back to Manchester every two hours so time your walk right). After Strines there is a relentless ascent to Brookbottom (the pub might be open!) followed by wide open views on the quiet lane to New Mills.

Take the train to Manchester Victoria and from there a tram to Manchester Piccadilly Station. From here catch a train to Marple (NOT Rose Hill). *Option: - turn right as you get off the tram and on Fairfield Street use the lift on the left to the link bridge lounge.*

STAGE I

Alight at Marple Station. Go down the short approach road and turn left to Marple Bridge. *Marple Bridge is an attractive stone village. The Midland is a free house selling cask marque real ales, tea, coffee, snacks and full meals. Cross the bridge over the River Goyt and turn right past the shops (The Royal Scot sells Robinson's real ales).*

Fork right onto Lower Lea Road, and follow this. *At the top of the gentle rise you see the hills ahead.*

Descend to a T with Lakes Road. Turn left along this.

Follow it to the right in front of Bottoms Hall (*Charmingly named, impressively sited - Georgian?*).

Next on the left are some lakes. *Called Roman Lakes they are used for boating and fishing –take a look.*

Pass under the railway viaduct. On the right is a weir. On the left is an octagonal cottage – was it a toll house?

Go through a long tunnel under the railway and pass a farm on the right. Then keep straight on.

When you come to another farm turn right over a little bridge and immediately left.

The track next meets a setted road – go left (*signed Goyt Way*) to Strines Station. (*The timetable and Manchester platform are on the right*).

STAGE II.

Go under the railway and turn right uphill. *This seemingly endless climb is aside a narrow wooded valley.*

You emerge in the stone hamlet of Brookbottom (*which feels like it should be Brooktop!*)

On the left is The Fox Inn – *Robinson's real ales.*

Turn right past the old phone box. *A short way up here there is a view going Manchester to New Mills.*

Keep along this lane. *The view opens wider to include tracts of upland moors as you proceed.*

Eventually you start to descend into New Mills. Go right through a gap in the wall into a park.

Walk straight down and then left in front of the house in the centre (*elegant and restrained - Georgian?*).

Head towards the Church spire. (*from the school of Peak District rugged!*).

Turn right down St Mary's Road.

At the bottom cross Hague Bar Road and fork right down the lane opposite.

Then fork right onto new Mills Central station.

Turn left over the footbridge for the Manchester platform and a train to Piccadilly.

CLASSIFICATION: STAGE I: SHORT EASY
 STAGE II: SHORT MODERATE (one long climb).

COUNTRYSIDE, RIVER, PUBS, CAFE, VIEWS, WOODLAND

RAIL FARE: category one

MAP OS 1:50 000 sheet 109

Philip's Street Atlas Greater Manchester