

# The Trent Meadows Walk



- 7 Turn right along Fields Farm Road. Where road swings round to left, turn right off road to visit Forbes Hole Local Nature Reserve.

*Forbes Hole is one of a series of borrowpits dug to provide ballast for the railways. Dug in 1839, the site has developed a wealth of plant and animal life and is now a valuable local nature reserve.*

- 8 Continue along main road, through industrial estate, to reach traffic island (just under a mile). Turn right by the Tappers Harker pub, over railway line to Meadow Lane. Turn right down Meadow Lane and over second level crossing to reach Trent Meadows.



## WALK TYPE:

Along riverbank and towpath through flat countryside.

## DISTANCE:

5 miles

## TIME:

Allow 2.5 hours

## RECOMMENDED OS MAP:

Explorer 260 Nottingham (1:25000)

## PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE



- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

For further information and comments please contact

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## Country Walks In and around Erewash



**Start: Trent Meadows, off Meadow Lane, Long Eaton, NG10 2FQ. Alternatively from Trent Lock, Lock Lane, Sawley, NG10 2FY. Non drivers may start from the end of Main Street, (By Tappers Harker public house, NG10 1GR)**

- 1 Go through gate into Trent Meadows. Continue to walk straight ahead passing a play area on the right. Continue straight on through old car park.
- 2 Go through gate and turn left to follow path for approx 150m. At junction of paths turn right to follow main path over bridge over old gravel pit to join riverside path.

*Flooded worked-out gravel pits like these are now home to many species of water-loving birds like tufted ducks, terns, great-crested grebes, herons and cormorants.*

- 3 Turn right to follow riverside path. You are now on part of the Trent Valley Way. This is a multi-user route so be aware of bicycles and horses along this route. Follow this path as it runs alongside the River Trent for approximately a mile to reach a gate. Go through the gate and carry on past the large river-traffic board, keeping to the riverside path for a further half mile to reach Cranfleet Lock.

*From its source on Biddulph Moor in the S.W. Pennines, the River Trent loops south around the Derbyshire Dome for 170 miles before joining the River Humber and the North Sea. Used by birds of passage and boats of pleasure, it forms the core of the greatest river system in England.*



- 4 Once through Cranfleet Lock follow the canal towpath as it travels beneath an old canal bridge and a railway bridge through to Trent Lock.

*The Cranfleet Canal was cut in 1797 to bypass Thrumpton Weir and shoals of fish in the River Trent. Around halfway, it passes under the Stephenson railway towards Leicester, which disappears into Redhill Tunnel through a wonderful castle-like entrance – a Victorian desire to beautify our railways.*

- 5 At Trent Lock, turn right onto towpath of Erewash Canal. Follow towpath past the Steamboat Inn for approximately 500m to an old bridge. Continue along towpath for a further 50m and take the footpath on right.

*Running from Langley Mill to the Trent, the Erewash Canal was cut in 1777-79 to carry coal south. Nowadays, the lower reaches are favoured by houseboats and Trent Lock has become a popular place for outings with a lively atmosphere.*

- 6 Go over stile, cross field diagonally left to reach a kissing gate and steps over flood barrier by railway bridge. Pass under railway to emerge on housing estate. Turn right out of Tenter Close into Holland Meadow, left into Rush Leys then left again along Bosworth Way to join main road.