

museums | brows | pubs | churches | bridges

# A taste of Stockport

## town centre heritage trail



# Welcome to Stockport

## Where it all began

To the people who live in, work or visit Stockport, it is a town of great character. Much of this derives from its links with the past, which are preserved in its medieval street patterns, its bustling market and its churches. Even its name meaning 'settlement at the marketplace' denotes these historic origins.

To wander around the town is to experience something of this history. Alongside modern architecture, there are fine examples of Victorian, Regency, Georgian and Tudor buildings and traces of activity dating back to the 14th century and earlier. Whilst other towns have experienced large-scale clearance and re-development, much of the historic fabric of Stockport's centre has survived.

This Town Centre Heritage Trail spans 800 years of Stockport's history and gives the reader - whether a visitor, a historian, a resident or a schoolchild - a taste of some of the town's most interesting and unusual sites.

## What you'll see

The trail covers 36 sites of historic or social significance; including pubs, bridges, statues, museums and brows (a local term meaning a steep, sometimes cobbled hill). An additional 8 places of interest, beyond the town centre, (but within easy walking distance) are described and marked on a separate map.

Starting at the Tourist Information Centre in the Market Place, the Town Centre Heritage Trail takes approximately 90 minutes, covers some 4 kilometres (2 miles) and requires 3,720 footsteps!

## Some food for thought

In order to help you stay on the trail or to avoid needless road-crossing; viewing points are shown for those places (particularly some of the brows) which are slightly off the main route. If you are particularly interested, you may of course, deviate from this.

A number of locations on the trail have facilities to purchase food and drink. We have marked those where refreshments are provided.

## Mind how you go

The trail follows a logical sequence with minimal road-crossing or 'doubling-back'. Please be mindful of traffic and cross at all the pedestrian crossings and junctions indicated. If you run out time, just come and visit Stockport town centre again!

## Access for disabled visitors

As Stockport town centre is hilly, we suggest that people with mobility difficulties or who use a wheelchair undertake the trail in two separate parts; one on the Market Place level and the other on the Underbanks level. These can be linked by public lifts in the Courts Shopping Centre in Castle Yard if you wish.

**Route 1** - Parking at Churchgate Car Park, (to the rear of St. Mary's Church) it is possible to visit the Tourist Information Centre, Staircase House, Stockport Story Museum (when open), view down Millgate and up to see St. Mary's Church, the Churchyard and the Pack Horse. Then to Castle Yard, the Produce Hall, the Market Hall, the Baker's Vaults, view down Bridge Street Brow, the Bank of Stockport, St. Petergate bridge and views below.

**Route 2** - Parking at Shopmobility Stockport in Merseyway Car Park, use the lift to ground level onto Chestergate. The trail includes the Air Raid Shelters, Three Shires, White Lion, Underbank Hall, Queen's Head, St. Petersgate Bridge, Winter's, Royal Oak Yard, Mealhouse Brow, Rostron Brow, Cooper's Brow and Robinson's Brewery.

## Call in and visit us

Stockport Tourist Information Centre  
Staircase House, 30 Market Place  
Stockport SK1 1ES  
Tel 0161 474 4444 Fax 0161 429 6348  
Email [tourist.information@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:tourist.information@stockport.gov.uk)  
Website [www.stockport.gov.uk/TIC](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/TIC)

Opening hours - Monday to Thursday and Saturday 9.30am-5pm  
Friday 9.30am-4.30pm (from August 2005) Sunday 1pm-5pm

Friendly and professional staff offer a range of services including -

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- Souvenirs, maps, guide books
- Accommodation bookings
- Local and national holiday information
- Local and national events information
- Information on visitor attractions, parks, canals, walks, shopping, eating and drinking
- Local transport timetables
- Garrick Theatre tickets
- Tickets for some local and regional events

For a free copy of the  
Stockport Heritage Trail please call

**0161 474 4444**

[www.stockport.gov.uk/heritagetrail](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/heritagetrail)

# Stockport Town Centre Heritage Trail | Approx 90 minutes walk | 4km (2miles)

