Turn right down the road, which leads to the Spread Eagle in Turton Bottoms. But, just before you reach it, take Birches Road on the left (not between the gate posts). Where the road turns left, you turn right, along the footpath and over the bridge across Bradshaw Brook. At the next road, turn left and, having recrossed Bradshaw Brook, take the path to the right along its bank. Now enjoy your walk through the wooded gorge.

Pass a works bridge and weir and then turn right over the bridge near the head of Jumbles Reservoir. Across the bridge, turn left and the path will bring you to a smaller reservoir and then to a drive. Turn right as far as the bridge on the left and go over that. Now keep to the path ahead above Jumbles Reservoir and on up the drive with its avenue of trees.

Beyond the entrance to Grange Manor, go through the kissing-gate on the right, signposted Ousels Nest. (Those who have walked from Bromley Cross station join the route by turning left here. If you joined the walk here and wish to return to the station, continue along the road.) Cross the field, go under the railway bridge and follow the track uphill to the estate road and out onto Chapeltown Road. Go across the road and walk up Haydock Lane. From its top right-hand corner, your footpath leads between houses. Continue along the road ahead, turning neither to the right or left, until you can bear right at the footpath sign. The track takes you back to the Last Drop.

This walk forms part of a series of walks and trails developed by Manchester’s Countryside. For more information on Manchester’s Countryside, including downloads of the walks visit www.manchesterscountryside.com

Telephone: 0161 253 5111
email: info@manchesterscountryside.com
TOWERS AND TURRETS

DISTANCE:
6 miles/9.5km

STARTING POINT:
Last Drop Village, Hospital Road, Bromley Cross, Bolton - map reference 723140 on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 287 West Pennine Moors.

TIME:
Allow about 2-3 hours

HOW TO GET THERE:

By Car - to the B6472 (Darwen Road/Turton Road) between Dunscar and Bradshaw on the north side of Bolton, and turn north up Hospital Road to the Last Drop Village.

By Bus - Monday-Saturday 533 Egerton bus; Sunday and Bank Holidays 538/539 Egerton bus to the junction of Hospital Road and Darwen Road, Bromley Cross, and walk up Hospital Road to the Last Drop Village.

By Train - to Bromley Cross on the Bolton to Blackburn and Clitheroe line, leave the station on the signal-box side, and turn right and immediately left along Grange Road to join the walk at the Ousels Nest footpath sign.

GREATER MANCHESTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION
0871 200 2233 www.tfgm.com

WALK SUMMARY

The Last Drop Village complex of hotel, restaurant and shops stands high above Bolton on the edge of the hills and makes an excellent starting point for this walk across a scenic golf course, over one bridge of towers and turrets (one of which can be climbed) and past another, through woods to the attractive village of Chapeltown. You visit two reservoirs offering extensive views and linked by a delightful wooded gorge with a rippling stream, and the country house of Turton Tower, medieval and later, is open to the public and stands in pleasant grounds. There is no difficult walking on this route.

THE WALK

Walk 1

① From the fountain in the Market Place at the Last Drop, walk up the drive to the right of the Last Drop Gallery. At the end of the tarmac area, turn left by the footpath sign and follow the path gently uphill and then to the left, with the golf course on your right. When you see a stile to the right, do not climb it but take the path between the stone wall and the golf course, with Winter Hill ahead. The path then passes between quarry and golf course.

② When the path beside the quarry turns left, you go over the stile ahead and along the edge of the field as far as the stile on the right. Climb it and follow the clear path ahead. At the second junction of paths on the golf course, gently ascend ahead towards the house. At the pond, turn left and then immediately right to descend the drive towards Chapeltown and its church and Holcombe Tower.

③ Follow the drive across the golf course and the field beyond, and then, after the cattlegrid, turn right down the track beside the stream and over the castellated bridge across the railway. Turn left through its car park and on past the tea room entrance. Beyond, a broad path leads between trees and rhododendrons, past another turreted bridge and Gatehouse Lodge. On reaching the road, turn right down the road as far as the fork. Bear left to emerge on Chapeltown High Street beside the Chetham Arms.

④ Turn left along the village’s main street, passing the cross and stocks, and then right down Embankment Road. Descend the drive to Wayoh Reservoir, cross the dam, and then turn right to arrive in Edgeworth at the Black Bull.