

This route is also considered suitable for Class 2 and 3 motorised scooter users, which is off tarmac for part of the route. Known locally as the Riverside route on a finger post, it starts at the Errwood Hall car park (SK17 6GJ – SK 012 748 – Elev: 295m).

Travel along the road to the roadside gate and finger post. The gate has an auto gate latch (not actually needed) and offers a clear 1.5 metres which is ideal. For motorised scooter users the main path is wide and the route extends approximately 650 metres, crossing 3 wide wooden bridges en-route, which at the time of writing are in good condition. A really pleasant route.

The exit from this route at the far end is denied to motorised scooter users and probably to most less mobile people walking. It is a steep and awkward climb, leading back to the road just before Goyt's Quarry. I usually retrace my steps to enjoy the woods and undergrowth.

Although it is called the Riverside route for the most part you are not even close to the river side though it is always in view. There are some stretches which would be readily accessible on foot at the far end. I have got dug in there previously for a spell and snapped the Dipper bobbing along the rocks on a quiet day.

The pristine River Goyt and the accessible wide margins make this an ideal venue to look for species that frequent such places. There are a number of fallen trees over or close to the river, that provide perches for birds and insects. It looks and feels both clean and rich.

Endless nooks and crannies that might harbour species, including trees and rocks. Deciduous trees and I would have thought of potential interest to bird watchers. I have now installed the 'Merlin' application on my phone to interpret bird song. The Black Cap is there.

If you want to descend to the several margins with flat areas, ideal for sitting and watching, that will transform an easy day into a tough day. Navigating up and down to some riverside areas steep and slippery. Known to host the Sand Piper from time to time though I have never snapped one.

You can return via the vehicular access gate by the yellow dot route (not motorised scooters) where you might meet with the Spotted Flycatcher in spring. Along the same stretch on the road you will certainly meet with the Pied Flycatcher in spring.

Reviewed and revised: 08.08.2024

Distance: 2.9km (GPS)