



Halo - A Panopticon for Rosendale

Halo, by designer John Kennedy of Landlab, is an 18m-diameter steel lattice structure supported on a truncated tripod five metres above the ground. From its position on Top o' Slate in the Rosendale Valley it is clearly visible from miles around. Halo is lit using the latest LED technology and by night glows a sky-blue colour, giving the effect of hovering above the town. This iconic gateway piece overlooks the A56, welcoming visitors to East Lancashire.

Halo was part of a wider partnership scheme funded by Lancashire County Council's REMADE programme, managed by Groundwork Pennine Lancashire and supported by Rosendale Borough Council to regenerate and develop a 33-hectare area combining Top o' Slate with the adjacent Duckworth Clough.

The sculpture was also one of a small number of pieces of public art to be selected for investment by The Northern Way, a collaboration led by the three Northern Development Agencies working with partners including Arts Council England, which is investing £4.4 million in iconic works of art as part of an innovative £10 million cultural programme across the North.

About Panopticons

Pennine Lancashire's Panopticons are a unique series of twenty-first century landmarks, designed to attract visitors into the countryside to enjoy the stunning landscapes and the wealth of attractions that this delightful area has to offer. Each Panopticon is situated on a high-point site commanding spectacular views.

From Coloufilds, in Blackburn's Corporation Park, the visitor can enjoy a panorama of the park below, with the town beyond and distant views out towards Lytham, Southport and Fleetwood.

From Singing Ringing Tree, on Crown Point above Burnley, look north for a superb view of Pendle Hill or east for a glimpse of the Cliviger wind turbines on the Yorkshire border. In between there is a panoramic overview of the town of Burnley, with the famous Turf Moor football stadium at its centre. On a clear day you can see the Bowland Fells, Pendle, Ingleborough, Pen-y-ghent and Great Whernside.

From Atom, nestling on the hillside above Wycolier village, there are breathtaking views of the Pendle landscape all around, including the historic settlement of Wycolier, now a conservation area.

From Halo, the centrepiece of the former landfill site on Top o' Slate, newly landscaped and returned to public use, visitors can enjoy wonderful views of the Rosendale valley, Greater Manchester and Pennine Lancashire.

Visit a Panopticon soon - and discover Pennine Lancashire

www.panopticons.uk.net

Animals

Along with birds other wildlife on the site includes hedgehogs, field mice, squirrels, shrews and voles. If you're really lucky you might see a fox and if you visit at dusk look out for bats.

Birds

If you're a keen birdspotter you might see a number of birds on Top o' Slate and nearby. Look out for reed buntings, skylarks, grey partridges, snipes, kestrels, stonechats, lapwings, meadow pipets, curlews, pheasants and skylarks. Cribden Moor, which is just to the north of Top o' Slate is a significant site for the skylark, a Red List Species of high conservation concern. The skylark is a small brown songbird. You might hear them singing with a 'liquid warbling' call as they fly above the site.

Things you might see during your visit

Top o' Slate contains a fascinating mix of history, geology, wildlife and the recent addition of Halo, an impressive sculpture designed to glow in the dark. Take a walk around the site in daylight and discover lost quarries, ancient trackways and resident wildlife. Venture up at twilight and experience the ethereal beauty of Halo and watch as the towns in the Rosendale valley below come to life.

WALKS to TOP O' SLATE & Halo

REMADE in Lancashire

REMADE, which stands for REclamation and Management of DERelict land, has been set up by Lancashire County Council in partnership with the Northwest Regional Development Agency as part of the Agency's commitment to tackling the region's derelict land problem.

REMADE is a multi million pound programme which aims to reclaim 300 hectares of derelict land by 2011 and create quality public spaces such as play areas, nature reserves, cycleways and bridleways. Top o' Slate is one of 7 REMADE schemes completed since 2004.

REMADE scheme at Top o' Slate & Duckworth Clough

Top o' Slate was originally a quarry and at the commencement of the project was being used as a tip by Rosendale BC for highway waste and composting operations. The site had a neglected appearance caused by the tipping operations, fly-tipping and illegal motor bike use which was causing damage and erosion. Duckworth Clough was a forestry plantation and former landfill site. The existing public footpath through the site was in very poor condition and impassable in places.

The REMADE scheme, designed and managed by Groundwork Pennine Lancashire, has transformed Top o' Slate by reclaiming the site and opening it up to the public. The existing tipped area has been capped; new footpaths, entrance points, seating and interpretation features created; new stone boundary walls built and extensive landscaping and tree planting has taken place.



At Duckworth Clough some tree felling within the conifer plantation has taken place to soften its appearance. The existing public footpath has been improved and new seating, interpretation and fencing introduced. Significant improvements to Cribden Byway have also taken place to help improve linkages between the site, Haslingden and the wider countryside.

The wind turbine that powers the lighting and the foundations of Halo have also been provided as part of the REMADE scheme. Further information on the REMADE programme is available at www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/remade

Panopticons was a project of the East Lancashire Environmental Arts Network (ELEAN), managed by Mid Pennine Arts and supported by the Northwest Regional Development Agency, Lancashire Economic Partnership, Arts Council England North West, The Northern Way, Lancashire County Council, REMADE, Lancashire Small Sites, Elevate East Lancashire, Groundwork Pennine Lancashire, United Utilities, the local authorities of Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Ribblesdale and Rossendale, Pendle Leisure Trust and Rossendale Leisure Trust. The aim of the ELEAN partners is to work together to demonstrate the positive role of the arts and cultural activity in the social, economic and physical regeneration of East Lancashire.

WALKS to TOP O' SLATE & Halo



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Whether you're a seasoned rambler or just fancy a stroll up to the Halo site, there is a walk designed especially for you.

Walk 1.

From Haslingden (1.0km / 20 minutes)
This is a short walk from Haslingden town centre. The route is quite steep in places and the final part of it is along a rough grassed track.

From the Big Lamp in Deardengate head north up Church Street staying on the right hand pavement. Follow the road around the bend and just after the second bend cross the road at the bollards. There is a row of cottages on the left hand side, take the path past the cottages and up the hill (Rock Hall Road). Continue along the path until it rejoins the main road. Turn left immediately after the building on the left and go through the gate following the public footpath signs up the grassy track. At the next kissing gate turn left up Cribden Byway, cross over the road and the main Top o' Slate entrance is on the left.



Walk 2.

From Winfields car park, Rising Bridge (2.0km / 1 hour)

A longer route along the King's Highway. This route is flatter and comes onto Top o' Slate from the back through areas of farmland, woodland and grassland. The walk is mostly over rough terrain.

From the northern end of Winfields car park follow the path up the hill for 70m until you reach the King's Highway. Turn right here and continue along the road down the dip and take the next track (not signposted) on the left just past Top o' th' Bank Farm. Follow this track up the hill and at the road turn right. Follow this road and just past the houses on the left hand side is a gate and stile. (The path from here offers a route around Duckworth Clough and an alternative longer route up to Top o' Slate). Cross over the road that leads into the household recycling centre and straight on along the path. Follow the path up the hill, cross over the stream and at the next fork stay on the left hand path. Continue to the top of the hill and then drop down to the main entrance of Top o' Slate on the right.



Top o' Slate itself only has car parking for a small number of disabled badge holders. To access these spaces you will need a RADAR key. Once at Top o' Slate there are numerous paths to explore so why not take a picnic and make a day of it? Whichever route you choose you should ensure that you are wearing suitable footwear and don't forget warm clothing as it can be very windy on Top o' Slate. Some of the routes involve crossing main roads.



Walk 4.

From Crawshawbooth (2.8km / 1 1/2 hours)

A long walk only recommended for the serious walker along a mix of farm tracks and rough tracks. This walk allows you to see some spectacular countryside along the way. Allow approximately an hour and a half for this route.

From Crawshawbooth head up Pinner Lane next to St Johns Evangelist Church. Keep to the path to the left which is initially rocky and steep, and continue up the hill. Where the path meets a track stay left and follow the path around a bend to Scar Foot Farm. Continue along this path through Hugh Rake Top Farm and at the next farm Laundry Farm, go through the yard and follow the path to the right of the building where the path narrows and becomes unsurfaced. Go straight on through two gates, stay above Cribden End Farm following the footpath to the right. Where the path meets Cribden Lane go through the gap in the wall on the left and turn right down the lane towards the radio mast. The main entrance to Top o' Slate is approximately 0.5km on the right.

Walk 3.

From East Lancashire Railway Station, Rawtenstall (2.8km / 1 1/2 hours)

A longer walk mostly along roads and pavements (although not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs), with a steep incline as you pass through Ski Rossendale.

From the railway station car park turn left and at the roundabout cross the dual carriageway and Haslingden Road. Turn left past St Mary's Chambers and continue for 400 metres on the pavement until you reach the entrance of Whitaker Park. Turn right into the park and follow the right hand path past the tennis courts. Continue up the hill following this path past the BMX track, football pitch and play area until you reach the main road opposite Ski Rossendale. Turn left and after approximately 100m cross the road and follow the public footpath up the hill next to the ski slope. The path is rocky in places and towards the top there are steps. Turn left at the top and continue along this road (which turns into a track) for just over 1km until you reach the main entrance to Top o' Slate.

RAWTENSTALL