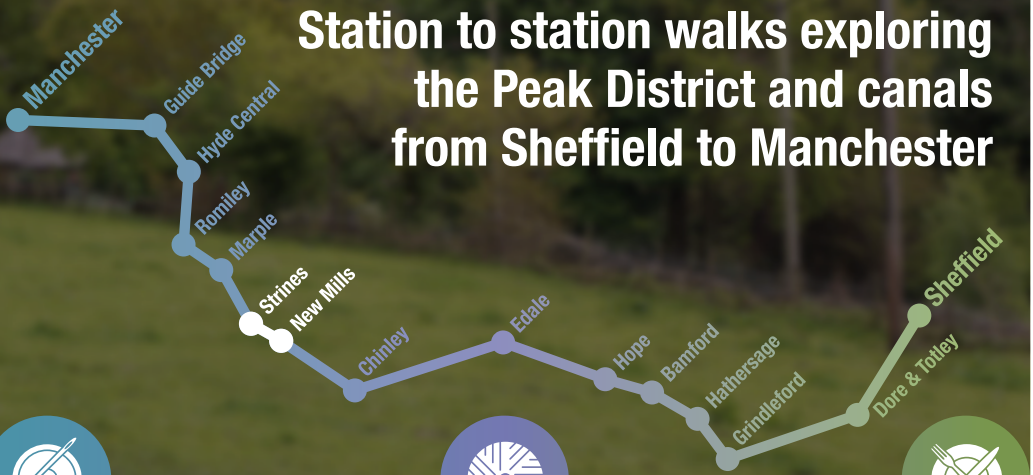
THE STEEL COTTON RAIL TRAIL

New Mills Strines

Station to station walks exploring the Peak District and canals from Sheffield to Manchester



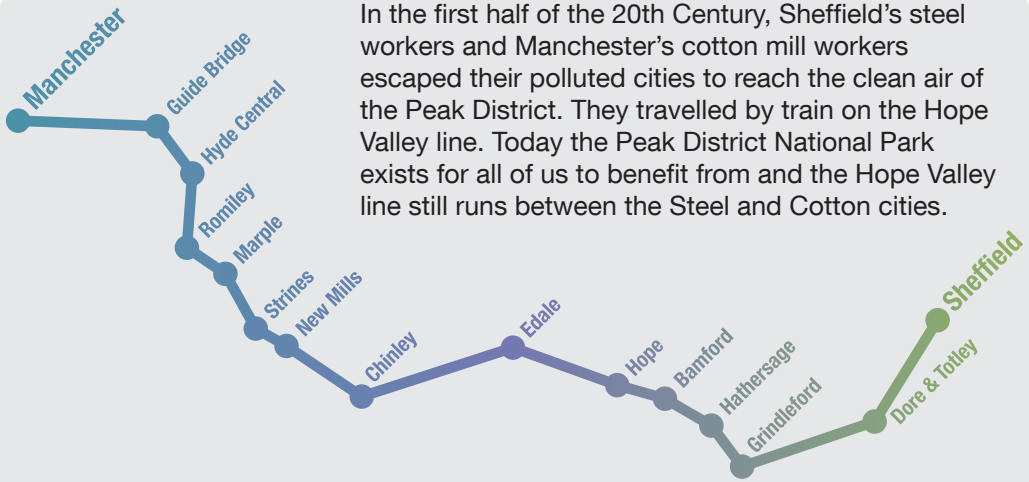
Thread your way along the Steel Cotton Rail Trail across the Peak District, from city to city and station to station.

Walk over the hills and down into the majestic sweep of the Hope Valley, alongside Manchester's canals, through woodland and meadows. Discover fascinating heritage highlights along the way on this route through the industrial past.

Plus, you always have the option to stop at the next station and catch a train back home.

Do as little or as much as you like.

All practical steps have been taken to ensure the accuracy of these routes, but all walks are taken at your own responsibility and we advise that you take a map with you in addition to this booklet.



In the first half of the 20th Century, Sheffield's steel workers and Manchester's cotton mill workers escaped their polluted cities to reach the clean air of the Peak District. They travelled by train on the Hope Valley line. Today the Peak District National Park exists for all of us to benefit from and the Hope Valley line still runs between the Steel and Cotton cities.

Look out for the Steel Cotton Rail Trail waymarkers along the route to guide you.

New Mills to Strines

New Mills is a town with a rich history in the textile industry, including coal mining, cotton spinning, bleaching, and calico printing. Strines, a nearby village, also mirrors this industrial heritage, being home to the Strines Printing Company which was a calico printing business.

This walk guides you through these historic towns, following the River Goyt before a steep ascent up the Goyt Valley Way, offering views of the valley below.

About the walk

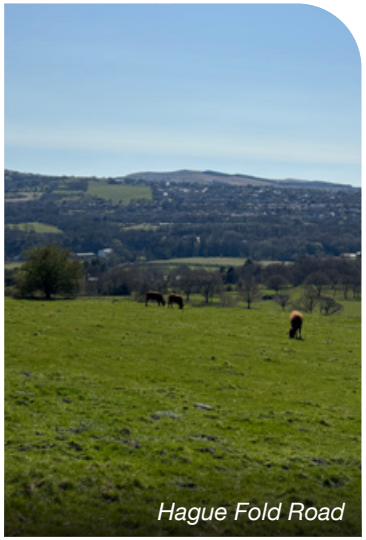
This walk has a steep ascent to join Brook Bottom Road which may be challenging for some people.
The paths along this route have good surfaces, however some parts of this walk may get muddy.

Practicalities

There are plenty of shops, cafes and pubs available in New Mills town centre. Public toilets are available in New Mills, located in High Lea Park.

Ordnance Survey (OS) Explorer OL101 covers the whole route.

The Fox Inn pub


Hague Fold Road

DIFFICULTY: MODERATE LEVEL

DISTANCE: 2.2 / 3.5 IN MILES / KILOMETRES

HIGHEST POINT: 689 / 210 IN FEET / METRES

New Mills to Strines

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: MODERATE

DISTANCE IN MILES / KILOMETRES: 2.2 / 3.5

HIGHEST POINT IN FEET / METRES: 689 / 210

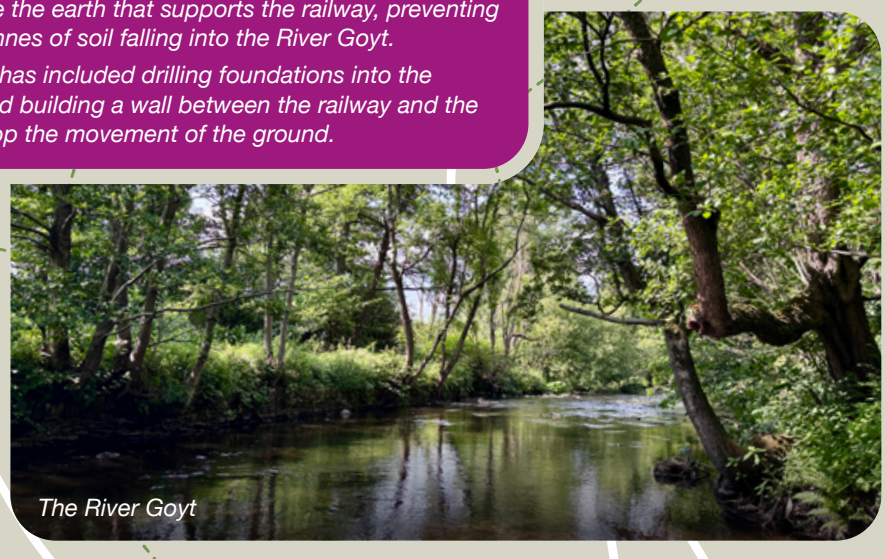
Railway Children information (Strines Station)

It is widely believed that the inspiration for many locations in the Railway Children came from Strines. Learn more about the Railway children with information available at Strines Railway Station.

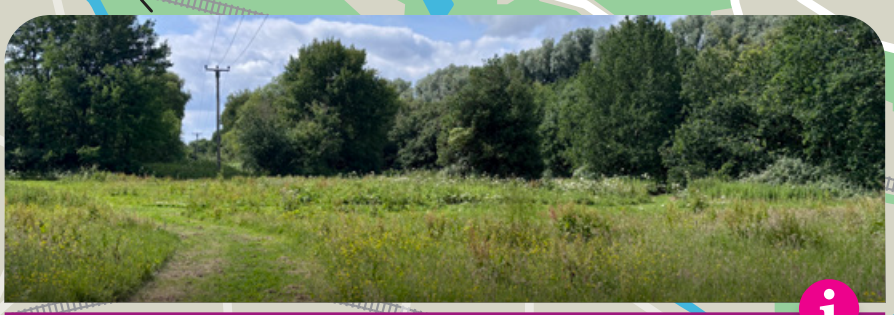
2024 Landslip

In 2024, a landslip on the railway led to a six-week closure. Major work has been carried out by Network Rail to stabilise the earth that supports the railway, preventing 50,000 tonnes of soil falling into the River Goyt.

This work has included drilling foundations into the ground and building a wall between the railway and the river to stop the movement of the ground.



The River Goyt



Mousley Bottom Local Nature Reserve

Mousley Bottom Nature Reserve sits where a landfill site, gas works, and sewage works once stood. Today you can discover the river Goyt, woodlands and wetland area which are now a haven for birds and other wildlife.

Strines station
Railway Children information
Strines
Fox Inn
Brook Bottom Road
Hague Fold Road
Hague Bar
B6101
Hague Bar Road
Waterside Road
Hague Bar picinc site
2024 Landslip
River Goyt
New Mills
High Lea Hall Heritage Centre
High Lea Park
New Mills Central
Mousley Bottom Nature Reserve
A6015
New Mills Newtown
Buxton Road

1

If arriving at New Mills Central station from Manchester, cross the bridge over the railway and turn right to walk downhill with the station building on the right. If arriving from Sheffield, turn right immediately on leaving the platform and walk down the hill. Pass through the station car park and bear slightly right to take the path through Torr Riverside Park.

2

Once you have entered the park, follow the path that goes to the left and follow the markers for the Goyt Way. This will lead out onto Station Road.

Following the Goyt Way marker, turn onto the road and walk towards the gate that says Mousley Bottom Nature Reserve.

Mousley Bottom Local Nature Reserve

3

Once through the gate take the path on the left following the waymarkers for the Goyt Way and the Mid Shires Way.

4

Continue along this path for 200 metres until you reach a gate with stone posts. Turn right here and follow the path that runs between the River Goyt and Mousley Bottom Nature Reserve.

5

Follow this path for 600m. The path will then bear right and lead you through a gate into Hauge Bar Meadows. Turn left and follow the path for 1km before turning right to go up the steps for the Hauge Bar Picnic Site and Play Area.

2024 Landslip

6

Exit the car park onto Waterside Road and turn right to cross the road bridge over the railway and continue to the junction with Hague Bar Road.

7

At the junction cross straight over and continue into Hague Fold Road, where you will now ascend steeply along the Goyt Way for 300m.

8

After Hague Fold Farm and Cottage, the road turns to a narrower path. Continue upwards for a few minutes until you reach the junction of Brook Bottom Road

Turn left and descend for 100m until you arrive at the Fox Inn.

9

Turn left at the Goyt Way sign just before the Fox Inn and descend to Strines station, turning left before the bridge for the New Mills/Sheffield platform or continuing under the bridge to reach the Manchester platform.

Railway Children Information (Strines Station)

Find us at **www.semcorp.org.uk**

This leaflet has been produced by
South East Manchester Community Rail Partnership.

THE STEEL COTTON RAIL TRAIL

The Steel Cotton Rail Trail is a joint project between High Peak and Hope Valley & South East Manchester Community Rail Partnerships.

The Partnership includes local authorities, train operating companies, the Peak District National Park Authority, Canal and River Trust, Community Rail Network and Station Friends groups.

Our Partnerships are accredited by the Department for Transport.

Canal & River Trust

SOUTH EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

High Peak and Hope Valley COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

Northern Trains serve all stations along the Steel Cotton Rail Trail.
For information on stations, tickets, station accessibility and timetables visit **www.northernrailway.co.uk**

For Northern's Passenger Assistance call **0800 1385560**

For UK wide rail enquiries call **03457 48 49 50**
or visit **www.nationalrail.co.uk**

When you are walking in the countryside, please follow the Countryside Code:
Respect everyone, Protect the environment, Enjoy the outdoors.