Appropriate outdoor clothing, stout footwear and OS Explorer OL 43 or Landranger 87 are essential.

Caution
• Many paths are uneven and some are wet and slippery, particularly after rain.
• Stock grazing in many fields; bulls may be present.
• There are many steep slopes and cliffs, particularly in the Allen Banks and Staward Gorge area.
• Beware of traffic, including large farm vehicles, on country lanes and on the A686 at Langley Castle and Esp Hill.

People walking the John Martin Heritage Trail do so at their own risk.

The John Martin Heritage Trail is in two circular sections centred on Haydon Bridge. Both routes begin near the railway station in Church Street.

Northern Section, to Haydon Old Church
 Malked on map overleaf.

This part of the trail is about 2 miles and takes just over an hour.

Southern Section to Allen Banks, Staward Pele and Langley Castle
 Malked on map overleaf.

A walk of about 11 miles taking 5 – 6 hours to complete.

For further information about John Martin visit www.wojm.org.uk.
John Martin Heritage Trail
Southern Section

From this point there is a choice of routes, both are way marked.
• The direct route to Staward Pele is steep and reveals the dramatic position of the pele but can be very slippery after rain.
• The alternative route continues on the riverside path, with gorge scenery similar to that seen in some of Martin’s paintings, before rising through the trees to join the path from Staward Pele. To visit the pele turn left along the ridge and then retrace your steps to continue the trail.

This section of the walk can be hazardous, especially for children.
• Please observe warning signs and supervise children carefully, especially near cliff edges, on steep paths and by the river.
• The River Allen can be particularly dangerous when in flood and high winds can bring down trees and branches.
• After rain the paths through the gorge can be very muddy.

Please respect the countryside:
• Protect trees, plants, wildlife and farm stock.
• Leave things as you find them; take nothing away.
• Keep dogs under proper control and on a short lead near farm animals.
• Don’t damage buildings, walls, fences, hedges or signs.
• Leave no litter.
• Keep to the way marked footpaths.

The John Martin Heritage Trail was developed as part of a community project in 2004 celebrating the life and work of John Martin. It was officially opened in April 2006. The trail is now funded and managed by Haydon Parish Council. The Council thank The National Trust for their continued help and support in managing the trail through their Allen Banks and Staward Gorge Estates.

The National Trust (Tyne and Wear Museums)

Allen Banks & Staward Gorge (National Trust)

The National Trust

Figures on a stile 1840
John Martin
Laing Art Gallery (Tyne and Wear Museums)

The Bard 1817
John Martin
Laing Art Gallery (Tyne and Wear Museums)