

Saltire Village Heritage Walk

An ideal family walk through the streets of Titus Salt's Model Village.

The walk is suitable for most reasonably fit and occasional walkers and can be accessed by wheelchair users.

Saltire is named after Titus Salt and the River Aire, which runs through the village. Titus Salt rose from modest beginnings to become one of the country's most successful industrialists. He was deeply religious and a firm believer in the benefits of education. Salt had the village built so that he could make fine wool fabrics using the most efficient methods available and provide a healthy environment for his workers. Henry Lockwood and William Mawson were the young architects employed to realise this vision. Saltire took twenty-five years to complete and began with the building of the Mill in 1851.

It is not just the people who have lived in Saltire that have benefited from Salt's carefully planned 'model' village. This tour highlights how many of our towns in the United Kingdom, and even overseas, have been influenced by ideas first brought together successfully in Saltire.

Our tour begins on the bridge over the railway line. Look down Victoria Road towards the countryside beyond the village. Salt's most influential idea was to relocate his entire business to a greenfield site in order to escape the chaos of Bradford, where he had started his first factories. It was the country's fastest growing town; the population had exploded from 13,000 in 1801 to 104,000 in 1851. Bradford was a crowded and unhealthy place to live with limited space for a factory on the scale Salt envisaged. Many industrialists followed Salt's example and built factory towns of their own such as Bournville (George Cadbury) and Port Sunlight (W H Lever).

Continue downhill along Victoria Road, passing the impressive church on the left until you reach the canal bridge. Despite its rural location Saltire was not isolated. Salt thought like any modern business person. He wanted to distribute his products quickly and cheaply so he chose a site with excellent transport links. The Mill was built beside the railway, the motorway of the nineteenth century. The canal linked the village to Leeds and Liverpool and there were good local road connections.

Continue to the junction with Albert Road. Here turn left uphill. First you will pass a row of 'overlookers' houses before finding the grandest semi-detached residences, home to the company's executives, teachers and the church minister. Originally they had fine views over open country.

At the top of Albert Road, turn left and use the zebra crossing to cross Saltire Road. Continue straight ahead and then walk left around the corner to reach Bingley Road. Stop here to browse or for a break if you wish before continuing.

At the top of George Street you can see how Lockwood and Mawson have used the natural slope of the land to their advantage to create a dramatic view of the church against the backdrop of the hillsides.



All houses were owned by the company. Regardless of the tenant's status each had running water, an outside toilet, gas lights and paved yards, making them exceptional for the period.

Continue along Bingley Road and then turn left into Victoria Road. Grouped around Alexandra Square are the Almshouses. This pleasant green is one of several open areas located at regular intervals along Victoria Road. Spaces like these were normally found only in the most affluent areas of Victorian towns. More ambitious open spaces and gardens became a feature of company towns, housing estates and suburbs designed after Saltire.



Forty years before the first distillation, salinity or infirm persons of good 'moral character' were provided with a home and a pension in the Almshouses.

Continue downhill until you reach the crossroads, where the former Hospital building stands at the corner. Use the puffin crossing to continue along Victoria Road. You will soon reach two of the finest buildings in the village, the School on the left and the Institute on the right. They are set back from Victoria Road with an open space in front to form Victoria Square. Named in honour after the Queen, Victoria Road linked all the community facilities and important buildings together, creating another distinct zone within the village.



The former Congregational Church was awarded for the spiritual welfare of Salt's employees. Its magnificent interior should not be missed.



Opportunities for adult learning and socialising were provided in the Institute. Facilities included a lecture hall, library, gymnasium and games room.

In designing and building Saltire, Titus Salt and his architects demonstrated that planning a town was preferable to allowing them to grow haphazardly. Salt's example was followed by other industrialists and gradually the campaign for town planning gained momentum. More than fifty years after Saltire was begun, national and local governments accepted that the social problems created by the rapid expansion of industrial towns were their duty to tackle. With the 1909 Housing and Town Planning Act the foundations of the modern planning system were laid. Today this governs how all land is used wherever we live in the United Kingdom.

Saltire welcomes visitors, it is, however, a working, living village. Please respect the privacy of residents.

For detailed information on travel, opening times of attractions, ideas on things to do in Saltire and the surrounding area, contact:

Saltire Visitor Information Centre
Salts Mill,
Victoria Road,
Saltire, BD18 3LA
Open 7 days a week
April - September 10am - 5pm
October - March 10am - 4pm
Telephone: 01274 437942
www.visitsaltire.com

SHIPLEY GLEN TRAMWAY
ShIPLEY Glen Tramway is 111 years old and is Britain's oldest working cable hauled tramway. It is still driven by some of the original machinery. The tramway is a nostalgic ride through woodland with two footstock trams which run weekend afternoon and Bank Holidays all year (Sunday only in Nov, Jan and Feb).

THE AIRE SCULPTURE TRAIL

This trail, which starts from the bridge on Victoria Road, is an integral part of improving the use of the footpath alongside the River Aire between Baildon Bridge and Saltire.

This exciting development has been created for the benefit of residents and visitors to Saltire and Shipley, it adds a visitor attraction to the area and encourages the use of this footpath link.

Pick up a free children's activity sheet from the Saltire Visitor Information Centre.

This project is a collaboration of Regeneration and Culture, Recreation Promotes Ltd, Green & Blue Trust, Arts Community Arts Organisation and Wythia Primary School.

KEY

1 Otterpool	4 Tarncliffe	7 Cat bath	10 Swann	13 Submarine
2 Pirate ship	5 Fish & darters	8 Bird	11 Dog	14 Frog on leaf
3 Salt pig slug	6 Fish	9 Skater frog	12 Alpaca	15 Dugly dog

Key

- Start of World Heritage Site Walk
- Heritage Walk Route
- Start of Countryside Walks
- Start of The Aire Sculpture Trail
- Viewpoint
- Visitor Information Centre
- Public toilets
- Shops / cafes / restaurants / bars
- Public entrance
- Public disabled entrance
- Parking
- Disabled Parking
- Cycle parking stands
- Railway station
- Cash machine
- World Heritage Site boundary

Places of interest within the World Heritage Site open to visitors:

- 1 Salts Mill and 1853 Gallery
- 2 Saltire United Reformed Church
- 3 Roberts Park
- 4 Victoria Road retail area
- 5 Gordon Terrace retail area
- 6 Victoria Hall

Places of interest near to Saltire open to visitors:

- 7 Shipley Glen Tramway and Museum
- 8 Shipley Glen

Other places of interest not open to visitors:

- 9 Shipley College Salt Building
- 10 Dining Room
- 11 Shipley College Exhibition Building
- 12 Housing
- 13 Almshouses
- 14 Hospital
- 15 New Mill
- 16 Allotment Gardens

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SALINITY

WATER

SALT

ATMOSPHERE

LAND

OCEAN

1000 km

WORLDWIDE WATER CYCLE

The diagram illustrates the water cycle and salinity distribution. It shows water evaporating from the ocean, forming clouds, and falling as precipitation. It details the movement of water between the atmosphere, land, and ocean, including processes like evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and runoff. Key locations mentioned include the Amazon, Congo, and Niger rivers, and the Atlantic Ocean. The diagram also shows the distribution of salt in the ocean, with a concentration of 35 g/kg. A legend identifies various components: 'WATER' (blue), 'SALT' (yellow), 'ATMOSPHERE' (white), 'LAND' (green), and 'OCEAN' (blue). A scale bar indicates 1000 km. The diagram is credited to 'WORLDWIDE WATER CYCLE'.

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Self-guided walks in and around Saltaire

SALTAIRE

WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Saltaire Village Heritage Walk
 The Aire Sculpture Trail
 Aire Valley Woodland and Water
 Shipley Glen and Hirst Lock
 Tong Park Dam

Easily accessible by public transport

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