

Chellow Dene Beck and Reservoirs

This walk starts at Chellow Dene wetlands, which were constructed in 2005. They consist of a series of ponds and reed beds that act together to remove sediment and impurities from the water before returning it to the beck further downstream. The walk then circles the Chellow Dene reservoirs, which were built in the mid-19th century to provide a stable water supply for the people of Bradford.

Length: 6.3km.

Terrain: Easy, with two short climbs.

Starting point: Entrance to Chellow Dene Wetlands at the bend in Ings Way, BD8 0LU. GR134366.

Parking: Park courteously in Ings Way.

Bus: Buses from Bradford along Thornton Road (607, 615, 696, 697, 698). Get off at Olive Grove. Cross the road, walk up Olive Grove and at the top cross over into Ings Way.

1. After entering the wetlands follow the path with Chellow Dene Beck on your right. Ignore the first footbridge on the right, and keep forward to cross the river at a second footbridge. Turn left and follow the path with the beck on your left. Eventually, cross the beck by stepping stones and follow the path as it rises uphill and emerges onto a road. Turn right and walk up to Allerton Road. Turn right and carefully cross the road using the pedestrian central refuge island.
2. Go over the stile by the gate and follow the path which runs along the right side of the field, with the beck on your right. When you reach the reservoir, go right through the stile and turn left to walk along the side of



Above: Chellow Dene Beck.

Opposite page: Two views of the reservoir.

the reservoir. At the end of the first reservoir follow the main path left as it makes a short steep ascent to the second reservoir. Keep following the path along the side of the reservoir.

3. When you reach the end of the second reservoir keep forward, ignoring steps on the left and right, until you come to a broad path going back on the right, just before the car park. From here you follow this path through woodland all the way above both reservoirs, keeping as close as possible to the golf course on the left. Sometimes the path divides but it always meets up again.
4. When you reach the steps down to the path between the two reservoirs, ignore these and keep forward through the woodland. Eventually the path comes down to emerge near the end of the lower reservoir. Turn left and at the end turn right to cross the edge of the reservoir. At the end, go through the stile, turn left, and retrace your steps to the beginning.

