

Waterfront Weekends

Mersey Waterfront – Wirral Country Park

Church Farm is just off the A540 at Thurstaston. There's a great organic shop and café, and a small 'kids corner'. For more information about Church Farm visit www.churchfarm.org.uk or call 0151 648 7838

To reach Wirral Country Park, continue down the A540 about a mile from the farm. It's got a great visitor centre open from 10-5pm daily - with toilets and a small shop – and they run regular kids' activities too, although you do need to book in advance, so check out their website www.wirral.gov.uk/er/wcp.htm or call 0151 648 4371

Walking, three are signposted from Thurstaston visitor centre - you can buy a map for 20p. There are other walks listed on the Wirral Country Park website too. We took the easy, two mile green walk.

At the RSPB reserve in Parkgate there's something going on most weekends. For up to date events call 0151 3367681 or visit www.rspb.org.uk www.deeestuary.co.uk

Parkgate has an incredible collection of black and white timbered buildings, a mish-mash of small cottages, enticing pubs and Victorian villas. Don't forget Nicholls of Parkgate, purveyors of fine ice cream. The Parade, Parkgate 0151 3361274 or opt for a pint of Bombardier in the Red Lion pub next door.

INFO

Parking is free at Wirral Country Park, the Dee Estuary Reserve and in Parkgate

It's not easy to get to Wirral Country Park by public transport. The nearest railways stations are at **Hooton** and **West Kirby**, from which you can catch the infrequent **82a Bus** along Telegraph Road (A540), getting off at Thurstaston.

Alternatively, catch the **71 Bus** from Liverpool to the village of Irby. It's then about a mile walk down Station Road to the park.

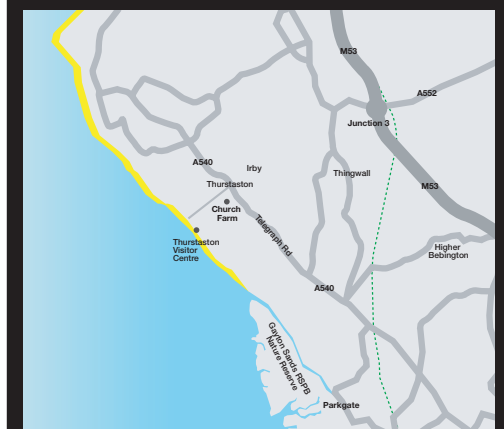
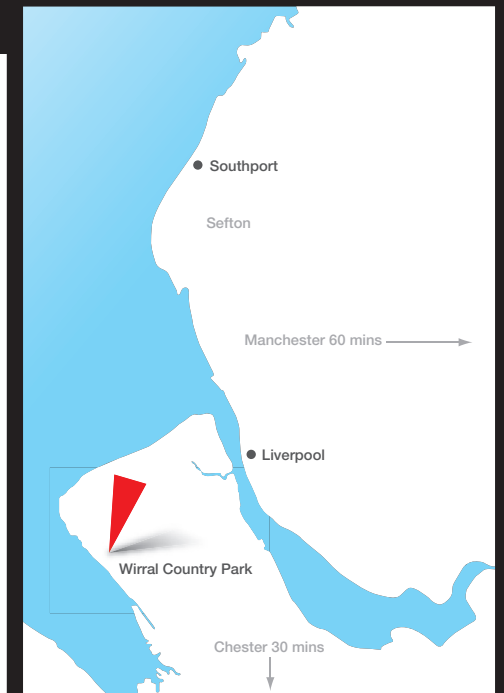
Full timetables from the national Traveline on 0870 608 2608.

For more about Church Farm visit [ww.churchfarm.org.uk](http://www.churchfarm.org.uk)

There's a choice of walks from the visitor centre at Wirral CP, ranging from the easy to a more strenuous 6 mile yomp.

If you want to stay longer and eat in Parkgate, try the Marsh Cat (www.marshcat.com) with its great views over the estuary. There's quite a fishy menu although plenty for kids and vegetarians too.
1 Mostyn Square, Parkgate 0151 336 1963

For further tourist information visit www.visitwirral.com or call 0151 647 6780



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