

**Eighty six            MARPLE – WATERWAYS TO NEW MILLS.**

This is an attractive stroll along the Peak Forest Canal and then the Goyt Valley.  
(For a very easy walk just stay on the canal to New Mills!)

Take the train to Manchester Victoria and from there a tram to Manchester Piccadilly Station. From here catch a train to Marple (NOT Rose Hill). *Option:* - turn right as you get off the tram and on Fairfield Street use the lift on the left to the link bridge lounge.

Alight at Marple Station. Go straight ahead, up the steps and turn right uphill.

Cross the canal at lock 9 and walk along the towpath. *This is the Peak Forest canal, built to carry limestone from the High Peak. Samuel Oldknow's warehouse is on the opposite side.*

Ascend the flight of locks up to No16. *Notice that some of the pounds (stretches between locks) have stubs off for docking on the far side –very nice having one of these at the bottom of the garden!*

After lock 16 pass the old lock office on the right on Sutton Lane.

Cross the canal bridge (*over the Macclesfield Canal*) and drop down towards the left to rejoin the bank of the Peak Forest Canal.

At bridge 19 swap to the other side of the canal and continue on to pass under a footbridge. *There are now beautiful open views of the hills.*

Continue along the canal until you come to bridge 25.

Just before bridge 25, go through the gap in the wall to follow the path down the valley side. *It gets steeper and more enclosed by the trees as you descend.*

At the junction of the two streams cross the footbridge. *This is an attractive, secluded spot.*

Cross a stile onto a path running at right angles and turn right to go up the steps. *Adjacent is a modernised paper mill specialising in recycling.*

Cross a stile and bear right by the side of the mill lodge.

At the end of the lodge, go left down some steps and then right.

Go ahead on the mill road, then a very short way right.

Take the signed footpath off to the left, keeping level – not dropping down to the mill dam.

Follow this path above the river till it takes you down the bank to walk in front of some cottages.

Turn left along the road *and across a tranquil vale.*

The road crosses the river. Go right about 50 yards further on – *the path is signed 'New Mills centre 1mile'.*

Walk along the meadow keeping roughly ahead – you pass two pools on your left. *One is behind a hedge, and the second has slightly raised banks.*  
Ignore signs pointing right. Go through the wall and gate ahead of you.

Turn right passing a new building on the right.  
Join the road then go left on footpath through a little park *and the road rejoins you!*

Go left up the road to New Mills Central station.  
Go onto the near platform for a train back to Manchester.

CLASSIFICATION:                    MEDIUM    MODERATE

COUNTRYSIDE, CANAL, RIVER, VIEWS,  
WOODLAND

RAIL FARE:                    category two

MAP OS 1:50 000 sheet 109

Philip's Street Atlas Greater Manchester