

# Owens Walks

Route Description: Along the River Ribble from Marles Wood, near Ribchester

1. There's a car park at Marles Wood (SD67590 35629). From the car park, head downhill on the road to Ribchester Bridge, passing Manor Court, Salesbury Hall & the entrance to the Royal Lancs Showground (SD67025 35960). Cross the three stone arches of Ribchester Bridge (SD66224 35646).
2. Immediately turn R along the 'Private Road', it's a bridleway and 'The Ribble Way' path. The narrow road leaves the river and heads toward the buildings at Dewhurst House, follow the signs for the footpath, turning R along the path leading to the riverbank (SD66670 36155).
3. Pass the disused stile, follow the riverside path, cross the stile and footbridge (SD67149 36451) to enter the cool shaded Haugh Wood. Cross further brooks using the duckboards to a junction of the path, take the L fork. Exit the wood using a stile.
4. Head up the grassy slope (SD67485 36241) and cross the pasture to a saddle (SD67601 36256), the reward is a fantastic view of Pendle Hill and the Dinckley bridge. Descend the pasture to a gate and stile (SD67652 36384), keep L across the next pasture, a signpost marks the route in the field. Continue to the top corner of the field to a stile and gate (SD67727 36607). Cross a small enclosure to meet the bridleway via a gate (SD67750 36709).
5. A short distance down the lane is a gate (SD67765 36705) on the L. Through the gate, follow the wire fence, bearing R at the bottom of the hill to a footbridge (SD68044 36705) in the corner of the pasture. Ascend the short grassy slope following the line of the fence (keep it on your R), over some stiles to a five-barred gate (SD67750 36709). A stony track leads to Trough House farm, before the farm we leave the 'Ribble Way', cut back and take the narrow path on the R, over a stile, through trees to the Dinckley Suspension Bridge (SD68044 36705). Cross this delightful suspension bridge, it's a superb location.
6. After crossing the bridge, turn R (downstream) following a good path along the riverbank to Marles Wood car park.