

Start/End	Near Fenn's Cottage – accessed via a track to the left off the road from the Waggoners Inn towards Fenns Bank (approximately 1.5 miles from the Waggoners). Parking is about 50 metres beyond the cottage next to a wood store and cutting shed. Please do not block gateways. Please keep your dogs on a lead near the woodland at all times.
Grid reference	SJ 50763 38193
Distance	Approximately 3.5 miles
Time	Around 1.5 hours
Terrain	Mostly tracks which can be muddy at times



From the car parking area proceed along a clear grassy track towards the Moss, with a private conifer wood to your left and grazing land on your right. After about 300 metres you reach a crossroads of tracks and a Moss notice board. Turn right here and follow path along the edge of woodland keeping grazing to your right.

After about half a mile you will see a large lake on your right and the path joins the access track onto the Moss. Continue straight on and soon a second lake can be seen to your right and the blue clad aluminium works is visible. Follow the track round to the left until you reach The Conery.

At the crossing of paths, go straight ahead along the track with horse paddocks to both left and right. Shortly the land to your right becomes coniferous woodland and you will approach Moss Farm where you turn left

along a track. Follow this for about a quarter of a mile. At an access gate to track leading to Lodge Farm take a footpath to your right (this path is sometimes a little overgrown at the start) which follows the edge of the woodland and has an open ditch to the left.

Meander along the path for about a quarter of a mile (ignore the grassy walkway with no handrail), then go over two timber walkways with handrails to your left which cross the ditch. After crossing second walkway you need to turn immediately to the right and follow the path along the ditch line for about 400 yards until you reach a gateway.

Turn left after going through the gate and walk along the path with woodland to your right. Shortly you'll pass Lodge Farm on your left and the path goes through an area of bracken leading to a pedestrian gate. After going through this gate you pass through quite dense coniferous woodland before coming out onto the main Moss access track (the old railway).

This railway was laid by the Oswestry, Ellesmere and Whitchurch Railway Company, the lines supported by layers of heather, bundles of birch faggots, timbers and then sand to prevent them from sinking into the peat. Opened in 1863, the line became part of the Cambrian Railway Co. in 1864, and Great Western in 1922. It was closed by Dr Beeching in 1963.

Go straight on at this point crossing the old railway with woodland to your left and the expanses of Whixall Moss to your right. Continue for approximately half a mile to return to the starting point.



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