



Countess of Chester Country Park

Bringing the countryside closer to the city



1 mile/1.6km

Approximately 20 mins at a leisurely pace.
2,110 steps



Opening hours: 7.30am - 6pm



FREE entrance



Car parking: Free. Open 7.30am – 9pm



Toilets: At the hospital next door



Café: At the hospital next door



Dogs: Well behaved dogs welcome



Accessibility: Wide, flat, interconnected paths.

Step by step walking route

1. The walk starts and finishes at the country park car park off Countess Way/Countess Court CH1 4ED. The walk follows hard-surfaced paths throughout that are also great for wheels. There are no steps, stiles or gates. Self-propelled and pedestrian guided wheelchair users may find the gradient tough going in a couple of places (see below) so it would be worth having someone check the route some time beforehand.
2. Head out of the car park towards the park noticeboard. Turn left here and head towards the eagle sculpture. This is a 3-piece sculpture by Simon O'Rourke (who also carved the nearby Woman and Child and the other totems around the park), and is viewed through the nearby 'spy hole'. Proceed to the ring of benches and turn right towards the Countess Way bridge. Before reaching the park exit here, take a sharp turn right and follow Finchetts Gutter. You might be surprised by grazing horses or foraging pigs on the far side of the brook.

The countryside code

Respect - Protect - Enjoy

Respect other people:

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment:

- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors:

- plan ahead and be prepared
- follow advice and local signs



Countess of Chester Country Park

managed by:



5. Bear left at the next path junction, following the lower path past the wetlands. Take a detour to the dipping platform and you can get a closer view of any frog spawn or the tall, waving Phragmites reeds. Occasionally buzzards circle overhead.
6. Carry on uphill beneath the tall trees and arrive at the path crossroads. Here you can get a view back over the wetlands. Go straight on at the crossroads and carry on past the ranger cabin. Immediately after the black vehicle barrier, take a sharp left turn and pass diagonally through the open meadow, past play areas and a pool. Follow the path to its end (past a woodland copse) and make a sharp left hand turn onto the main path. Follow this back to the crossroads and go straight on, continuing for a short distance before taking the left hand fork to follow the higher path that meets the road (Valley Drive) next to St John Ambulance. Turn right here and follow the pavement down to the car park entrance where the walk started.



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