CHESHIRE SHUTLINGSLOE & MACCLESFIELD FOREST

Distance: 10 miles/16km Time: 4½ hours Grade: Challenging









CHOSEN BY...
JULIE ROYLE
For centuries, the
Cat & Fiddle could

claim to be England's second highest pub (515m), giving it the benefit of panoramic views. After a recent period of closure, it reopened as England's highest distillery. It's also the highest point of this cracking linear walk. which begins with a descent from bleakly beautiful moorland to leafier remote Wildboarclough. An ascent of Cheshire's shapeliest hill. Shutlingsloe (506m), provides another great viewpoint before plantations, woods and reservoirs lead to Langley, overlooked by Tegg's Nose, the craggy result of past

quarrying. From Langley it's an easy ramble through fields and woods, past a golf course and along a canal to the old textile town of Macclesfield.

Start

Take bridleway opposite Cat & Fiddle, going S across moorland to junction. Turn R towards Wildboarclough. Descend above brook by gappy wall. Approaching wall corner, go L to ford brook then descend R on narrow path by brook. At waymarked junction turn R through gate. Approaching farm, cross footbridge and turn L at road. After passing Crag Hall turn R towards Wildboarclough. Descend to church and keep to lane, ignoring paths R and

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Opposite Cat & Fiddle, on A537 between Macclesfield and Buxton, grid ref SK001719 postcode SK11 OAR Is it for me? Good paths through moorland, pasture, woodland, fields and plantation Stiles None

PLANNING

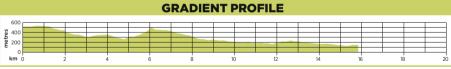
Nearest town Macclesfield Refreshments Cat & Fiddle (01260 253245), Peak View Tea Rooms, Crag Inn, Wildboarclough (01260 227239)

Public toilets Trentabank Reservoir and Park Green, Macclesfield

Public transport Bus 58 Macclesfield-Buxton stops at Cat & Fiddle (daily; highpeakbuses.com) Maps OS Explorer OL 24 &

Maps OS Explorer OL24 & 268; Landranger 118 & 119

L. Turn L at T-junction after bridge, towards Crag Inn, then







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OS Explorer maps OL24 & 268 Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop



take footpath R (private road). At Bank Top junction take path L up Shutlingsloe.

3¾ miles/6km Head N from trig, then NW. on stone-flagged path to Macclesfield Forest, Entering trees, go L, signed to Langley. At junction take path signed to Trentabank, Keep straight on at junction with colour-coded forest trails. Meeting road, go R then immediately L on path parallel with road, past Trentabank Reservoir, Reioin road at car park/toilets and take another path parallel with road. Cross the Wincle road and go through wall gap to meet another path. Initially going L. path soon swings R through conifers, then descends to run close to Ridgegate Reservoir.

At junction keep L uphill. Emerging from trees, turn L on unsigned path by woodland edge then down to cross footbridge. Join Gritstone Trail, going through field then along driveway to road.

7 6½ miles/10.4km Join path signed to Tegg's Nose. Go round two sides of Bottoms Reservoir to lane at Langley, Leave Gritstone Trail. turn L. fork R. then soon R again by Methodist church. Take first footpath R soon after Langley Hall, Bear slightly L across fields to Birch Knoll, go L along side of hill, then keep straight on, across field, through woods, past reservoir and golf course, through more woods until eventually steps descend to golf course access road. Turn

R. then L at end of road. Join Macclesfield Canal at bridge 40, turning R on towpath. Leave canal at bridge 37 and follow Buxton Road into Macclesfield, Turn R after Arrighi Bianchi (or L for rail station) then pass under road and railway. Turn L then climb steps next to Travelodge to Sparrow Park (for viewpoint and info panels). Follow Churchside to Market Place, go L past Grosvenor Centre and on Mill Street. Bus station is L after WH Smith. W

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:

walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes
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TIME TAKES