

South Walk

Circling Potteric Carr (winter)

Explore our wealth of wildlife corridors and urban green spaces in the area around Potteric Carr nature reserve. Winter is an ideal time to try this walk, as you're likely to catch some breath-taking starling murmurations as dusk approaches.

1 Turn left out of Manor Farm car park onto Cammidge Way, then take the left-hand tarmacked footpath. The woodland on the left is home to a wealth of wildlife; listen out for nuthatches and great spotted woodpeckers calling from the canopy, and fungi such as shaggy inkcaps fringe the floor into November.

2 Turn left onto Stayers Road, then turn right onto Sceptre Avenue and follow the track as it turns into a bridleway winding through scrubland dotted with trees. The bridleway passes through an underpass, then turn left at Carr Lane and continue along the path signposted 'Doncaster Greenway.' Either follow the main path or explore the meadow paths on your left - in spring these are absolutely stunning and bursting with colour.

3 Continue along the path until you reach a residential area on both sides. At Short Lane, turn left and then at the end turn right along the tarmac path under the bridge. There are several lakes and ponds nearby, so look out for distinctive groups of pink-footed geese or winter flocks of redwings and fieldfares flying overhead in search of food.

4 When you reach the lakeside, go left and follow the tarmac path as far as Carolina Way. Turn left and follow the road round, and then

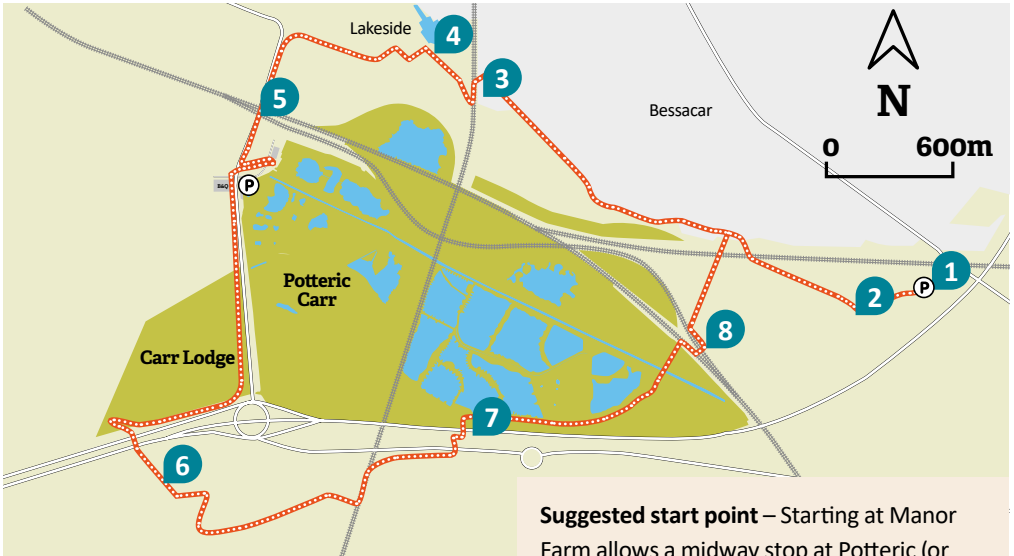
left again at White Rose Way. You'll find Potteric Carr nature reserve after the bridge over the railway, where you can refuel at our café and enjoy views over the reedbeds.

5 Nicely warmed, head back to White Rose Way. Cross over to the path via the pelican crossings and turn left, following the downward slope parallel to the road. The wet grasslands of Carr Lodge lie to the right. Flocks of redwings, thrushes and ducks may be seen from the viewing screen accessible by a woodland path.

6 Follow the main path skirting the edge of Carr Lodge until the track junction, then go left over the M18 flyover. Look out for overwintering wildfowl in the lakes as you pass; great crested grebes, tufted ducks, little grebes and more are often spotted here. Take a right just after Annabel's, following the tarmac path around the long lake and over the bridge by the warehouses.

You can take a detour to Parson's Carr by turning right just before the railway bridge and following the path past Mombrick Wood.

7 Follow the hardcore path to the left as it curves towards the roads, passing under the Great Yorkshire Way and then under the M18 onto the bridleway. Huxterwell Marsh first on



your left and then Rossington Carr Fields on the right are both fantastic spaces for wetland wildlife, with the chance to see a marsh harrier wheeling overhead or hear the boom of a bittern.

8 Go over a small green bridge and through a wooded area to cross a much larger green bridge. Continue along the path until you have safely crossed the railway. Turn right onto Carr Lane, then right again to reach the underpass from the beginning of the route. Retrace your steps from here along the bridleway to return to the car park.



Suggested start point – Starting at Manor Farm allows a midway stop at Potteric (or you can start at Potteric Carr.)

Parking – Cammidge Way (Manor Farm) car park (24 hour) or Potteric Carr car park. The main car park locked at 5pm, use overflow if staying later.

Public transport – Buses run from Doncaster Station to the bus stop at Bawtry Road/ Plumpton Park, just a few minutes' walk from Manor Farm.

Length – 7.5 miles/12 km



Dogs allowed although they can't be brought into Potteric Carr's visitor centre, café or reserve.

Other useful info: You'll find a great café and accessible toilets at Potteric Carr Nature Reserve. The top stretch from Manor Farm to Potteric is accessible to standard wheelchairs and pushchairs. The bottom section is bumpier in places and large puddles may form after heavy rain so be prepared!