

# Walk 3

# Bromborough & Eastham



A circular walk linking Dibbinsdale Local Nature Reserve with Eastham Country Park. This route will improve after December 1998 when a new section of cycleway should be completed.

**Start:** Dibbinsdale Local Nature Reserve Car Park, off Spital Road, Bromborough. (Or from Bromborough Rake Station, see below)

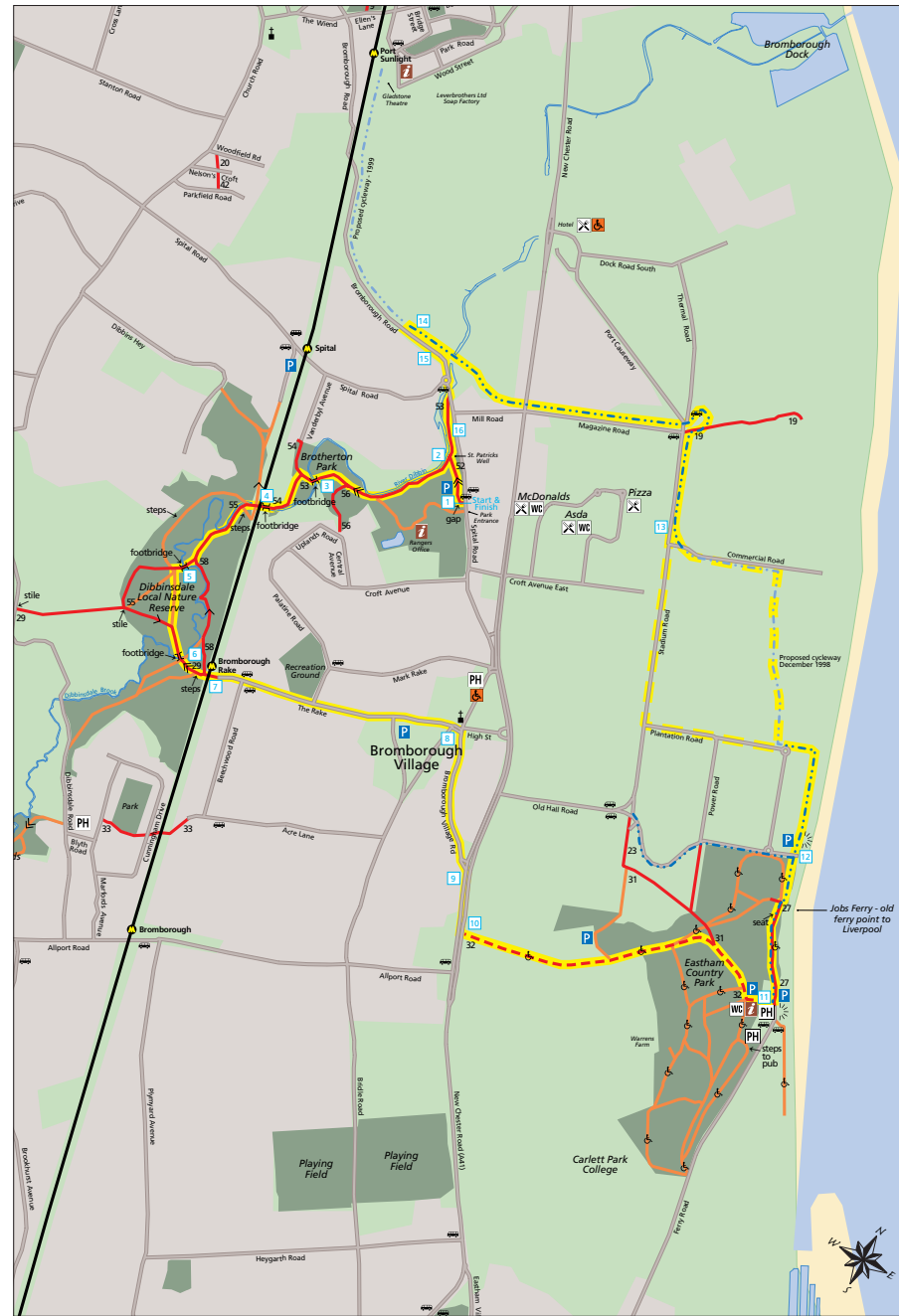
**Distance:** 5½ miles (approximately 2½ hours)

**Parking:** Dibbinsdale Local Nature Reserve Car Park, off Spital Road, Bromborough

**Buses/Trains:** Buses stop on Spital Road near to the car park entrance. The nearest train station is Bromborough Rake Station, from here start the instructions at [7].

- [1] From the car park take the footpath signposted to Spital, which is near to the entrance on the right.
- [2] Just after the post pointing to St. Patricks Well, turn left, the River Dibbin is on your right. Keep straight ahead.  
*Legend says that the well was blessed by St. Patrick during a visit to the area in 432 AD and it is reputed that the water has healing properties for the eyes. Putting this theory to the test however, is not recommended!*
- [3] Cross a footbridge. There is a fork just after it, turn left.
- [4] Cross another footbridge and follow the path under the railway bridge. Keep to the main path and continue straight on with the river on your right.
- [5] Continue straight on ignoring the path branching off to the left. Pass over another bridge, bear left and continue straight on. After 400 metres bear left again and you will reach a footbridge.
- [6] Head straight on, up a flight of steep steps and across the railway bridge.
- [7] From the railway station head straight on up the road passing a set of seven shops on your left. Carry straight on across the green, passing a playing field on your left. Head straight on at the roundabout and into Bromborough Village.

*Just before the T-junction, Bromborough Church (completed in 1864) is on your left, this church replaced a smaller one dating from 1829, but prior to this there was a Saxon church and a Saxon preaching cross still remains. Bromborough Cross, at the T-junction, is one of the few surviving market crosses in the country. The base and steps are probably late 13th century and the top was added in 1874.*



- [8] After the Cross at the road junction turn right (signposted to the Police Station)
- [9] At the busy A41 New Chester Road turn right along it for a short distance. By the Dresden Hotel cross the road with care. The path you need to take is just after the Magnet showroom.
- [10] Head through the gap next to the white barrier and along this tree lined path with playing fields to your right. Keep straight on at the yellow and black barrier and head down the path, past the main car park, to the river.  
*The Rangers Office is opposite the car park, where further information about Eastham Country Park is available. At the bottom of the road to the right there are two pubs should you require refreshments.*
- [11] At the river turn left through the riverside car park and at the far end take the footpath and cycleway along the river front.
- [12] The cycleway passes a small riverside car park then turns left to meet a small roundabout. At this roundabout turn right if the cycleway has been built, then left to lead to Stadium Road.  
  
If the cycleway has not yet been built, continue straight on at this roundabout. At the T-junction turn right along Stadium Road.
- [13] At the end of Stadium Road, on the right hand side, the cycleway runs alongside the road for a short distance. Where Stadium Road joins Port Causeway and Thermal Road follow the reddish coloured path which leads down under a bridge.  
*This cycleway through the rock cutting was an old railway line, used to transport products to and from Port Sunlight Soap Works and the river.*
- [14] When the cycleway has run parallel with the road for 150 metres, take the exit to the left.  
*There are plans to continue the cycleway to Port Sunlight.*
- [15] Turn left along the road down the hill and head straight on at the roundabout. Immediately after the road bridge over the river cross by the bus stop and take the path which leads back into Dibbinsdale LNR. (If you arrived by train follow the path round keeping the River Dibbin on you right and go to [3]).
- [16] Take the left fork past St. Patricks Well, across a stone slab bridge and left, back up to the car park.

