

The Bull's Head and Mottram St Andrew, Wilmslow, Cheshire



Challenging Terrain

1.5 miles
Circular
45 mins to 1
hour

230614



Access Notes



- 1. The route includes several gentle climbs and descents throughout.*
- 2. The paths pass through fields and horse paddocks which can be very muddy so good waterproof boots are a must.*
- 3. Each paddock is likely to be holding several horses so take care with dogs.*
- 4. You will need to negotiate 11 stiles, a kissing gate and a flight of steps. Some of the stiles are enclosed with wire fencing so dogs may need a lift over.*

The Bull's Head is a traditional country pub with a central bar surrounded by a series of dining areas.

A 1.5 mile circular pub walk from the Bull's Head in Mottram St Andrew in Cheshire. The walking route performs a simple short loop around the local countryside, taking in quiet lanes, horse paddocks and rural footpaths.

Getting there

Mottram St Andrew is located about 3 miles north-west of Macclesfield in Cheshire. The walk starts and finishes from the Bull's Head on Wilmslow Road, just a few hundred yards south of Mottram Hall. The pub has its own car park, although this can be very busy so it is best to avoid peak times.

Approximate post code **SK10 4QH**.

Walk Sections



Start to Woodside Farm



Come out of the pub car park back to the road and turn left, passing in front of the pub. Keep ahead along the road edge for a few paces (take extreme care here as the traffic can be fast moving) and then cross over to turn right down the tarmac lane (opposite Priest Lane) marked as a footpath.

Follow this lane, Smithy Lane, between properties and then heading steadily downhill. The lane levels off, then swings steadily right and leads you through a vehicle gate. Ahead you will see the brick gate posts of Woodside Farm. (To the left here are the open grounds of Mottram Hall, a country house built around 1750 and now a golf club and hotel).

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Woodside Farm to Wilmslow Road



Turn right along the stone track, passing the farmhouse to the left. Continue past some outbuildings on the left and then cross the stile ahead into the horse paddock. Cross the paddock at about 11 o'clock to reach a stile half-way along the left hand boundary. Cross the stile into the next paddock and turn right to walk along the right-hand edge of this next field.

The stile at the top of this paddock leads you into the next field. Go straight ahead, heading for the left-hand edge of the large house in front of you (Legh House). Pass through the black metal kissing gate and keep ahead along the private driveway between the house and garage. You will reach a T-junction with a stone lane. Turn right along this and follow it all the way to its junction with Wilmslow Road.



Wilmslow Road to End



Cross over the road with care to take the footpath opposite (at about 11 o'clock). Follow this stone track heading fairly steeply downhill enjoying the views across rolling views ahead.

Soon, at the first junction of paths, turn right. Climb the sleeper steps and cross the stile into a rough hillside field. Go straight ahead along the right-hand top edge of this field. Down to the left you'll see Hunter's Pool.

Keep ahead as the field narrows, passing a pink thatched cottage on the left. Cross the stile and take the next stile directly opposite. Follow the short section of fenced footpath and another stile leads you into a rough field. Note: from this point you may come across some exotic pheasant that are kept here, so take care with dogs.

Cross the field diagonally left (at about 11 o'clock). At the bottom of the slope (with some outbuildings to the left) cross the stile to reach some private grounds with a large pond ahead. Bear left here to cross the footbridge over the stream. Climb the short slope and then turn right over the next stile.

Follow this path through a narrow section of woodland. The low twisted laurel branches give the path a somewhat mystic feel. Cross the next stile and keep ahead on the path along a wider grass track between hedgerows. A final stile leads you out to the

stone access lane, with Brook House Farm on the left.

Turn right along the access lane and follow it out through the gate posts. If you look to the left here you'll see an old cast iron water pump. Turn right along the edge of the road (taking care of any traffic) and, before you reach the T-junction, turn right up the steps to reach the Bull's Head for some well deserved hospitality.

Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.

