

WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust at Martin Mere is where wilderness and family-friendliness combine. In winter, many thousands of wild ducks, geese and swans are drawn to the wetlands, offering spectacular displays of feather and flight from the comfort of ten hides. In contrast, visit the award-winning duckling nursery in spring and watch the flamingo chicks grow. There is plenty to see and do at Martin Mere all year round, with more than 100 types of rare and endangered water-birds, a family of beavers and enchanting otters in residence. There is also an imaginative playground for young adventurers and an inspirational eco-garden. Seasonal attractions include celebrations of local history and wildfowl gardening and a rolling programme of events, walks and talks. Martin Mere offers a discount to anyone travelling to the centre without a car, details can be found at www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere.

You can walk to Martin Mere from Burscough Bridge Interchange along a two-mile trail. The trail is well signposted along local footprints, passing local tea rooms and a reedbed walk around the Martin Mere land.



Canoe Safari

Useful Information

For train times and fares information call National Rail Enquiries on **03457 48 49 50** or www.nationalrail.co.uk

For assistance with your journey planning, special ticket offers and other useful information use the following links:

Traveline 0151 236 7676

Merseytravel journey planner Jp.merseytravel.gov.uk

Merseyrail Merseyrail.org

Northern northernrailway.co.uk

CRL communityraillancashire.co.uk



Sefton Travel mobile journey planning app available both on ios and Android (UK wide coverage)

BIKES ON TRAINS

You can take your bike free of charge and without pre-booking on any Merseyrail service.

Northern do limit their service to 2 bikes per train, again free of charge and without pre-booking, however the conductor does have the right to refuse to carry bikes if the train is busy.

TOURIST INFORMATION

The VISIT website (see below) is packed with ideas for wonderful days out by train and also includes lots of walking and cycling information.

Additional tourist websites you may find useful:

www.visitsouthport.com

www.westlancs.gov.uk/leisure-recreation.aspx

www.visitlancashire.com

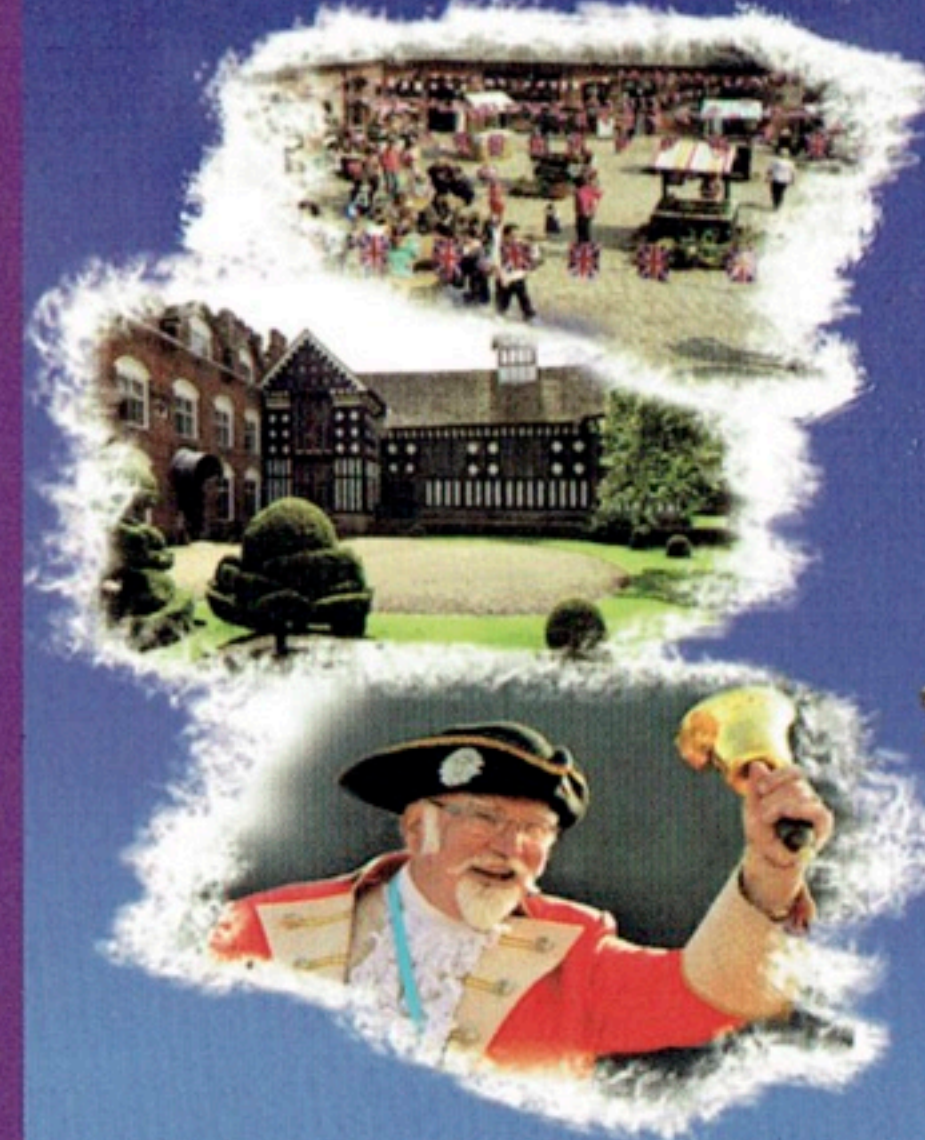
www.sefton.gov.uk/around-sefton.aspx



@VisitSefWLancs

www.visitseftonandwestlancs.co.uk

Great Days Out by Train!

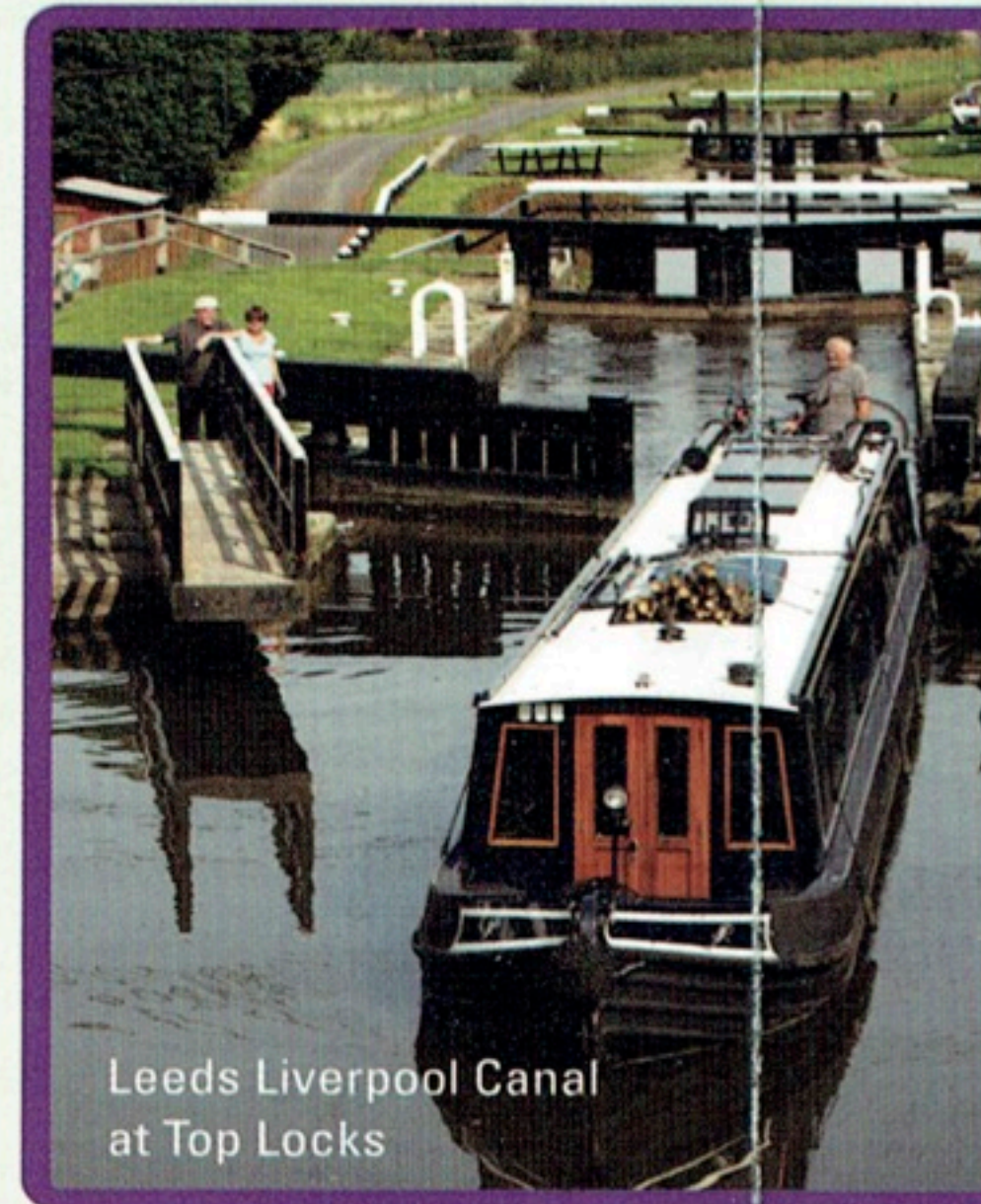
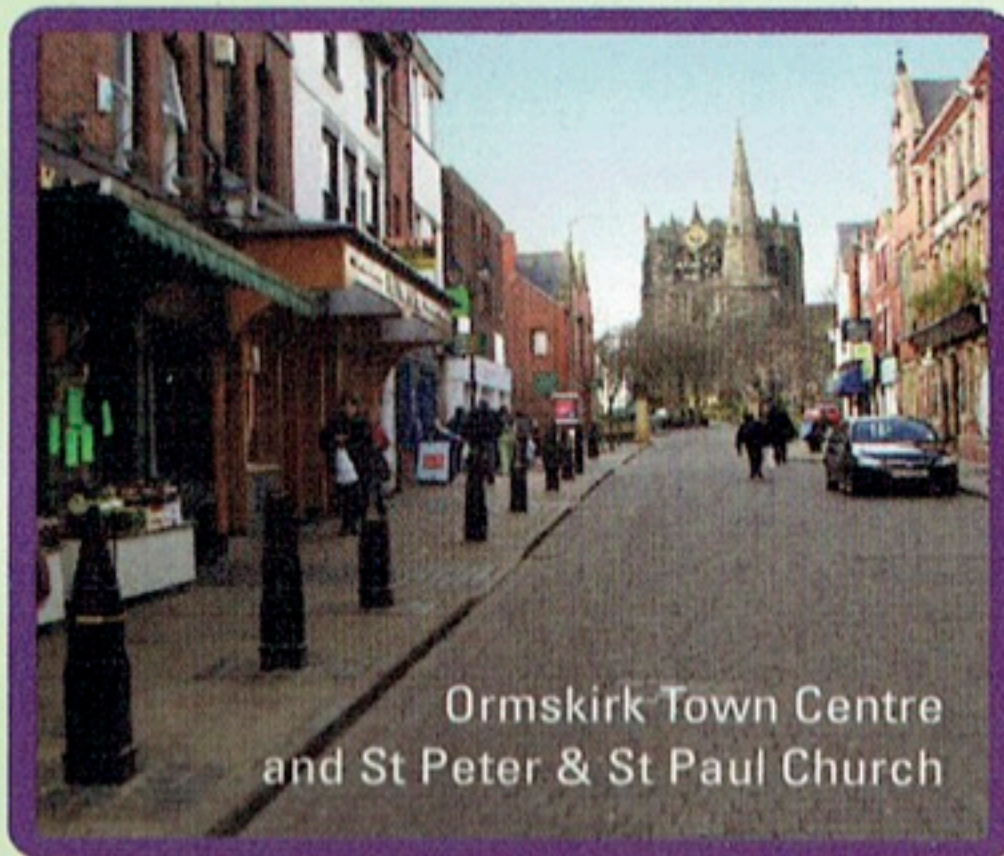


Visit

Sefton & West Lancashire



Sandhills to Preston Line



PRESTON



Croston

Award Winning Village

Burscough Junction



Burscough Wharf
Martin Mere
Windmill Animal Farm

ORMSKIRK



Aughton Park



Maghull



Old Roan



Trans Pennine Trail

Aintree



Trans Pennine Trail
Aintree Racecourse

Orrell Park

Walton

Kirkdale

Southport & Sefton Coast

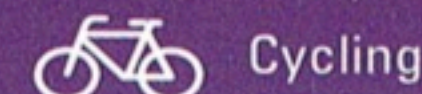
Soccerbus

Sandhills



Liverpool & Hunts Cross

Interchange
Railway
Station



Sandhills to Preston Line

Sandhills interchange is the place to catch the Soccerbus. On match days it's easy to get the train to here and then catch the bus to the Football Stadia. See www.merseytravel.gov.uk for further information. If you continue on towards Southport then you can access the beautiful **Sefton Coast**.

Heading towards Ormskirk the next station of note is Aintree, home of the famous **Grand National**. With trains running every 15 minutes, and more frequently during race meetings, this is the perfect way to reach the racecourse. This stop also gives access to the **Trans Pennine Trail**, the 215 mile walking, cycling and horse riding route between Southport and Hornsea.

Old Roan also gives easy access to the Trans Pennine Trail, here it runs alongside the **Leeds Liverpool Canal**, another great route for walking and cycling.

Maghull boasts the **Meadows Leisure Centre**, which houses the **Frank Hornby Museum**. Frank Hornby who invented Dinky Cars, Hornby Trains and Meccano lived in Maghull. His former house "**The Hollies**" in Station Road carries the first ever Blue Plaque to be unveiled outside London. He is buried in the grounds of St Andrews Church, Maghull.

Next is Town Green and then Aughton, great places for both walking and cycling, giving easy access to the Lancashire Countryside and **Edge Hill University**. Cycle hire is available at the University and is open to anyone in addition to also being available in Ormskirk town centre (see the VISIT website for details).

Ormskirk hosts one of the country's oldest and most traditional street markets each Thursday and Saturday. Dating back to 1286 when the monks at nearby **Burscough Priory** were granted a Royal Charter by Edward I to hold a weekly outdoor market, it is still a focal point for locals and visitors alike. It has a lot more to offer though, including its 12th Century Parish Church. Named St Peter and St Paul, the church is one of only three churches in the country to have both a steeple and a spire. Another historic landmark is **Ormskirk's grade-II listed Clock Tower** situated in the heart of the town centre. With walks and cycle routes starting from the station it's the perfect way to see the area.

Burscough Junction is the second of three stations serving Burscough (along with Burscough Bridge and Hoscar). Burscough is the ideal station to alight to walk or ride along the Leeds Liverpool Canal as it is only a stones throw away. **WWT Martin Mere Wetlands Centre and Windmill Animal Farm** are also accessed from Burscough.

Rufford is the station to use for visiting the wonderful National Trust Property, **Rufford Old Hall**. This property was home to the Heskeths for 500 years and its Great Hall was once the stage for William Shakespeare before he was famous. The Hall is just a short walk from the station.