



WALK 3 The River Birket, Leasowe Lighthouse & the Coast

This walk starts at a coastal car park and goes inland to the River Birket Cycleway. Although the route includes some urban areas, it is still an excellent circular walk along a river bank and then returning along the North Wirral Coast, part sea wall and part sand dunes.

Start: North Wirral Coastal Park/Gunsite car park and picnic area, Green Lane off the A554, Wallasey. *The car park is called the gunsite picnic area because anti-aircraft guns were based there during the war.*

or Leasowe Railway Station at point 6a.

Distance: 5 miles. 2 - 5 hours.

Parking: North Wirral Coastal Park car park, Green Lane off the A554. From junction 1 of the M53, take the A544 towards New Brighton, after the exit to Wallasey (A551) turn next left at the North Wirral Coastal Park sign.

Buses and Trains: Numerous services along Leasowe Road at point 2 **or** if starting at Leasowe Railway Station is about 300m from point 6a.

1 From the Gunsite car park, walk back along Green Lane which is the track you entered by. Turn first right at the metal gate into Telegraph Lane and along the bridleway. *On the bridleway there are old market gardens to the right and the old willow trees support many birds.*

2 At the main road cross over and take the footpath to the right of the Links View garage across the playing fields. *In the distance you can see Bidston Hill Observatory.*

3 When you reach the housing estate, turn right and follow the road round. At Grant Road turn right then first left into Scoresby Road and head towards the grey metal fence. *This fence borders a tributary of the River Birket.*

4 Keep walking along the edge of the housing estate following the metal fence to your left.

5 Eventually at the school you will see the entrance to the River Birket cycleway, turn right along it, then cross the river at the bridge. Keep walking along the cycleway with the river on your right until you reach the main road, Reeds Lane.

5a If returning to Leasowe Railway Station, turn left along Reeds Lane to the trains.

6 Cross straight over Reeds Lane and continue along the cycleway with the river and the confectionery factories on your left.

6a If starting the walk from Leasowe Railway Station, walk along Reeds Lane passing Reedville Grove on your left and then the River bridge. Turn left onto the cycleway with the river on your left.

7 At the main road, Pasture Road, cross straight over to the continuation of the cycle route and walk.

8 Follow the cycleway along the River Birket and at the road turn left to Leasowe Lighthouse. *The lighthouse has occasional opening times on some Sunday afternoons.*

9 From the Lighthouse go through the car park on the right and up onto the embankment and sea wall. Turn right along the North Wirral Coastline, with all the spectacular views on offer.

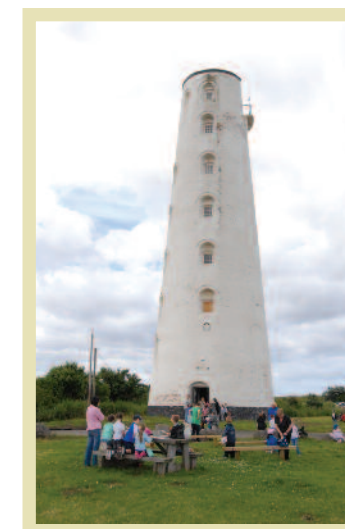
9a After about 500m on your right, there is a kiosk and toilets in the car park adjacent to the sharp bend where Pasture Road from Moreton becomes Leasowe Road towards Wallasey.

10 Continue along the embankment past Leasowe Castle Hotel, a red brick and white building. *The castle was built in 1593 by Fernando, the fifth earl of Derby, who was also*

the Mayor of Liverpool. The entrance door was originally five foot above the ground as the area was prone to flooding. The purpose of the eight sided tower was to view the famous Wallasey Races, forerunner of the Derby Race.

11 Shortly after the Golf Club House is a sign at the start of some wooden steps that says: 'no vehicles, horses or cycles'. Take this path that runs parallel to the embankment and onto the sand dunes. Continue down the log steps and bear right across the short boardwalk. Go through the gate and head diagonally across the field back to the car park.























If you started the walk at point 2 from the bus stop, or point 6a from the train, continue the walk from point to return you to your chosen finish point 1.



Leasowe lighthouse

WALK 3 The River Birket, Leasowe Lighthouse & the Coast map

Key

-  Suggested walk route
- Public Rights of Way:
 -  Footpath
 -  Bridleway
 -  Byway
- Permissive Routes:
 -  Footpath
 -  Bridleway
 -  Cyclepath
- FP1** Public rights of way number
-  Railway station
-  Residential
-  Country parks/public open spaces
-  Rivers/streams
-  Accessible ponds
-  Bus stops
-  Car park
-  Public houses
-  Cafe
-  Toilets
-  Kiosk
-  Viewpoint
-  Information
-  Picnic site
-  Church

