

Wyre Self Guided Trails: Greenhalgh Castle - Direct or via the Lancaster Canal

Start Point

At the circular “Villa de Garstang” mosaic in Cherestanc Square Garstang
Post Code: PR3 1EF
OS Grid Reference: SD 4915 4529

Distance / Time

5 km (3.1 miles)
1.5-2 hours
OR
3.4 km (2.1 miles)
1-1.5 hours

Maps

OS Landranger 102 (1:50000) or
OS Explorer OL41 (1:25000)

Terrain

Terrain Grade: Easy

The routes follow roads, farm tracks, fields, footpaths and canal towpath. The terrain is largely flat. There are stiles, gates and steps, and paths can be wet and muddy after rain. There may be animals in the fields and farm yards. Dogs should be kept on a short lead at all times. The route passes the site of Greenhalgh Castle, please do not walk up to the Castle as the ruins are unsafe and on private land.

THIS WALK IS NOT SUITABLE FOR TRAMPER VEHICLES

About This Walk

There are two alternative routes covered here, the shorter one takes the most direct route to the historic ruin of Greenhalgh Castle and returns to Garstang via the old railway cutting, now a nature reserve. The longer route begins along the

picturesque Lancaster Canal before crossing fields, past the remains of the castle, to join the shorter route back to Garstang.

Route Description

1. [SD 4915 4529](#) Stand on the “Villa de Garstang” mosaic facing the stone seat, turn to your right and walk to Park Hill road (10m). Turn right and follow the road, turning left at the first mini roundabout to a second roundabout.

FOR THE SHORT VERSION OF THE WALK continue straight ahead at the second mini roundabout and carry on to a road junction near a bridge over the river. Turn right to cross the bridge, then immediately left down Castle Lane. Continue along Castle Lane for 850m (0.53 miles), past the Castle information board on the left, to Greenhalgh Castle House. Bear left across the court yard in front of the farmhouse. **NOW CONTINUE FROM PARAGRAPH 4.**

FOR THE LONGER VERSION OF THE WALK turn right at the second roundabout (Church Street) and continue on to the bridge over the canal.

2. [SD 4891 4502](#) Go over the canal bridge and immediately turn down onto the towpath. Proceed along the towpath with the canal on your left, note the aqueduct over the river Wyre as you walk along. At the fifth bridge (no. 56) leave the towpath using the steps and stile. Turn left across the bridge. Continue along the farm track to a field gate.
3. [SD 5040 4474](#) Once through the gate cross the stile and ditch on the left and head straight across the field towards a gate just to the right

of some farm buildings. Pass through the gate and look for a stile at the left end of the hedge line straight ahead (do not go through the farm gate to the left). Go over the stile and follow the left hand hedge line over a further 2 stiles to the courtyard in front of the farmhouse.

4. [SD 5012 4510](#) Continue past the farmhouse on the right, noting the ruins of Greenhalgh Castle on the left. Turn right immediately past the farmhouse and follow the farm track past the converted barns, bearing right to a field gate.
5. [SD 5021 4521](#) Pass through a pedestrian gate to the left of the field gate and turn left. Follow the fence line, past a field gate, and go through another pedestrian gate on the left, next to a ‘finger post’ footpath sign. Cross the field ahead and through a pedestrian gate to the top of a flight of steps. Descend the steps into the disused railway cutting and turn left. (Alternatively, turn right to explore Wildgoose Wood then return to this point).
6. [SD 5045 4540](#) Continue along the footpath and pass through a pedestrian gate on the approach to Garstang. The path eventually joins a tarmac road over the river bridge. Continue to an opening in the wall on the left just past the first stone building after the bridge, giving access to some concrete steps. Descend the steps and turn right to join the riverside footpath back towards Garstang.
7. [SD 4938 4544](#) On reaching the picnic site at the bend in the river, just in front of a car park,

continue following the riverside path left for a further 100m then turn right up the grassy public footpath to High Street. Turn left then almost immediately right up Stoops Hall Weind (denoted by a brass plaque in the pavement) to return to Cherestanc Square.

If you need to speak to someone about this route or report a problem use the following Wyre Council contacts:

Website: Wyre.gov.uk

Address: Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde,
Lancashire, FY6 7PU

Telephone: 01253 891000

E-mail: mailroom@wyre.gov.uk

