

Short Walk

Hulton Abbey Park (Ancient Monument) & Greenway

Distance:	Approximately: 1¼ Miles
Duration:	28 minutes
Total Steps:	1,938

Stage	A to B	B to C	C to D	D to E	E to F	F to G	G to A
Duration (Mins)	2	5	2	2	2	1	14
No. of Steps	122	390	137	122	140	58	969

What will I see...

From the car park at Hulton Abbey, **A** take the path that leads down the left hand side of the Abbey Ruins and follow it to the grass circle; **B** walking clockwise around the circle, take the second path. Follow this path all the way around the bottom of the small park, keeping to the main path and continue all the way back along the side of the park, almost to the car park where you started. However, you should turn to your right onto the path just prior to the car park as it leads to an information board **C** where you can learn about the history of the Abbey. There is a seat here, just off to your right and further on, as you stand with the information board on your right. Once you have read the information on the board, continue on around the side of the ruins, past the seat and follow the first path you took back to the green circle. You should turn left and walk up to the gate. **D**

Leave Hulton Abbey Park via the gate and enter Beard Grove, cross the street and turn right, then walk on through the stile to the greenway.

E Continue along the path that goes ahead along the right side of the Children's Play Park and on to a small bridge over a brook, follow the path round to the right and on through a stile to Abbotts Road. You will see houses to your right and ahead of you, and a number of shops to your left. **F** You will find there is a Post Office, a 'Welcome' Store (Mini-Supermarket), an Odds'n'ends store, a Chip Shop, a Hair and Beauty Shop, a Butchers, a Chinese Take-Away and a Café (you can get a drink from here and use the WC if you need to). **G** To complete this walk, simply retrace your steps from **G** to **A**.

Medium Walk

Hulton Abbey Park to Recreation Ground beyond Uplands Road

Distance:	Approximately: 2¾ Miles
Duration:	58 minutes
Total Steps:	5,028

Complete short walk, stages A to G, then continue with the following...

Stage	G to H	H to I	I to J	J to K	K to L	L to M	M to A
Duration (Mins)	4	2	1	5	5	3	24
No. of Steps	395	140	55	410	290	220	2,549

What will I see...

G Continue along Abbotts Road past Abbey Hulton Community Centre and the Wallace Sports and Education Centre on your left, and a little further on you will come to a Co-op Late Shop (where there is an ATM). Turn right and cross Abbotts Road at this point then walk on up Crestbrook Road to a small crossroads, turn left into Elmsmere Road and after a few paces you will come to a stile, **H** go through this stile onto a tarmac path in front of you and to your left, and walk on. The path turns into a dirt path and goes off to the left along a very steep incline up some earth and wood steps; this area is slippery so please use the hand rail. At the top of the incline you will enter a small field, you will see houses across the top left hand corner of the field, trees in front of you, and an electricity pylon off to your left. **I** You need to cross this field in the general direction of the houses (top left hand corner), however, once you have crossed the field, you will notice that a little way down the field from the houses, there is a path leading off through some trees. Take this path. **J** You will see some earth and wood steps, go all the way to the bottom of them and walk on through a small copse, following the path in front of you. Walk across the grassy area, and then continue on along the main path which merges with another path. Veer off to your right at the fork, here you will come to a little brook and a metal bridge. **K** Cross the bridge and follow the path up the wood and earth steps on the other side. As you walk on up this path you will see some allotments on your left **L** and shrubs and trees on your right. The path can be boggy in wet weather so please watch your step and take care. Continue on past the

allotments on your left and open shrub land on your right to the top of the hill. The path continues through a hedge and comes to an open field. **M** This is Woodhead Road recreation field with a goal post situated along the hedge at the top of the field.

Once in the recreation field, take the path that follows around the left hedge of the field and continue up a slight incline; as you walk on towards the top of the slope, you will see open fields and Carmountside Crematorium over to your left. This is a large recreation ground, ideal for families to come and play football, rounders, frisbees and other assorted games. It is also suitable for picnics.

Long Walk

Hulton Abbey Park to Bagnall Wood

Distance:	Approximately: 3¾ Miles
Duration:	107 minutes
Total Steps:	7,848

Complete short walk, stages A to G, then medium walk, stages G to M then continue with the following...

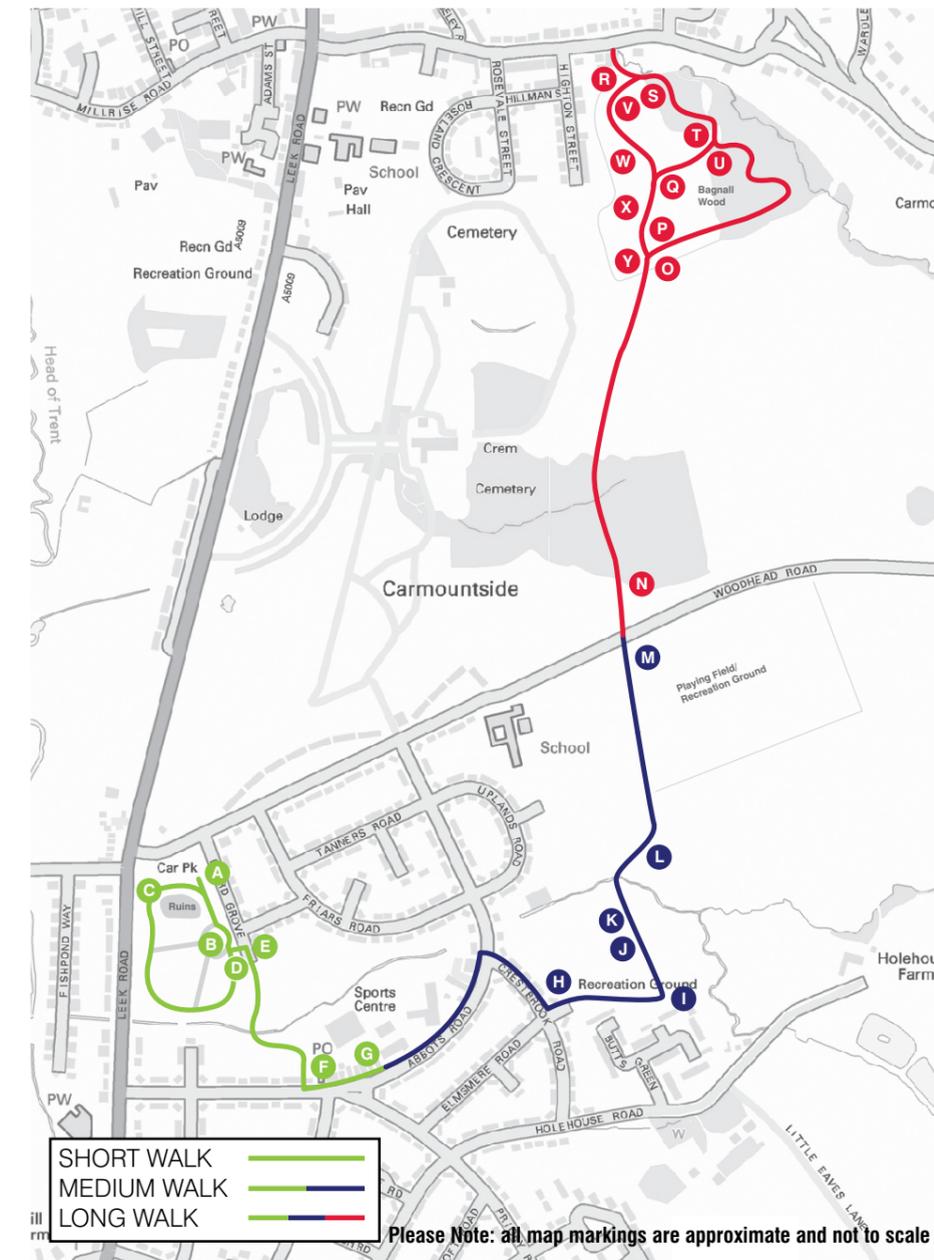
Stage	M to N	N to O	O to P	P to Q	Q to R	R to S
Duration (Mins)	5	3	2	2	2	2
No. of Steps	378	229	138	146	145	133

Stage	S to T	T to U	U to V	V to W	W to X	X to Y	O to A
Duration (Mins)	1	3	5	2	2	2	42
No. of Steps	58	230	408	137	122	129	3,101

What will I see...

As you near the top of the field you will see a goal post off to your right and to your left a sign post reading "Public Footpath", pointing across a Tarmac lane, you should cross this lane. **M**

In front of you is a steep dirt mound; you need to climb up and over this, then follow the path in front of you veering off to the right and through the trees. Ignore all small paths going off to the left and the right and



continue on, taking care not to turn your ankle; the paths are very uneven and muddy in parts (motorbikes clearly scramble along these paths, which are really pitted in places). Do not veer off this main path, but continue on and go through a gap in the trees ahead, the view then opens out across a field. **N** You should cross this field, following the path, towards a stile. As you cross the field, on your left is a view of Abbey Hulton, Carmountside, Hanley (in the distance) and Birches Head. You will approach the stile with a wooden marker beside it (No.7). **O** Climb over the stile and you will come onto a dirt path, follow the dirt path on to another marker (No.8) which has an arrow pointing off to your right; turn right and follow the path up the hill and through the trees to marker (No.9) **P** pointing off to the left; follow this path. Walk on down the hill keeping to the edged path; you will pass a small wetland area (signposted) on your left, you should continue on to the bottom of the hill. You will see a fence and marker (No.10) **Q** on your right. The path now bears round to your right through a little grove of trees, continue on. As you round the bend, you will approach some more fencing on your right, walk alongside this fencing until you reach a stile half way along the fence, and marker (No.1) **R**, go through this stile. **There is a notice here saying that this woodland route was funded by the National Lottery and devised in 2000.**

Walk on, up the hill on the earth and wood steps (it is a very steep incline), as you near the top of the hill you will reach marker (No.2), follow the arrow on the marker through the trees to some more wood and earth steps, climb these steps and continue up the hill to marker (No.3). **S** With this marker on your right, continue on up the hill. The path becomes very boggy under the trees, as you move forward before bearing round to your right; on your left is a deep ravine, please be careful in this area. At the top of the path you will see marker (No. 4). **T** Veer right up the hill past this marker and on towards marker (No.5) which will be on your left. Continue on upwards past a tree stump. From the top of the hill, as you continue forward and down, you will see a route marker in front of you indicating Long Route Left, and an arrow pointing left, and Short Route Right, and an arrow pointing right; follow the arrow for the short route. **U** Walk on down through a tree lined avenue across a number of drainage trenches dug into the earth path and continue on. At this point you will see marker (No.3) on your right, you need to turn left and follow

the winding path down past marker (No.2) to the earth and wood steps above marker (No.1) and the stile that you came through previously. **V** If you were to turn right here, you would come to Bagnall Road. However, we need to turn left and follow the path keeping the fence on your left. Bear round to the left and up the incline through the wood to marker (No.10), **W** ignore the stile beside this marker and continue up the slope past the wetland area that you passed earlier (which is now on your right) the path bears left near the top of the hill around some trees, you should ignore this path and turn right by marker (No.9). **X** Follow on down, through the trees, keeping to the dirt path to marker (No.8), then take the path coming in from your left, up the hill and back to the stile where you first entered the wood by marker (No.7), exit the wood into the field. **Y**

From this point, you should retrace the steps you made earlier. **O** - **A**

Remember

You do not need to be fit to do the short walk, but you should be aware the medium and long walks contain uphill stretches of varying intensity; if you are unsure about your level of fitness, you should consult with your GP before engaging with either of the longer walks.

Toilet facilities were not available in Abbey Hulton at the time of going to press. Whilst there is a café that might be used, there were no opening times on display.

Hazards to look out for...

Paths can be muddy and pitted during wet weather. Some paths are very uneven and some have loose gravel, particularly those on the medium and long walks, and in Bagnall Wood.

NB: These walks are unsuitable for prams and pushchairs. However, access to the large recreation field is available from Woodhead Road and direct access to Bagnall Wood is available from Bagnall Road.

Closer to home
Circular Walks



CENTRAL & EAST
No:1

Hulton Abbey

Points of interest

- The site of the Medieval Cistercian Abbey was acquired by Stoke-on-Trent City Council in 1987 and excavated by The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery's Archaeology Field Unit between 1987 and 1994. The Abbey was founded by Henry De Audley in 1219 and consecrated in 1223. Following the dissolution in 1538 the site was lost until 1884; it was located during a chance excavation, later being investigated and published by Lynam.

- Hulton Abbey is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086-7 as Heltone. The conventual buildings lay on the south side of the church which consisted of nave, aisles, chancel, transepts (each with two east chapels), and a tower over the crossing. Traces of the abbey fish ponds are visible near the Trent on the west side of the road. Source: 'Houses of Cistercian monks: The abbey of Hulton', A History of the County of Stafford: Volume 3 (1970), pp. 235-237.

- Declared a Local Nature Reserve in May 2004, Bagnall Road Wood covers 6.1 hectares in Milton. Maps from as long ago as 1876 show the site as a former tree nursery. The site is one of the best areas of mature broad-leaved woodland in Stoke-on-Trent. The wood consists of broad-leaved trees such as beech, hornbeam, silver birch and oak.

Closer to home
Circular Walks



CENTRAL & EAST
No:1



Three walks around

Abbey Hulton

