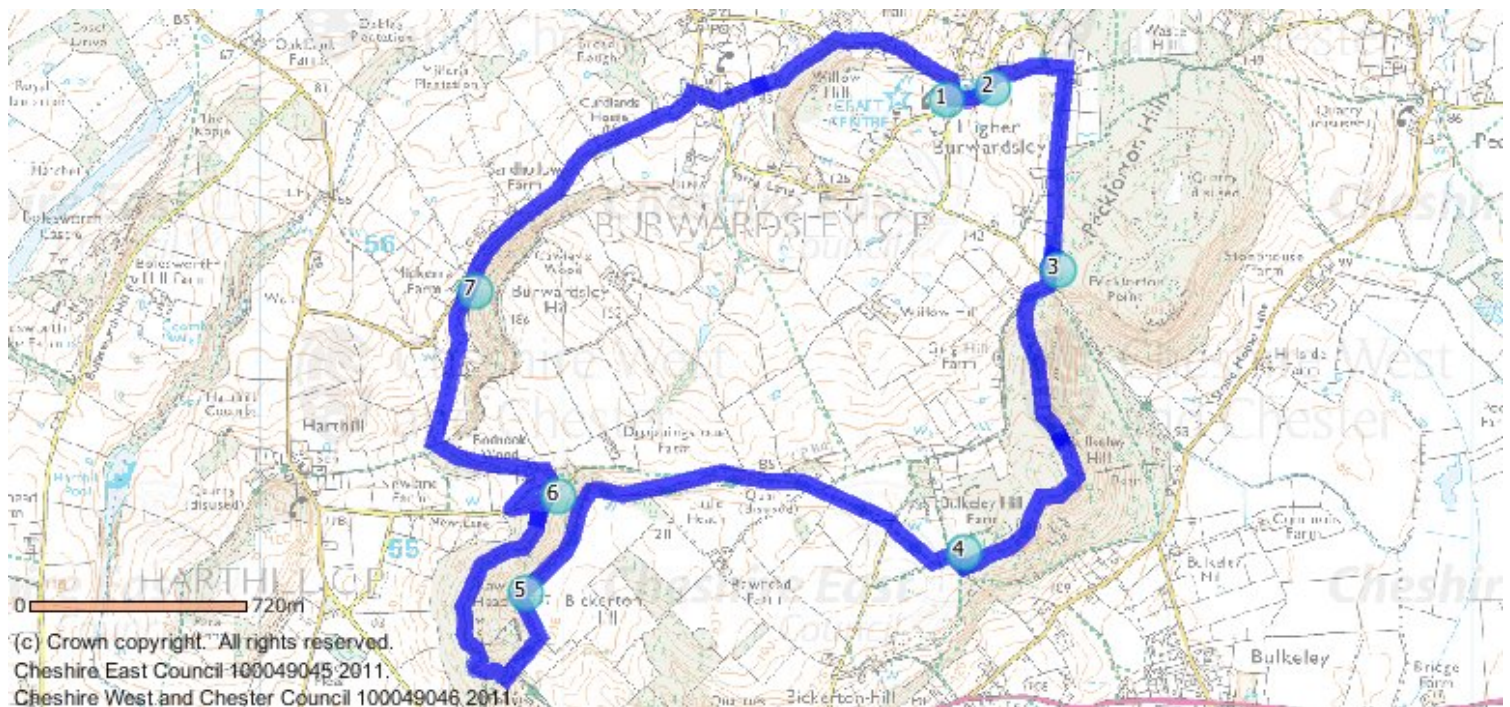


Raw Head

A circular route from Burwardsley, starting at the Candle Workshops (Cheshire Workshops) through to Raw Head and back to Burwardsley.

Grade	Moderate
Distance	9km/5.5miles
Time	3-4 hours
Start	Candle Workshops on Barracks Lane. Car parking also available here.
Map	OS Explorer 257
Terrain	Terrain A mixture of quiet lanes and public rights of way. Moderately strenuous, with some steep climbs followed by level sections with good views. Note: Take care on the last road section and by The Pheasant Inn.
Barriers	10 stiles, 3 kissing gates.
Toilets	Candle Workshop and several PHs in area, including Pheasant Inn on Barracks Lane.
Contact	Cheshire West and Chester Council, 0300 123 8 123



Route Details

Rugged sandstone outcrops, lofty trees and panoramic views both east and west across a patchwork landscape, combine to create an invigorating walk.

No visit to Cheshire would be complete without climbing Raw Head, the highest point of the Sandstone Trail at 227m.

The walk starts in Burwardsley, an attractive village nestling at the foot of Willow Hall and the sandstone ridge.

Much of this area is still owned by large estates. Pheasants roam the woodlands, which are managed for timber as well as pheasant rearing, but are still home to a wide variety of wildlife. Listen out for wrens, goldcrests and other small birds.

The woods on Bulkeley Hill have a magical atmosphere, with delicate silver birch and majestic sweet chestnut twisting high up into the canopy.

Natural stone outcrops around Raw Head provide welcome stops to admire the view, often framed by pine trees.

Directions

- 1 Turn left out of the car park, fork right immediately and go straight over the staggered crossroads, signed "No-through Road."
2. Carry on up the hill where you join the Sandstone Trail. Turn right over the stile and follow the path along the field edge and the side of the woodland.
3. Turn left and immediately right onto a track opposite the lodge, waymarked to Bulkeley Hill. Carry on along the Sandstone Trail, turning left up some steps and around the edge of the hill where there are tremendous views through the trees.
4. The path leaves the wood via a kissing gate and is waymarked Raw Head & Larkton Hill. Bear right across the field, cross Coppermine Lane and follow the track straight ahead. Go straight on down and bear left through a kissing gate. Follow the path to the trig point (white block), enjoying the views along the way.
5. Carry on past the view point and continue down some sandstone steps. Turn right down quite a steep path and right again onto a forestry track.
6. At the end of the track turn left down the hill and first right up a sandy track. Turn left over a stile just before the corner and cross the field towards the edge of Bodnick Wood. Go through the wood round the hill and cross one stile, and another next to it, bearing right across the field. Cross another stile and follow the path along the edge of the field.
7. Turn right up the road, and right up the lane past the church. Follow the road around to the left and turn right up the hill back to the Candle Workshops.