



Brook Park & Shirebrook Wood

Rich in industrial history and wildlife



6.3 mile/10.2km

Approximately 3 ½ hours at a leisurely pace.
7,400 steps



Opening hours: All year round



FREE entrance



Car parking: On street



Toilets: No



Café: No, but perfect for picnics



Dogs: Must be kept on a lead at all times



Accessibility: Most footpaths are 1.5 metres wide, some narrower and gradient varies.

Step by step walking route

1. Start at Shirebrook Wood car park, and head straight to the fishing lakes. Where the track bends left to pass between lakes, go straight on along the natural path beside the forest fence - this re-joins the track at a junction by a seat.
2. Turn left through both barriers and pass beneath the power lines, following the track to the outline of the wood until you reach a junction. Branch left at the junction and ascend along a pleasantly wide ride southwards through Spring Wood. The track swings gently round to the right to a junction - keep left to stay on the main track between the trees.
3. Where the track doubles back, go straight on and along the right-hand path to cross the railway. Keep straight on along the footpath to a track and turn left. At the bend, turn right over the rail stile and continue alongside the trees on your left.
4. Keep right to a stone stile in the wall, which also has a wooden gate. As you progress along the right-hand edge of the field, it may surprise you to see a sheer limestone cliff towering above.

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



Brook Park & Shirebrook Wood

Brook Park managed
by:



5. Take the path, left of a central tree, down to a kissing gate and continue alongside the River Meden. As you reach the road, look left to St Chad's Church. Cross over and follow the path alongside the tributary and through a field to join the lane at a kissing gate. Pass the war memorial and continue to Pleasley Mills
6. Turn right beyond the security office and along the bridleway to enter Pleasley Park woods. Immediately take the natural path climbing to the right. After a while this path crosses a sunken hollow and bends left to a cross-path. Cross here and continue to a clearing with a picnic table overlooking a pond - a perfect spot to stop for lunch.
7. Bear left back into the wood to join a wide track, staying on the main track, which follows a northerly course out of the wood and along a track past houses. Cross the lane to the bridleway opposite and turn right immediately before reaching the road. Pass through the gate at the end and continue straight on along the traffic free Wood Lane, signed as The Archaeological Way. Turn left at the far end of the Sports Direct building and right over the railway near the other end.
8. Follow the track left and turn right immediately before the bridge through a gap in the fence. The narrow path skirts an area of wetland – if it's too muddy or you're unsure of your footing, turn right through the A-frame and follow the upper track alongside the wood. You soon join a lovely little stream and walk on bare rock, but gravitate to the upper level when the side becomes sheer to avoid the stream-side bushes. You eventually reach a footbridge leading to a road. Beyond here the stream widens into a string of ponds, so whichever paths you choose, you will gradually move away from the stream to join the brick-red main path leading back to the car park.



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