

Tips and advice for charity fundraising using the GM Ringway trail

Thank you for contacting us about your idea of using the GM Ringway trail to raise funds for your charity. We would be very happy to see this go ahead and have already seen several groups, families and individuals use the trail for charity fundraising.

Now that our Heritage Fund-supported implementation is complete, our project is managed on a volunteer basis (through the GM Ringway Friends group). As a result, we cannot offer a great deal of active support for your fundraiser. However, we have compiled some notes to guide those wishing to use the GM Ringway for fundraising.

General points

- A single 'relay' walk event, where groups walk each stage of the trail consecutively, could be tricky to organise and manage as the overall trail is so long (200 miles). You would therefore have to have people walking at night over a long weekend and would probably need on-the-ground support facilities. If you wish to organise such an event, it might be worth contacting one of the following organisations, which are experienced in supporting charity fundraising walks:
 - XNRG (<https://www.xnrg.co.uk/charity#>)
 - Action Challenge (<https://www.actionchallenge.com/charities/>)
 - Large Outdoors (<https://www.largeoutdoors.com/charity-challenges>).
- Easier options might involve one or more of the following:
 - having different groups select one stage of the trail, with all groups walking their trail stages simultaneously over one weekend,
 - organising a series of fundraising walks covering the whole trail over a longer period,
 - offering one or two organised events where people can join a guided walk, and/or
 - allowing supporters to walk parts of the GM Ringway independently using the resources outlined below.
- General tips on organising walks for fundraising can be found at the following sites:
 - <https://www.ideasfundraising.co.uk/organise-charity-walk-run.html> and
 - <https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/charity-walk>.
- All details needed for either group walks or self-guided walks along the trail can be found on the [GM Ringway website](#), as explained in the following notes.

Resources available via the website

- General instructions for walking the trail can be found in the [‘Using the Trail’ section](#). Simply click one of the green bars on the left and then select one of the grey bars on the right to read more:

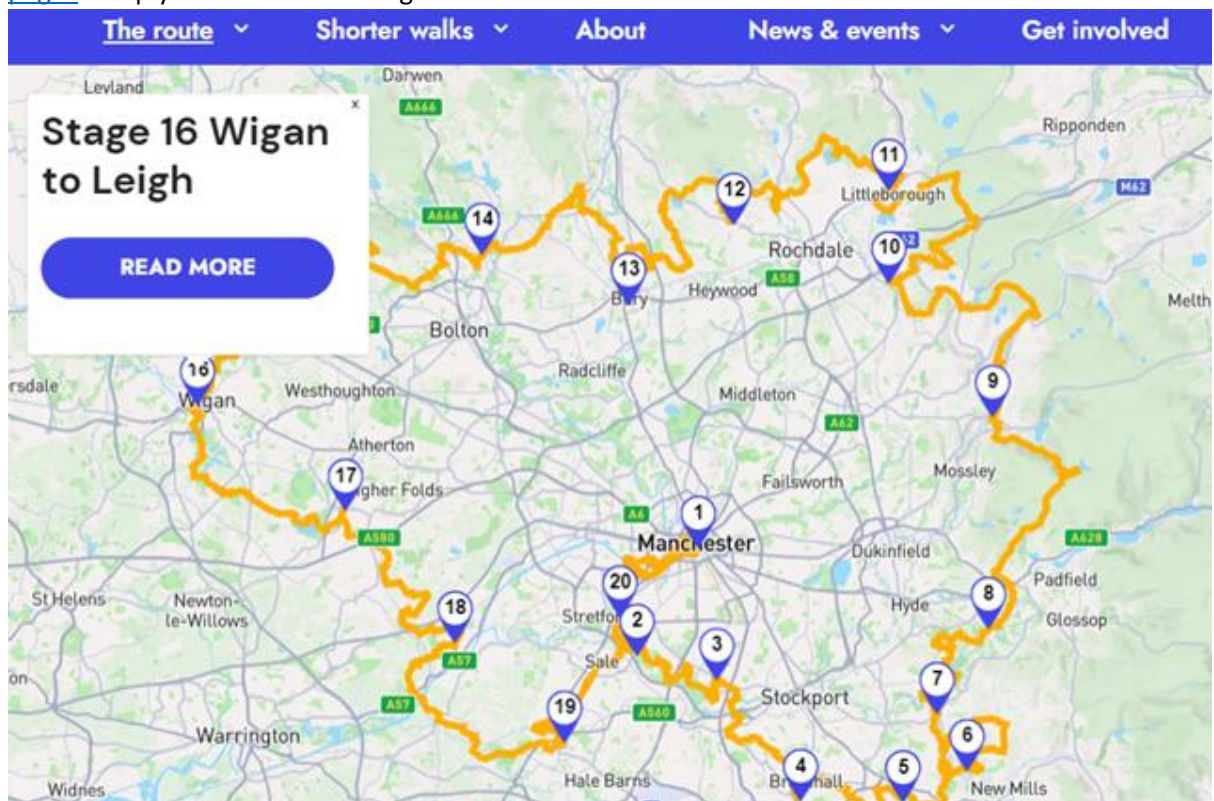
Using the trail

The GM Ringway – Greater Manchester’s walking trail – is a resource for all of the city-region’s residents and visitors. Here, we provide all the information you need to walk or wheel the trail. If you have any other questions, feel free to [get in touch](#) and we’ll do our best to help.

How the trail works
Walking the trail independently
Participating in a guided walk
Following a shorter or step-free walk
Getting to and from the trail
Food, drink, accommodation and attractions
Who is the trail suitable for?
Accessibility
Safety
Codes and guidelines
Need to report a problem with the trail condition?

The southern, eastern, northern and western sections	+
What are the trail stages?	+
Where does the trail start and end?	+
Can I walk the trail in either direction?	+

- The routes and specific information for each stage of the trail can be found on the [‘Routes’ pages](#). Simply click one of the stage numbers for details of that route:



- There is also a set of ten shorter walks, including five step-free routes, which would be an attractive option for including those unable to complete a full 7 to 13-mile stage. See our [‘Shorter walks’ page](#).

- Each of the individual route pages (for both the trail stages and shorter walks) includes links (below the map) to two resources for following the trail: the Plotaroute map and the Go Jauntly app, as shown below for Stage 7.

The image is a composite showing a photograph of a stone bridge over a stream, a blue banner with the text "Stage 7 Marple to Broadbottom", a map of the route, and a mobile app interface for the route. The app interface includes a summary of the route and a list of navigation options.

Stage 7 Marple to Broadbottom

Est time: 5 hours 20 minutes
Distance: 8.9 miles / 14.3 km
Ascent: 392 metres
Grade: Moderate
Public transport: Train
Facilities: Toilet | Pub | Cafe

GO JAUNTLY APP & PDF LINK
PLOTAROUTE MAP
PLACES TO VISIT

Overview
Map & directions
Terrain
Accessibility and facilities
Getting there
Detours and trail updates

- On the [Plotaroute website](#) and app, the route maps can be followed on a phone browser. On the user-friendly [Go Jauntly app](#), meanwhile, a series of photographs and words guide walkers through each of the GM Ringway walks.
- Each of the route pages also includes detailed information needed for either self-guided walkers or walk leaders. These can be viewed by clicking one of the grey tabs to the right ('Overview' etc.) We would especially recommend reading:
 - the 'Getting there' section, which gives public transport options and ticketing options, plus recommendations for parking
 - the 'Detours and trail updates' section, which shows any temporary route closures'
 - the 'Terrain' and the 'Accessibility and facilities' sections, which are useful for assessing the grade of the walk in advance and identifying amenities along the way such as cafés and toilets.

- We would advise that whoever is leading a particular walk does a test walk of their stage before leading it, especially if it's one of the tougher sections.
- The Go Jauntly app also enables people to sign up people for a challenge. With the main '[GM Ringway Challenge](#)', users can check off each stage of the trail as they walk it, aiming to complete all 20 stages; the easier '[GM Ringway Explorer](#)' challenge allows people to check off five of the ten shorter walks. In each case, they receive an online badge at the end. These options might not be so suitable for a larger multi-group charity challenge, however as the Go Jauntly challenges are aimed at individuals.
- If you share details of your charity walk on social media, please tag us using the #GMRingway tag and/or our user name @GMRingway (for X/Twitter, Facebook and Instagram). Our social media volunteers will then do their best to reshare details to our networks. Please also let us know if are planning any PR. We will be happy to provide a quote to be used in a press release, for example.
- We also have plenty of nice photographs of the GM Ringway trail that can be used for publicity. Feel free to download and use a selection of some of the best ones from this Google Photos album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/uTPa5xrvj7CDwBf17>.
- Note that all walks are undertaken at your own risk, as per the [GM Ringway terms and conditions](#).

We hope this is helpful but do let us know if you require any further support.

Kind regards

Friends of the GM Ringway

GM Ringway - Greater Manchester's Walking Trail

A project of CPRE Lancashire, Liverpool City Region and Greater Manchester and The Ramblers (Greater Manchester & High Peak Area)

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