

Many of the mostly brick buildings in Poulton were built in the 1850s and 1860s for the Marquess of Westminster.



The Afon Alun or River Alyn flows from the Clwydian mountains through Loggerheads and Mold to its confluence with the Dee.



Pulford Brook is dredged to improve drainage in this low-lying area, and is followed by the border between England and Wales.

THREE WALKS FROM



GROSVENOR
PULFORD HOTEL & SPA

★★★★

PULFORD & LAVISTER
POULTON & PULFORD
POULTON & THE RIVER ALYN



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PULFORD AND LAVISTER

A short stroll round two villages, one in England and one in Wales.

1½ miles. Level, and mostly on roads. Allow 1 hour.

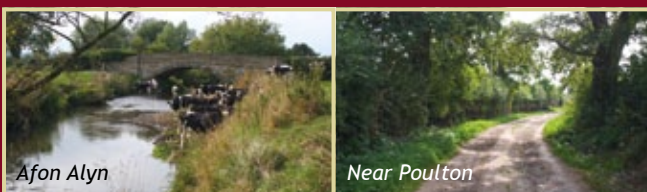
1. From the front of the hotel, cross the road and walk a short distance to the left to Pulford church. Enter the churchyard and walk behind the church to view the grassy motte of Pulford Castle.
2. Return to the road and retrace your steps passing the hotel, and crossing the Pulford Brook into Wales.
3. Continue along the road into Lavister village, ignoring the turning on the right to Burton Green.
4. Pass the Nag's Head pub and cross the end of Roselands Court.
5. Beyond a former chapel on the left, turn left into Darland Lane/Lôn Darland.
6. Pass a number of turnings to left and right then, when the road bends right, turn left into Darland Lane.
7. Cross Lôn Pippin/Pippin Lane and then, when the road narrows, turn left into a track (a de facto path - but not a formal right-of-way - leads over a stile by a gate on the right of the entrance and then winds pleasantly through woodland parallel to the track with a large pond on the right; if you take this option, turn left just beyond the pond to return to the track).
8. At a gate at the end of the houses leave the track through a stile on the left.
9. Follow the path beyond (entering a former golf course), which swings left and subsequently follows an open belt of trees then briefly follows the edge of the trees surrounding a housing estate to the left.
10. Beyond the trees walk straight ahead, parallel to a stream on the left, aiming just to the left of a telegraph pole.
11. When you reach a metalled track, turn left over a bridge with brick parapets to return to the road.
12. Turn right and walk back along the road to the Grosvenor Hotel.

POULTON AND PULFORD BROOK

A pleasant and undemanding walk through the low-lying meadows of the Dee Valley.

4½ miles. Sections may be muddy or even flooded after heavy rain. Allow 2-2½ hours.

1. From the entrance of the Grosvenor Hotel, turn left and walk past the church (diverting to the rear of the churchyard to view the grassy motte of Pulford Castle).
2. Beyond the church, continue past the entrance to Pulford Court then turn right into Old Lane.
3. Follow this road for ¾ mile, passing houses on the right, then with a belt of woodland also on the right. Ignore the private drive to Brookside Farm on the right and pass a series of houses on the left. After a further interval through farmland turn right opposite a white-painted detached house by the Poulton sign into a footpath through the belt of woodland.
4. At the far side of the woodland cross a stile into open fields and follow a path straight on opposite.
5. Swing left past a wooded pond, follow the field edge beyond then turn left by a waymark post through a gap into another field.
6. Follow the left-hand edge of this field and then join a concrete track, which passes through a gate and emerges via a tarmac drive to the road in Poulton.
7. Turn right and walk through the village, passing the entrance to Yew Tree Court on the right.
8. At the entrance to Chapel House Farm turn left into a farm track.



Afon Alyn

Near Poulton

9. Follow the hedged track for ¾ mile, crossing the Old Pulford Brook as the landscape opens up until reach a stone bridge over the Pulford Brook drain by a metal-clad pumphouse.
10. Beyond the bridge turn immediately right along the embankment, with Pulford Brook on your right.
11. The official path follows the top of the embankment through a couple of gates, but the going may be easier at the bottom of the bank to your left.
12. Cross a track by a farm bridge, and pass a second bridge shortly afterwards (ignoring a path heading off to the left and continuing along the drain in a similar fashion to before).
13. At the end of the large field the path continues along the drain through a narrower field, to a metal kissing gate.
14. Leave the drain, heading diagonally across to the far corner of the field.
15. Cross a footbridge and turn half right, aiming for a gate to the left of the farm buildings ahead.
16. Pass through a series of gates and down a farm drive to reach the road.
17. Follow the road ahead, ignoring a footpath on the right.
18. Pass houses on either side, and continue a wooded pond on the right.
19. At the end of the wood, turn right into a track (a de facto path - but not a formal right-of-way - leads over a stile by a gate on the right of the entrance and then winds pleasantly through woodland parallel to the track with a large pond on the right; if you take this option, turn left just beyond the pond to return to the track).
20. At a gate at the end of the houses leave the track through a stile on the left.
21. Follow the path beyond (entering a former golf course), which swings left and subsequently follows an open belt of trees then briefly follows the edge of the trees surrounding a housing estate to the left.
22. Beyond the trees walk straight ahead, parallel to a stream on the left, aiming just to the left of a telegraph pole.
23. When you reach a metalled track, turn left over a bridge with brick parapets to return to the road.
24. Turn right and walk back along the road to the Grosvenor Hotel.

POULTON AND THE RIVER ALYN

A peaceful walk in the low-lying Dee valley using a mix of farm tracks, quiet country lanes and field paths, including a pleasant stretch along the River Alyn.

6½ miles. May be muddy (or even impassably flooded after prolonged rain). Allow 3-4 hours.

1. From the entrance of the Grosvenor Hotel, turn left and walk past the church (diverting to the rear of the churchyard to view the grassy motte of Pulford Castle).
2. Beyond the church, continue past the entrance to Pulford Court then turn right into Old Lane.
3. Follow this road for ¾ mile, passing houses on the right, then with a belt of woodland also on the right. Ignore the private drive to Brookside Farm on the right and pass a series of houses on the left. After a further interval through farmland turn right opposite a white-painted detached house by the Poulton sign into a footpath through the belt of woodland.
4. At the far side of the woodland

cross a stile into open fields and follow a path straight on opposite.

5. Swing left past a wooded pond, follow the field edge beyond then turn left by a waymark post through a gap into another field.
6. Follow the left-hand edge of this field and then join a concrete track, which passes through a gate and emerges via a tarmac drive to the road in Poulton.
7. Turn right and walk through the village, passing the entrance to Yew Tree Court on the right.
8. At the entrance to Chapel House Farm turn left into a farm track.

9. Follow the hedged track for ¾ mile, crossing the Old Pulford Brook as the landscape opens up until reach a stone bridge over the Pulford Brook drain by a metal-clad pumphouse.
10. Cross the field to a further footbridge, then follow the left-hand edge of the following field with a ditch and hedge on your left.
11. In the corner of the field go through a gate and continue in similar vein along the left-hand edge of the next field until you reach a gate into a hedged green lane.
12. At Meadow House follow the metalled lane beyond, which curves left and then passes through a flood embankment by Meadow Farm.
13. At a T-junction turn left, and then take a footpath on the right through a kissing gate that rises to cross the floodbank. Beyond the bank, head half-left across to the hedge on the far side of the field before following it left. When the hedge bends to the right, strike out to a gate in the far corner.
14. Beyond the gate, take a stile on the left; head diagonally right across the next field to the river, then turn right (upstream) and follow the stream to a further stile.
15. Keep along the river until you reach a stile and steps to a road. Cross straight over, descend the steps to a second stile and continue along the riverside path beyond.



Village pump, Trevalyn

16. At the next bridge, cross the stile and road and then descend another flight of steps and climb the stile beyond. Keep on along the riverside.
17. After a couple of stiles the path briefly enters a small wood, then swings right, leaving the river, to reach a stile into the road in the village of Trevalyn. Turn

- left.
18. Walk along the road with cottages on the right, passing the old village pump on the left.
19. Continue beyond the last row of cottages on your right until you see a stile and gate on the right, with a footpath sign. Take the footpath and follow it straight across the field.
20. At the next road, turn right then left onto another footpath. Aim for the first telegraph pole then follow the hedge on the left beyond to the road at the end.
21. Turn left and follow the road into the village until the junction with Darland Lane, where you turn right.
22. Cross Lôn Pippin/Pippin Lane and then, when the road narrows, turn left into a track (a de facto path - but not a formal right-of-way - leads over a stile by a gate on the right of the entrance and then winds pleasantly through woodland parallel to the track with a large pond on the right; if you take this option, turn left just beyond the pond to return to the track).
23. At a gate at the end of the houses leave the track through a stile on the left.
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27. Turn right and walk back along the road to the Grosvenor Hotel.