



SFG – Moston Figure of 8 walk

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3.2 miles, no stile, mostly lanes and good canal towpath, so not a lot of mud.
Bring binoculars if you like bird watching.

Start from Plant Lane canal car park.

To find it, from Sandbach by car:

Follow Middlewich Road, merging to London Road, then soon after the traffic lights and just after the iron railway bridge, go left (immediately before the Fox Inn) on Moss Lane. Follow Moss Lane as it bends left and right, go over the canal bridge and immediately into the car park.

To find it on foot from Elworth, follow as above from the traffic lights.

Route:

- 1.** Take Oakwood Lane, downhill to the right from the car park, to The Moat on the left (a flash, probably due to brine subsidence).
Pause at the Moat for bird watching.
- 2.** Soon the road bends right and left to emerge onto Warmingham Lane where you go right.
- 3.** Continue on Warmingham Lane for about 0.3 mile. Ignore Moss Lane on the right, then go immediately right via a little car park, right on the canal, under the bridge and follow the towpath with the canal to your left.
- 4.** Stay on the towpath for about 1 mile to the **Plant Lane car park and Mid-Point of the Figure of 8.**
- 5.** From the car park, this time, ignore Oakwood Lane and follow Plant Lane to the left. After about 0.25 mile on Plant Lane, turn left into Watch Lane. Follow this for about 0.25 mile and at a T-junction go left on Red Lane.
(OR, if you want to do some birdwatching on Watch Lane Flash, go right at the T-junction, for about 0.25 mile to the Flash. When done, retrace steps on Watch Lane and continue straight on Red Lane. Shown in red dotted on the map)
- 6.** Stay on Red Lane for about 1 mile as it bends to the right and left.
Red Lane may have plenty of bird life in the hedges - keep the binoculars handy.
- 7.** Emerge onto Hall Lane, where you turn left. This is a busy road, so take care and after a few paces go left towards the canal, turning left on the towpath. Follow the towpath, with the canal to your right, for about 1 mile, to return to the car park.

If this has stirred an interest in bird watching, try this website:

<https://www.secos.org.uk/sandbach-flashes-north-area/>