



# Hummingbird House

hummingbirdhouselet.com

## Roman Lakes (5¾ miles: moderate)

### Industrial archaeology in the Goyt valley.

*Allow 2 hours. Allow 3 hours. A couple of moderate climbs. Cross golf course with care.*

- 1** From the front door, turn right, then left into Marsland Road. Walk past the end of Marlborough Close on the right.
- 2** Beyond house number 2, turn left onto a tarmac path between the gardens, which leads to Kingsbridge Close. Follow the road out to Dale Road.
- 3** Turn left, then right into Bowden Lane and cross the railway line.
- 4** Pass Rose Hill Primary School then turn left into Seven Stiles Drive, then immediately right onto a tarmac path that runs behind the houses.
- 5** Keep right at the end of Whiteoak Close onto the continuing path, and keep right again at the end of Aspenwood Close; the path runs below the cricket club. Carry straight on at a junction of paths until you skirt an electricity substation and meet Ashwood Crescent.
- 6** Cross straight over onto the path opposite, between hedges. This path leads alongside allotments then emerges onto a road.
- 7** Cross and follow Grosvenor Road to a mini-roundabout at the junction with Winnington Road.
- 8** Cross straight over down a driveway. Beyond the last house continue along the track beyond the bollards. Pass a pond on the right and cross a road then cross the canal at lock 7.
- 9** Cross the towpath through the gap in the wall and bear right then down a flight of stone steps.
- 10** Turn left down a track, then swing right to cross the railway bridge.
- 11** Immediately beyond the railway, turn right onto an unmarked path. Follow it round to the left (ignoring a narrow path on the right). The path heads downhill to emerge at a car park.
- 12** Walk down the right-hand side of the car park, then turn right past Brabyns Park Play Area. Pass to the left of a pond then take the upper path on your right, past a pet's graveyard and out to the road.
- 13** Cross via the traffic island and turn left.
- 14** Just before the Midland pub, turn right into the pub car park. Take the upper fork and then join a path leading ahead into the trees.
- 15** This path runs along the bank between the River Goyt (left) and some low cliffs (right), passing a couple of stone-lined adits on the right, dug to drain coal mines in the hillside above.
- 16** Beyond a gate, continue past the Garden House community farm, and exit beyond the buildings via the entrance drive to the car park.
- 17** Turn left down Lakes Road and swing left over Bottoms Bridge.
- 18** Turn right below the excavated remains of Mellor Mill (which are worth a look round) and continue along Lakes Road.

- 19** At the junction near Old Hall Farm, keep right along Lakes Road. Pass the Roman Lakes entrance and continue above the river, passing under the Goytcliffe Viaduct and past the weir below Floodgates Cottage. Ignore a path off to the left.
- 20** Opposite the entrance to Strawberry Hill, turn right and descend through Barlow Wood to the river, crossing via the 'Roman' Bridge.
- 21** Bear left on the other bank, and by a mounting block ignore the path on the right and continue on the lower path.
- 22** Pass between a couple of cottages and follow the drive uphill to the B6101 in Strines.
- 23** Cross carefully and walk up Plucksbridge Road, passing the end of Barlow Wood Drive on the right.
- 24** When the road bends right, take a path on the left, which climbs to the towpath of the Peak Forest Canal.
- 25** Turn right and cross the canal bridge.
- 26** Turn right before the buildings onto a narrow, signposted footpath, with the canal on your immediate right. Ignore a footpath on the left, continuing alongside the canal.
- 27** 100m or so from the canal bridge, the path bears left, leaving the canal and starting to climb, with intermittent steps.
- 28** Bear right and exit the trees over a slight bank into an area of grassland, where the path swings left and heads uphill along the edge of the wood.
- 29** At the top, bear right to the road and turn left.
- 30** When the road bends left, take a narrow path to the right of a bungalow. This path runs alongside a field with views to Alderley Edge, then descends past a stone chicane barrier and into Hawk Green village.
- 31** Bear left across the playing field, left of a play area, aiming just to the right of a bus shelter on the far side.
- 32** Cross Windlehurst Road and walk down Barnsfold Road.
- 33** Pass the end of Hollingworth drive and continue down the lane, passing the Manor House on the left and bearing left by Barnsfold House. Pass Lower Barnsfold Farm and continue down the lane to the canal bridge.
- 34** Cross the bridge and turn left down steps to the towpath. Turn left and pass under the arch.
- 35** Continue along the towpath (with views of historic Barnsfold Manor Farm to the right).
- 36** Shortly before bridge 4, turn left through a gap in the hedge onto Marple Golf Course. You should see a waymark post directly in front of you.
- 37** Cross four fairways with care. The path then enters trees, with a stream valley to the right. Keep straight on past a bridge and follow the edge of the trees before re-entering the wood.
- 38** The path leaves the wood again by a Peak and Northern Footpath Society sign, and follows the woodland edge down to a stile in the corner.
- 39** Join the Middlewood Trail and turn right. Continue along the Trail to a gate where you cross a road and continue onwards past another gate beyond a parking area. Pass under a bridge.
- 40** At the end of the Middlewood Trail, walk along the right-hand edge of a car park and past the station entrance to the main road.
- 41** Cross at the lights and turn left into Dale Road.
- 42** Take the first left (Walton Road) then the first right (Marsland Road) and walk back to The Turnpike and Hummingbird House.

