The Norfolk Heritage Trail is a walk through centuries of Sheffield history – from the middle ages to the modern, via the Tudors, Victorians and two world wars.

The trail takes its name from the Dukes of Norfolk, who previously owned much of the land it covers, having inherited it from the Earls of Shrewsbury. It starts at Manor Lodge, which in Tudor times stood at the heart of a huge deer park; what’s left of the historical hilltop lodge today looks out over a bustling city centre. The trail heads downhill into this bustle, ending at Sheffield Cathedral. Along the way it passes through quiet ancient woodland and the rolling green space of one of the country’s oldest public parks. It visits memorials and monuments, reminders of the epidemics and wars that have afflicted Sheffield over the centuries. It tells something of the city’s history of social housing, with quaint Victorian almshouses just around the corner from a postwar estate built out of concrete.

Distance: 3 miles
Duration: 1½–2 hours
Terrain: good footpaths, some steps, gentle descents

Public transport

Start: from Sheffield Interchange, take the bus (7/8/8a/50/50a/53/56/120) to Manor Lane.

Finish: Sheffield Cathedral is on the Supertram route and close to several bus routes.

Routes may change: check travelsouthyorkshire.com for up-to-date information.
Start at Manor Lodge (1). Exit onto Manor Lane. Turn right.

- Turn left onto Harwich Road. Enter City Road Cemetery (2).
- Exit through the gatehouse onto City Road. Turn right.
- Cross at the traffic lights. Continue on the footpath straight ahead.
- Follow St Aidan’s Rise as it bends downhill.
- At St Aidan’s Drive, follow the footpath downhill right, then left, onto St Aidan’s Road.
- Cross onto St Aidan’s Avenue. Enter Norfolk Heritage Park (3) on the right.
- Turn right. Follow the path to the park entrance at Granville Road. (Or, first, explore the park, cafe and playground).
- Cross the road. Turn left onto Norfolk Road.
- Turn left onto Fitzwalter Road. Enter Clay Wood (4) on the right.
- Follow the footpath straight ahead to the Cholera Monument Grounds (5).
- Exit onto Norfolk Road, opposite Shrewsbury Hospital (6). Turn left.
- Turn left onto Shrewsbury Road. Pass the old Sweet Factory downhill on the right (7). Turn right into South Street Park immediately after.
- Follow the footpath straight ahead. Pass the station on left and the amphitheatre on the right. Bear left and down the cobbled path. Cross the tramlines.
- Follow the tramlines towards Park Square, passing Park Hill (8) on the right and the Old Queen’s Head (9) on the left.
- Bear left at Park Square. Continue on Commercial Street towards Sheffield Cathedral (10).

Alternative routes: the linear trail can be done in reverse or adapted into shorter walks – e.g. a short but steep walk uphill from Sheffield railway station to the Cholera Monument Grounds (5) will offer a great view of the city centre, taking in Shrewsbury Hospital (6), the Sweet Factory (7) and Park Hill (8) on the way up/down.