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It is distributed in association with [Sheffield Lakeland Landscape Partnership](#)

[Walkers are Welcome UK](#) is a nationwide network which aims to encourage towns and villages to be 'welcoming to walkers.'

**Bradfield Walkers are Welcome**

<https://bradfield-walkers.org.uk/>

**Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome**

<https://stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk/>

## Inclusive Route: More Hall Reservoir

- Length – 2 miles (3.2 km)
- Time – 40 minutes (at 20 minutes per mile)
- Start – More Hall Reservoir Lodge
- Grid Reference – SK 287 958
- Parking – Parking spaces next to the Reservoir Lodge. From the A6102 turn off at More Hall Lane and take the small private road which forks off to the left. The area around the lodge is wide and flat and there are no kerbs.
- Public transport – bus 57 from Sheffield city centre, bus SL1/SL1A from Middlewood Park and Ride/Supertram stop. Both routes stop by request at the junction of More Hall Lane and the A6102. This is half a mile from the Reservoir Lodge, up a gentle but consistent gradient of approximately 1:15. There is no pavement and the edge of the road is soft and muddy.
- Accessible Refreshments –
  - Cosy Café, 7-9 Langsett Road South, Oughtibridge, Sheffield S35 0GY, phone 0114 286 2261. There are parking spaces along the road next to the café and the kerb is approximately 2 cm high, low enough for a powered wheelchair to manage.
  - numerous refreshment options at Fox Valley Retail Park.
- Accessible public toilets –
  - RADAR key operated public toilets in Coronation Park, Oughtibridge.
  - The Cosy Café, Oughtibridge has an accessible toilet.
  - Brearley House, Fox Valley Retail Park. This is near the front entrance to the retail park. Take the lift to the first floor and follow the hallway round to the right.
- Seating - There are benches approximately every 200 m.

### Description

The Ewden Valley is a popular spot for a gentle stroll: a beautiful quiet location ('*The Switzerland of South Yorkshire*'). This is a woodland route with great views across More Hall Reservoir towards the surrounding hills. The dam wall and south side are completely off-road; the path is generally flat and 1.5 metres wide, with some short gentle gradients and narrower sections. The route on the north side is along a quiet tree-lined road between fields and the reservoir.



More Hall Reservoir

## Access Information

**Road/off road:** The route across the dam wall and along the south side of the reservoir is completely off-road. To complete a circular route back along the north side, you need to go along a single-lane quiet road (1). There is no pavement and the edges of the road are soft and muddy. The road around the west end of the reservoir is curved and visibility is poor.

**Surface:** The path is stone, concrete, or firm compacted sand/stone (2). Occasionally there are shallow muddy patches and slightly uneven stones. There is no tactile paving where the path meets the road.

**Width of path:** On average the path is 1.5 m wide, with some variation between 1 and 2 m.

**Camber:** The path is generally flat, with an occasional slight camber.

**Gradients:** The path is flat for approximately 0.6 of a mile (one km). Beyond that point it is mostly flat but there are some slopes (3) roughly ten metres long with gradients between 1:12 and 1:15.

**Rails / edges:** The path past the reservoir lodge and across the dam has a wall along one side and a grass verge on the other (4). There is a gap in the reservoir lodge fence which allows access right by the wall (though not wide enough for a wheelchair). Beyond the weir bridge a wood and mesh fence runs along the right-hand side of the path for approximately 75 m. Beyond that point there are foliage and trees on either side of the path and occasionally stone edges where a stream comes down into the reservoir.

The distance between the path and the water is variable and in some places the water is approximately 20 cm from the path, with grass between the path and the water. The height of the path varies and in some places there is a slope down to the water.

The road along the west and north sides of the reservoir has soft, muddy edges and no pavement.

There is a white line on the side of the road, but in many places it is obscured by mud. There are no painted edges at the edge of the path.

**Obstacles:** The wall around the weir abuts the right-hand side of the path at one point (5). At the west end of the path there is a kissing gate which is wide enough for wheelchair access. There are no stiles or narrow plank bridges. At the time of writing there were no obvious overhanging branches.



## Route Instructions

1. Go through the gate of the reservoir lodge(1a) and along the path across the dam wall (1b).
2. At the end of the dam wall, cross the bridge over the reservoir weir and follow the path round to the right (2).
3. The path continues for approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile (1.2 km) along the south side of the reservoir.



4. After approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile (1.2 km) you will reach a kissing gate (4) and a minor road (New Mill Bank).
5. Turn right along the road and over the bridge (5).
6. After approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile (330 m) you will reach a junction. Take the right turn (6) and continue along this road with the reservoir on your right.
7. After approximately 0.8 mile (1.3 km) you will be back at the start of the route.



## Historical Notes and Points of Interest

Sheffield Corporation started the Ewden Valley reservoir scheme in 1913, building both Broomhead and More Hall Reservoirs, to provide water for the rapidly growing industry and population of Sheffield. They were opened by the then Minister of Health, Arthur Greenwood M.P. in 1929 after delays caused by World War 1. It was not until 1933 that leaks in Broomhead were sealed. The upper reservoir (Broomhead) is used for drinking water while More Hall is used as compensation water. The total capacity of the two reservoirs is 1,618 million gallons.

Ewden Village was built to house labourers and their families. The huts were erected by Walkers, Sheffield timber merchants; each had electric light and hot and cold running water in well fitted bathrooms. There was a Mission Hall, canteen, recreation hall and a general store, run by Stocksbridge Co-op.

For more information about the area, see <https://www.stocksbridgehs.co.uk/archive/ewden>



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**This leaflet was created with thanks to  
National Lottery players and the Heritage Fund**

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