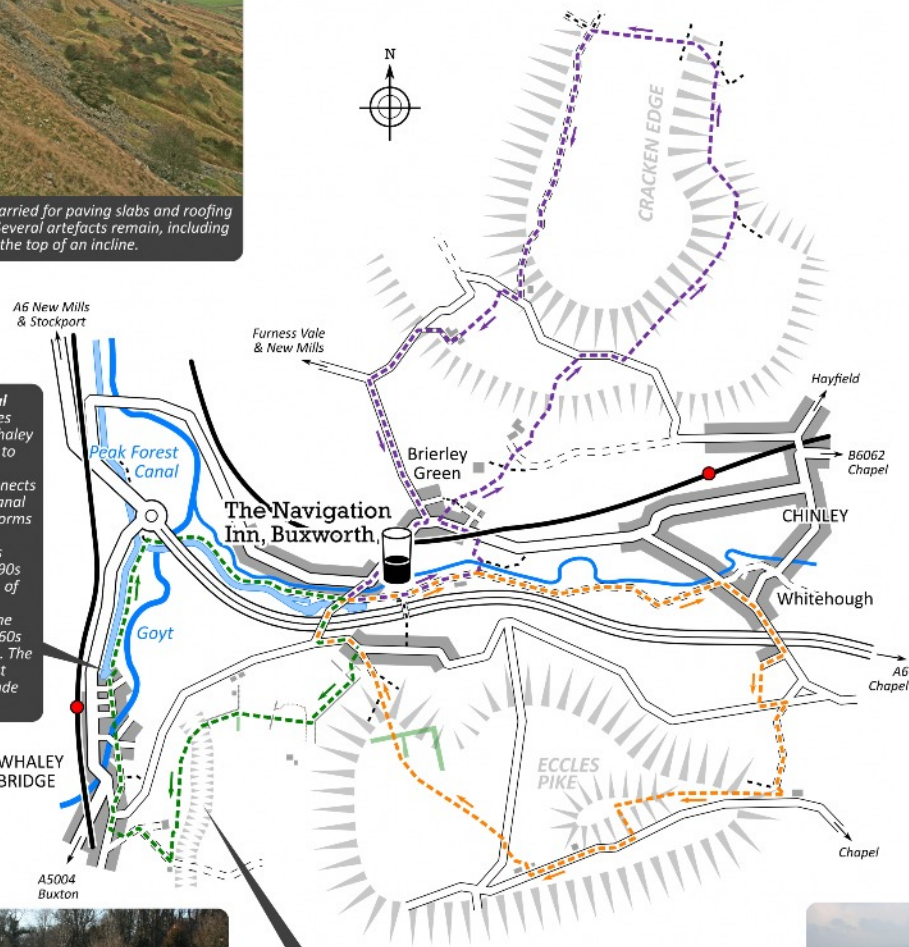




**Cracken Edge** was quarried for paving slabs and roofing tiles until the 1930s. Several artefacts remain, including the winding house at the top of an incline.



The **Peak Forest Canal** runs for about 15 miles from its termini at Whaley Bridge and Buxworth to the Ashton Canal in Dukinfield. It also connects to the Macclesfield Canal at Marple, and thus forms part of the famous 'Cheshire Ring'. It was constructed in the 1790s under the supervision of engineer Benjamin Outram. It had become impassable by the 1960s but reopened in 1974. The warehouse building at Whaley Basin is a Grade II\* listed building.



The **Peak Forest Tramway**, opened 1796, runs from Bugsworth Basin to Dove Holes and retains many original features, such as these stone sleepers.



At **Bugsworth Basin**, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, the Peak Forest Tramway met the Peak Forest Canal.

The **Roosdyche** is an enigmatic landform on the hillside above Whaley Bridge. A flat-bottomed valley some 750 metres long, it was once claimed as a Roman chariot course, but a study in the 1960s concluded that it was of natural glacial origin. More recent studies have tentatively suggested Iron Age occupation.



**Eccles Pike** is a well-known viewpoint. A topograph indicates landmarks visible from the summit.

# Three walks from The Navigation Inn Buxworth, Derbyshire



## Peak Forest Canal 2½ miles: Easy

Good views over Whaley Bridge and Toddbrook Reservoir on the outward journey, and an easy canalside return.

## Whitehough & Eccles Pike 3½ miles: Moderate

Starting out along the Peak Forest Tramway, returning via a climb to the elevated viewpoint of Eccles Pike.

## Cracken Edge 4½ miles: Moderate

The climb to the quarries of Cracken Edge is rewarded by a high-level promenade with industrial relics and fine views.

**THE NAVIGATION INN**  
Bugsworth Basin, Brookside, Buxworth  
High Peak, Derbyshire SK23 7NE  
Tel: 01663 732072  
Website: [www.navigationinn.co.uk](http://www.navigationinn.co.uk)

Jan and Roger welcome you to the Navigation Inn. Situated on Bugsworth Basin, a once-busy canal basin at the terminus of the Peak Forest Canal, this unique site lies in the heart of the stunning High Peak District and is popular with boaters, cyclists, families, walkers and their dogs – all of whom are very welcome at the Inn.

## Peak Forest Canal

**2¾ miles: Easy**

*May be muddy in places. Allow 2 hours.*

**1** From the door, facing the car park and canal basin, turn right to the road. **2** Turn left and cross the road bridge over the canal basin, and shortly afterwards a bridge over the A6. **3** Swing left into Western Lane. **4** Follow the road as it swings right then, when it bends left, turn into a drive on your right. **5** Turn immediately right onto a footpath beside a grit bin. **6** Head up the field beyond; officially the path goes through the middle of some overgrown allotments and over a stone step stile; if necessary, bypass these through a gap on the right. **7** When you reach the wall at the top, turn right and follow it, crossing another along the way, until the wall curves left under some telegraph lines. **8** Here, strike out right, through a gap in a barbed-wire fence and across the slope below the farm; once over the brow of the hill you will see a stone step stile in the far wall, left of a gateway. **9** Once over this stile, aim for the right-hand end of some trees opposite, well to the left of the buildings. **10** Beyond these trees, follow the wall. **11** Climb a step-stile over a wall and drop down and up as you cross the Roosdyche beyond. **12** Beyond a ladder stile, keep along the wall on your left. **13** Cross a second ladder stile, then ignore a stile into private gardens on the right. **14** When you reach a track opposite Whaley Bridge Cricket Club, turn right (downhill). This track becomes metalled and passes a house entrance with stone gateposts. **15** Just before a large stone building, follow a short walled and metalled path down the slope on the right. **16** Turn left at the end, past a tower-like building (a former colliery winding house). **17** At the bottom of Bings Road, turn right then immediately right again along the route of the former Cromford and High Peak Railway. **18** Cross the road at the bottom and a bridge over the River Goyt beyond and pass a car park to reach the canal basin. **19** Pass to the right of the wharf building and cross a footbridge over a spillway to join the canal towpath. **20** Follow the towpath under a modern bridge carrying the Tesco access road. **21** When you reach the canal junction, cross the footbridge and turn right to follow the Bugsworth Arm, shortly passing under the A6. **22** Follow the towpath to Bugsworth Basin and the Navigation Inn.

## Whitehough & Eccles Pike

**3½ miles: Moderate**

*One stiff climb to Eccles Pike but no major difficulties other than occasional mud. Allow 2½ hours.*

**1** From the door, facing the car park and canal, turn left, then bear left at the end of the car park to join the Peak Forest Tramway Trail. **2** Pass a tramway arch on your left, and some houses on your right, and ignore a footbridge on the left. **3** After ¼ mile, beyond an industrial site with a millpond, you reach a road. Turn right and walk uphill to the centre of Whitehough village. **4** At the road junction by the Old Hall,

turn right, uphill, and cross the A6. **5** Take the first right (Eccles Terrace) and at the end follow the footpath up a driveway to the left. When this swings right into the property, keep along the footpath ahead. **6** When you reach the road, turn left. **7** At a crossroads, take the track on the right, following it as far as a gateway, beyond which head left to the road. **8** Don't go through the gate into the road, but instead walk up the grassy ridge to the rocky summit of Eccles Pike. **9** From the top, drop off left to the road, then turn right. **10** Pass Top Eccles Farm then turn right into the next farm entrance, where a public footpath leads over a stile and up to and past a small disused quarry. The path passes behind the farm buildings and through a gate into a field, where you head half-right to a road. **11** Turn right and, after a few yards, leave the road via a stile on the left by a gate. **12** Do not follow the obvious green quarry track off to the left and uphill, instead passing under the power lines and then swinging left. **13** The path initially runs approximately parallel to the power lines then, beyond some oak trees bounded by a broken wall, turns right and heads firmly downhill. **14** Having passed through a belt of trees, head straight down the field beyond, parallel to the right-hand wall and aiming to the right of the small quarry at the bottom. **15** Beyond the quarry, go through a gate and follow the walled path and drive beyond to reach the road. **16** Turn left and follow the road to a T-junction, where you turn right to cross the A6 and return to the Navigation Inn.

## Cracken Edge

**4½ miles: Moderate**

*One stiff ascent and some rocky ground. Allow 3 hours.*

**1** From the door, facing the car park and canal, turn left, then bear left at the end of the car park to join the Peak Forest Tramway Trail. **2** Pass a tramway arch on your left, and some houses on your right, then leave the Trail via a footbridge over the stream on the left. **3** Turn left and follow the path as it curves up and away from the stream, ending at some steps leading up to a road. **4** Cross the road and turn left to pass under the railway bridge into Brierley Green. **5** Pass the Congregational Church and then turn sharp right into a footpath by a postbox. **6** Head for the far right-hand corner of the field beyond to reach a stile and gate. **7** Follow the right-hand edge of the next field, above a walled hollow way. **8** When the walled section ends, head across to the highest point of the field, to a stone stile to the right of a barn with triangular openings. **9** Cross the drive beyond and head over a stile along a grassed terrace below a house and garden. **10** Beyond the house and before a gate, turn left up stone-paved steps through the garden to a field gate. **11** Beyond the gate continue uphill, passing through two further field gates and then following a wall until you reach a road. **12** Turn right and walk downhill for a short distance to a stile and footpath sign on the left. **13** Take the obvious footpath, which leads initially along a bank of spoil and climbs gradually to the quarries of Cracken Edge. **14** Eventually the path passes above a winding house with the remains of its wheel and crosses a land-slipped area on a narrow path. **15** After a level

interlude followed by a slight rise, when the path starts to descend towards the isolated farmhouse of Whiterakes, look out for a bench by the path dedicated to one Shirley Fidler. **16** Immediately beyond this bench, leave the obvious path, heading obliquely left up the slope on an obscure path that heads towards an eroded gritstone outcrop. **17** Pick your way past the rocks to the top of the hill, then follow an obvious path beyond it, away from the edge and downhill to a stile. **18** Follow the wall beyond the stile until you reach a walled track, where you turn left. **19** Follow this walled track gradually downhill for ¼ mile until you reach the road. **20** Turn right and walk along the road for 100 yards or so then take a footpath on the left. **21** Walk down the hill and go through a gate into the farmyard of Hill Farm. Swing right between the buildings and exit to the road along the farm drive. **22** Turn left and follow the road downhill to a road junction, where you turn left. **23** Follow this road for ½ mile to emerge in Brierley Green. **24** Turn right and follow the road under the railway bridge. **24** Beyond the primary school, turn left and follow the road down to journey's end at the Navigation Inn.

### Why not make a weekend of it?



Come and stay with us and enjoy all three beautiful walks and take some time to see the delights and history of Bugsworth Canal Basin. We may even be able to arrange guided walks – please ask.

Book a night's bed, breakfast and an evening meal\* and enjoy £10 discount off room rates.

All our rooms are *en suite* and have tea and coffee making facilities and digital televisions. Free Wi-fi is available.

We have a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and serve good British pub food and a generous selection of real ales.

Pat Phoenix (Elsie Tanner) clearly fell in love with the area when she owned the pub, so what's stopping you?

**Book now!**

*\*Minimum of two courses per person required to be eligible for discount.*



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[www.walksfromthedoor.co.uk](http://www.walksfromthedoor.co.uk)