

Tonge Trail - Directions

Start Point:	The Cotton Keir Pub, The Valley.
Route:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Starting at the Cotton Keir Pub, take the footpath that goes between the gym and the pub. Continue up the steps until you reach the main road. Carefully cross Crompton Way and continue down the cobbled road towards Benteler, taking care as cobbles could be slippery when wet. Continue over the bridge taking the first footpath to the right after the water. • Continue down 3 small steps then 1 much deeper step. Walk along the dirt footpath, which can be muddy when wet, taking care to avoid the metal railings which can be sharp on top. As the path forks bear left. • At the top of the hill you should reach Hall I' th' Wood Museum. Take the footpath to the left, through the metal bars / barrier and continue up a slight incline. Walk along the path between the two fences and continue through another metal barrier. • Continue up towards the playing field and walk along the parameter of the field, keeping to the left, past the running track on your right. Follow the field round to the right and up towards the trees. Bear left through the trees, again keeping to the edge of the playing field. Continue following the parameter of the field round to the right, past the broken tree on the left, and up towards the rugby pitch. Take care to avoid the unfenced pond, covered by brambles. • Bear left towards the old derelict farmhouse picking up the path through the trees, past a metal barrier, turning right onto the gravel lane. Continue along the lane keeping the farm building on your left. Carefully walk over the level crossing using the gate. • Continue along Oaks Lane, taking care as there is no pavement in parts, down the hill and past the school on your right until you reach the main road. Turn right down Tonge Moor Road, past the entrance to Canon Slade School, continuing until you reach the pedestrian crossing. Cross the main road using the crossing then walk back along Tonge Moor Lane, taking the first public footpath to the right just before the post box. • Continue down 4 steps and along the gravel / dirt track. Walk through two sets of barriers and continue down 60 more steps. Walk over the green metal bridge taking the footpath to the right, keeping the water on your right. Continue along this path bearing left at the fork. Continue up a slight hill, taking the path to the right, keeping the golf course on your left. • Continue down the hill taking the bridge to the right. Walk along the path, keeping the metal fence on your left. Go through the wooden kissing gate and turn right, walking up	

the hill along the dirt / cobbled road. Continue through the wooden gate and up towards Firwood Fold the birth place of Samuel Crompton.

OPTIONAL STOP OFF POINT: SAMUEL CROMPTON'S BIRTH PLACE

- Turn around and retrace your steps. Continue past the wooden kissing gate on the left walking past the timber yard. Continue through the building yard taking care of traffic including lorries. Follow the road round to the right.
- As you approach the main road, keep to the left. Carefully cross over Thicketford Road using the crossing point to the left then take the wooden kissing gate into Seven Acres Country Park.
- Continue down the hill keeping the water on your left. Take the bridge to the left over the water then pick up the path to the right. Continue up the hill and then back down following the path through the park.
- Bear right up the hill towards the main road walking through the wooden kissing gate, turning left along Bury Road. Continue up towards the Lancashire Wildlife Trust Centre on the left.

OPTIONAL STOP OFF POINT: LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST CENTRE

- Walk up towards the pedestrian crossing opposite the Hare & Hounds pub. Carefully cross Bury Road using the pedestrian crossing. Walk back along Bury Road towards Bolton then take the first left along Blenheim Road. Carefully cross the road picking up the main path into Leverhulme Park. Continue past the metal gate walking through the park along the main tarmac path. Continue past the second metal gate and follow the path between the running track and Premier Fives.
- After the running track, take the big path down to the right, past the metal gate. Continue down the steep hill, following the path round to the left. Continue up a slight incline along the main path. Take the path to the right, back on yourself, keeping the water on your left. Continue past a metal gate and bridge on the left walking past the pebble beach on your left.
- Continue along the path to the right keeping the water on your left. Continue back along the same path picking up the footpath up to the left, over the bridge and up the hill. As the path forks, bear off the main route, left along the gravel track. Continue again up a slight incline then bear left down the hill.
- Continue over the small stile until you reach the cemetery. Walk along the main footpath through the cemetery then take the footpath to the right of the church. Where the paths cross, turn right and exit the cemetery via the main gate. Continue down Cemetery Road until you reach the main road. Carefully cross Bury Road at the island on Tonge Bridge. If a larger group walking then an alternative is to walk left up Bury Road and cross at the traffic lights.

- Turn right and walk along Bury Road taking the footpath to the left signposted 'Our Backfield'. Continue up the slight hill along Starkie Road. Continue straight ahead through the metal gate and along the gravel path. Take the footpath straight ahead signposted 'Our Backfield'. Bear left as the path forks, continuing straight ahead towards Matalan.
- Carefully cross over the road at Matalan and continue walking down towards the main road. Turn right along Tonge Moor Road and walk up to the pedestrian crossing. Carefully cross the main road using the crossing. Turn left down Tonge Moor Road taking the first right down Union Road.
- Walk down towards the railway arch. Continue through the metal gate under the railway, and along Union Road, all the way to the end. Turn left and walk down Britannia Way until you reach Waters Meeting Road. Turn right and walk along the footpath / cycle route keeping the water on the right, taking extra care for bikes on the cycle path.
- Continue past the stone bollard straight ahead, up the signposted public footpath, until you reach the main road. Carefully cross Waters Meeting Road turning right and continuing down the main road. Carefully cross over again and walk down Eagley Brook Way. At the Cotton Keir Pub carefully cross over the road and walk up towards the footpath between the pub and the fitness gym.

Footpath Type:	
Tarmac roads, pavements and footpaths, cobbles, dirt tracks and paths, grass paths, gravel paths, tracks and lanes, tarmac cycle path, flagged footpaths.	
Seating:	
There are benches in Seven Acres Country Park – after the bridge and by the pebbled beach in Leverhulme Park.	