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 Marine Hall and Thornton Little Theatre

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WALKS AROUND WYRE & FYLDE

LANCASHIRE CHEESE WALK

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WALKS
AROUND
WYRE
— AND —
FYLDE

WALKS AROUND WYRE & FYLDE LANCASHIRE CHEESE WALK

Start Point

At the circular “Villa de Garstang” mosaic in Cherstanc Square, Garstang
Post Code: PR3 1EF • OS Grid Reference: SD 4915 4529

Distance / Time: 11 km (6.9 miles) • 3.5 – 4.5 hours

Maps: OS Landranger 102 (1:50000) or OS Explorer OL41 (1:25000)

Terrain:

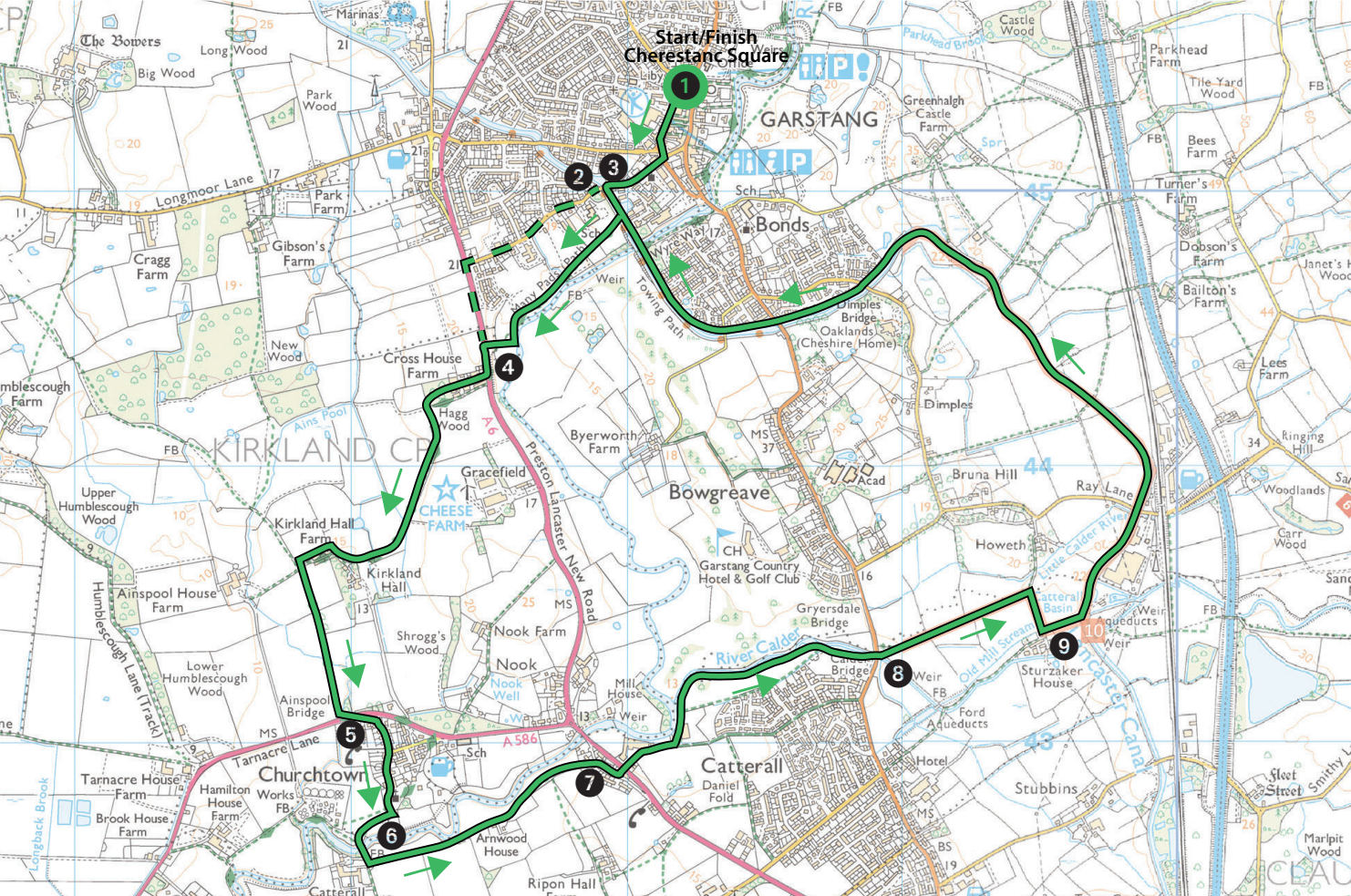
 Terrain Grade: **Easy**

The route follows roads, farm tracks, fields, footpaths and canal towpath. The terrain is largely flat with one steep embankment. There are stiles, gates and steps, and paths can be wet and muddy after rain. There may be animals in the fields and farm yards. Dogs should be kept on a short lead at all times. There are several busy road crossings where extreme care is required.

THIS WALK IS NOT SUITABLE FOR TRAMPER VEHICLES

About this walk

This walk mostly follows the path of the ‘Crumbly Lancashire Cheese Walk’, one of the Forest of Bowland (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) walking routes. The route meanders through the fields south of Garstang close to the impressive wind turbine of the Dewlay Cheese Centre, past the historic Kirkland Hall to the pretty village of Churchtown with its stone sundial and beautiful St Helens Church. It includes a short section of the rivers Wyre and Calder and a long and picturesque section of the Lancaster canal with fine views of the Bowland Fells and many opportunities for seeing wildlife and wild flowers in summer.



About this walk

1 SD 4915 4529 Stand on the “Villa de Garstang” mosaic facing the stone seat, turn to your right and walk to Park Hill road (10m). Turn right and follow the road, turning left at the first mini roundabout and right at the second (Church Street), until you reach the bridge over the canal.
2 SD 4891 4502 Go over the canal bridge and immediately turn right down onto the towpath. Go under the bridge and walk for about 100m along the towpath with the canal on your left to a small gate on the right next to a ‘finger post’ public footpath sign. Go through the gate and walk straight ahead, initially with a green fence on your right. Continue in roughly the same direction across several fields via kissing gates and cross a footbridge with a stile at either end. At this point there is a metal fence ahead bounding the building site, bear left, keeping the fence on your right, and walk between the river and the fence. Eventually you will be forced to turn sharp right, away from the river, in an alleyway between two fence lines leading to a stile. Cross the stile and climb the bank ahead to join the A6 via a gate at the top. Cross the road with care and turn left (South) following the A6 to Cross House Farm (100m).

3 SD 4848 4434 Go past the entrance to the farmhouse then turn immediately right onto a farm track. Follow this for 230m past the farm buildings, through several gates, to a left turn. Continue left following the track for 650m past the large wind turbine to where the track turns sharp left, with a field gate ahead.

4 SD 4819 4380 Go through the gate and follow the footpath markers, initially down the left side of the field then right, across the field, to a stile. Go over the stile, through the gate beyond it and follow the track. This bends to the right in front of some buildings then continues towards the farmhouse (Kirkland Hall Farm). Turn left in front of the farmhouse and walk through the farmyard turning left at the end of the farm buildings. Follow the track for a further 550m (600 yards) to the A586.

5 SD 4796 4308 PCross the A586 and turn left then almost immediately right into Ainspool Lane. Walk through to Churchtown village square, bearing right at the stone ‘cross’ (actually a sundial), towards St Helen’s church. Bear right into the church car park just before the church. Continue round the church with the main graveyard to your left, through the small graveyard at the rear to a gate leading to a path across the field beyond.

6 SD 4814 4272 Continue along the path over the footbridge crossing the river Wyre and go over a stile beside a farm lane. Follow this lane left for a few metres then turn left over a wooden stile (or through the stone ‘squeeze stile’) then through the right hand of the two field gates onto a farm track.

7 SD 4806 4255 Follow this track for 920m (0.6 miles) over some stiles to a gate onto the Old Lancaster Road. Turn right and follow the road for 110m (120 yards) turning left beside house number 33 (‘West View’) to reach the A6 again. Cross the A6 at this point and proceed down Tan Yard Road opposite. Continue past the Collinson industrial site and on past an old red brick house to a path on the left which is bordered by green metal fencing (look for small yellow footpath arrows). Follow this path for 950m (0.6 miles) along the rear of Collinsons. Continue along the left side of some playing fields to reach the B6430 at Calder Bridge.

8 SD 4990 4330 Cross the B6430 and go over the bridge then immediately right over two stiles. Walk along the left hand edge of the fields beyond, through several ‘squeeze’ stiles, to join a lane. Turn right and follow the lane for 300m (330 yards) turning left in front of the farm to the bridge over the canal.

9 SD 5065 4344 At the bridge join the canal towpath, via the small gate on the right, and follow this with the canal on your right, for 3.4 km (2.1 miles) to reach bridge number 62 where you first joined the canal. Go under the bridge and turn immediately left to join the footpath on Kepple Lane. Go over the bridge and return to Cherstanc Square via Church Street and Park Hill Road.