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The Macclesfield Canal runs from Marple to Hall Green near Kidsgrove, a distance of 26 miles.



Jackson's Brickworks is a former industrial site now maintained as a local nature reserve by Cheshire East Ranger Service.



Lyme Hall is the largest house in Cheshire and was built in phases between the 16th and 19th centuries. It is in the care of the National Trust.

THREE CIRCULAR WALKS FROM The Red Lion

HIGH LANE, CHESHIRE



JACKSON'S BRICKWORKS 2½ miles

TWO CANAL WALK 4¼ miles

LYME PARK 5¼ miles

ROBINSONS

Jackson's Brickworks (2½ miles: Fairly easy)

A surprisingly varied route visiting a former industrial site now converted to a popular nature reserve, and sampling both the Macclesfield Canal and Middlewood Way. May be muddy in places after rain. Two sets of steps. Allow 1½–2 hours.

1 Turn left along the A6, then left into Brookside Lane. **2** At the end, cross and turn right, then left down a drive signposted to Woodside Tennis Club. **3** Go through the barriers to the right of the tennis club entrance and follow the footpath below gardens. **4** At an open area, bear right into the trees, and then left below more gardens, then left into the trees to the canal. **5** Turn left and follow the canal to bridge 13. **6** Turn right over the canal, and right again, then immediately left. **7** When the track ends at a bend, turn left onto a path to a kissing gate. **8** Continue between paddocks and into a farm track. **9** Pass farm buildings on your left then go through a kissing gate to the right of a farm gate, into Jackson's Brickworks Conservation Area. Follow the path and descend a flight of steps into the reserve proper. **10** Follow a boardwalk and a winding path to a junction, where you turn right. **11** Pass a viewing screen on the left and continue to a gate at the edge of the reserve. **12** Turn left and walk out to the Middlewood Way. **13** Turn right for quarter of a mile, until you reach the station. **14** Cross the railway bridge and turn immediately right through a barrier in front of an interpretation board. **15** Climb to a pylon, then bear right. **16** Swing left at an open area (ignoring the Ladybrook Valley Interest Trail leading straight ahead). **17** At the end of the fence, turn right and walk across the middle of the open area, passing left of a wood at the far side. **18** At another path, turn right then bear left through the trees, leading to a track. **19** Turn right and then drop left down some steps onto the towpath. **20** Turn left, crossing an arched bridge over an arm of the canal. **21** Pass under the A6 at bridge 11, then double-back left up to the main road. **22** Turn left along the A6. **23** Beyond the medical centre, cross the main road at a pedestrian crossing. **24** Opposite the church, turn right into Alderdale Drive then left into Hartley Woods. **25** At the far end of the wood, return to the A6 and cross Brookside Lane to return to the Red Lion.

Two Canal Walk (4¼ miles: Moderate)

Sample both the Macclesfield and Peak Forest Canals, returning via Disley Golf Course. Allow 2–3 hours. Mostly on canal towpaths and surfaced paths, but with one or two minor climbs, a steep wooded descent and occasional steps and stiles. May be muddy in places.

1 Cross the A6 at the pedestrian crossing in front of the Red Lion and turn left along the pavement. **2** Pass the war memorial and church on your right, then cross Vicarage Close. **3** Just before a bus stop, turn right between bollards onto a tarmac path which passes two metal barriers and bends right into a cul-de-sac. **4** Turn left, then left at a

T-junction. **5** At the next junction, turn right along Russell Avenue. **6** Take the next left, crossing a bridge over the Macclesfield Canal. **7** Turn left down steps onto the towpath, then left again under the bridge. **8** Follow the towpath for one mile, passing under bridges 9, 8, 7 and 6. **9** At bridge 5, just beyond a canal milestone reading "from Marple 1 Mile", leave the towpath and turn right over the canal bridge. **10** Follow the lane up to Hawk Green. **11** Cross the road and cross the green, aiming for the far right-hand corner. **12** Beyond the play area, turn right past a metal barrier into a footpath between gardens. **13** Beyond a stone barrier, the path bends left and climbs to the road just below the Methodist chapel. **14** Turn left, away from the chapel, then leave the road at a left-hand bend, onto a footpath on the right. **15** Keep right along the top of an area of open scrub, then enter the trees onto a path which drops steeply to the Peak Forest Canal. **16** Turn right to meet a lane by a bridge, which you cross. **17** Turn immediately right and right again onto the towpath, where you turn left to pass below some cottages. **18** Follow the towpath for a little over half a mile with views over the Goyt valley. **19** Beyond a lifting bridge (bridge 22), leave the towpath at PNFS sign no. 495. **20** Descend to a track and turn right under the aqueduct. **21** Ignoring a footpath on the right, climb to a track by a house, and turn left. **22** Beyond some stables, take the grassy track ahead to a gate, where you turn right, passing below a square stone chimney. **23** Skirt to the right of a silted-up pond and follow the path left to a stile and into a wood. **24** Climb to emerge onto Disley Golf Course. **25** Cross the fairway with care and turn right along a track running beyond and parallel to a golfer's path. **26** The track continues beyond the 6th tee then bends left, past a pond and bench, to climb to Jacksons Edge Road. **27** Turn right and cross Wybersley Lane, descending to meet the A6. **28** Turn right and follow the main road for 300 yards, crossing at the lights to return to the Red Lion.

Lyme Park (5¼ miles: Moderate)

Lyme Park is administered by the National Trust. The grounds are free to enter on foot, but a fee must be paid to enter the house. Allow 3 hours. One moderate climb to The Cage, and several stiles and flights of steps. May be muddy in places after rain.

1 Turn left along the A6, then left into Brookside Lane. **2** At the end, cross and turn right, then left signposted to Woodside Tennis Club. **3** At the entrance to the tennis club, turn left through the barrier and follow a tarmac path below gardens to a primary school. **4** Continue ahead along the path beyond the school entrance, and walk along the top of a play area. **5** Turn right through the gate for Brookside Farm and descend to cross the railway. **6** Follow the farm drive round to the left then, just before the farm, turn left up steps and over a stile and cross the railway with care. **7** Turn right and descend to a footbridge. **8** Follow the path beyond to a stile into a field and cross to the farm

ahead, joining the lane beyond the farm buildings. **9** Keep left at a junction, ignoring a private track to the right. **10** When the track turns left and crosses the stream, go through a kissing gate on the right and follow the broad path to pass under a railway bridge. **11** Bear left alongside the stream to a footbridge, beyond which cross a ladder stile on your right into Lyme Park. **12** Walk parallel to the stream to meet a driveway and follow it out to the hut on the main access road to Lyme Park. **13** Turn right and cross the stream, then take a path heading obliquely off to the left with a red waymark disk. **14** Climb quite steeply to meet a rough track and bear left towards The Cage. **15** When the track bears right to pass below the summit, leave it and walk up to the tower. **16** Beyond it, continue along the ridge before descending to Lyme Hall. **17** Turn right past the hall gates and follow the curving surfaced path to the main car park and information centre. **18** Cross the car park and turn left; at a fork, bear right over a cattle grid, signposted towards the overflow car park and Darcy's Pool. **19** At the top of the slope, turn right and follow the drive as it bends left, and then keep right at a junction between two flat-topped hills. **20** Descend towards a farm but, before you reach it, turn right over a ladder stile out of the park. **21** Follow the right-hand edge of the field to a stile by a barn and continue to a second, stone step-stile. **22** Follow the edge of a wood on your right to meet a track at PNFS sign no. 266. **23** Turn left and follow the metalled drive over a cattle grid to Plattwood Farm. **24** Beyond the farmhouse, follow a track on the right which runs along the edge of Platt Wood. **25** Pass Plattwood Cottage on your left and continue along the track, keeping left at the drive to a further cottage on your right; ignore a further footpath on the right. **26** At a junction of tracks before Middlecale Farm, turn right and pass a house on the left before swinging left to the canal. **27** Turn right past the WW2 pillbox on the near side of the canal and follow the canalside path over the railway lines. **28** At the end of the fence, follow the path right as it leaves the canal and climbs through trees before passing along the bottom of some gardens. **29** Swing right and left, past more gardens, to emerge by the entrance to Woodside Tennis Club. **30** Follow the driveway ahead out to Hartington Road. **31** Cross and turn right then left into Brookside Lane. **32** On reaching the A6, turn right to return to the Red Lion.

THE RED LION

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Opening times

Mon–Thu 11:00am–11:00pm
Fri–Sat 11:00am–12:00am
Sun 11:00am–10:00pm

Food service

Mon–Sat 12:00am–9:00pm
Sun 12 noon–7:30pm
+ snack menu all day