



#PeakDistrictConnect

For kids!

Here's one way you can connect to the National Park on your walk:

Make a trail for others to follow

Use natural materials such as small stones, sticks and marks on the ground to make symbols telling your followers which way to go.

For more child-friendly activities go to peakdistrict.gov.uk/connect



Family walk 6

Explorer

Packhorses and Iron Horses

Explore the beautiful Manifold Valley

Your walk details

Distance	2.7 miles/4.4km
Duration	1½ hour
Buggy friendly?	Yes, surfaced throughout, but with one bumpy section
Dog friendly?	Yes (on a lead as livestock along track and light traffic on minor road)
Facilities	Car parking, café and toilets at start/finish
Extra information	Suitable for mobility scooter/buggy

Start from here

Wetton Mill car park

About 3 miles from Hulme End, off the B5054



Postcode (satnav)	DE6 2AG
Grid ref	SK 095 560
What3Words	ending.heaven.explain

Be Peak District Proud

www.peakdistrictproud.co.uk

Keep your dog on a lead to avoid disturbing birds that nest on the ground and other wildlife.



Be prepared. Weather conditions can change quickly and phone signal varies.



Leave no trace. Use bins for litter and dog waste, or better still take it home with you.



Stick to your rights of way whichever way you access the park, by foot, bike or horse.



Use the gates and stiles provided. Close and re-latch gates you have opened.



Be Dronesafe. Unauthorised drone use is against the law.



Camp fires, BBQs and naked flames are not permitted. Picnics are great, but please take your rubbish home.



Look and listen. Discover the wildlife and its habitat around you.



Drive with care and park in designated car parks.



Get in touch

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting
www.nationalparks.uk/visit-us

Find further walks at

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/familywalks



Photos: Peak District National Park / Tom Marshall;
Simon Atherton



Packhorses and Iron Horses

A level stroll on surfaced tracks, through a beautiful valley with great opportunities for paddling or picnic stops. Good for supervising learner cyclists too.



1 From the car park, walk over the old packhorse bridge towards Wetton Mill. Once over the bridge turn left towards Dale Farm and follow the track past the camping field to the edge of the farmyard.

Did you know?

The bridge at Wetton Mill and the track past Dale Farm were built by the Duke of Devonshire in 1807 to transport copper ore from the mine at nearby Ecton. Teams of up to 18 horses carried the heavy copper ore across the bridge.

2 Do not go into the farmyard but turn left just before (signed Hulme End 2½) and pass through the wooden gate to continue along the track. Sheep are often in these fields, so please keep dogs on leads. The track is level at first then slowly climbs. Soon the river appears below the track and there are some good spots for a picnic. Go through two metal gates before reaching a third at checkpoint 3.

3 Pass through the metal gate, taking care as you join the minor road. The route is now shared with vehicles although it is not usually busy with traffic. Turn left (signed Wetton Mill, Butterton, Wetton) and cross over the river.

Look out for...

Along the river you may see dippers and grey wagtails. Both these birds feed on minibeasts found in clean unpolluted rivers.



Look out for...
 From 1904 until 1934 the Manifold railway ran from Hulme End to Waterhouses, through Swainsley tunnel, following the route of the road past Wetton Mill. It carried dairy produce from the local farms and creamery to customers in London. It also brought tourists to see the wonders of the Manifold Valley.

4 Once over the river take the minor road on the right (signed Manifold Valley, Wetton Mill, Wetton) bending round to go through Swainsley Tunnel (a single track but well lit) and continue along the minor road back to the parking places at Wetton Mill.

5 Arrive back at the car park where you started. Below the bridge next to the car park is a lovely spot for playing and paddling or for dipping for minibeasts in the shallow river. Or why not cross the bridge to the café for a well-earned ice cream?

Look out for...
 There are some caves in the field above Wetton Mill to explore. Follow the public footpath between the house and holiday cottages, turning left after the gate and climbing above the mill. The large caves were formed by melt water flowing through them after the ice age. Take care as there are some steep drops.

Did you know?
 The River Manifold disappears underground in summer just downstream from Wetton Mill. Why not follow the road to the next bridge to see if the water has disappeared? In the drier months it does not reappear until you reach Ilam Park several miles away.