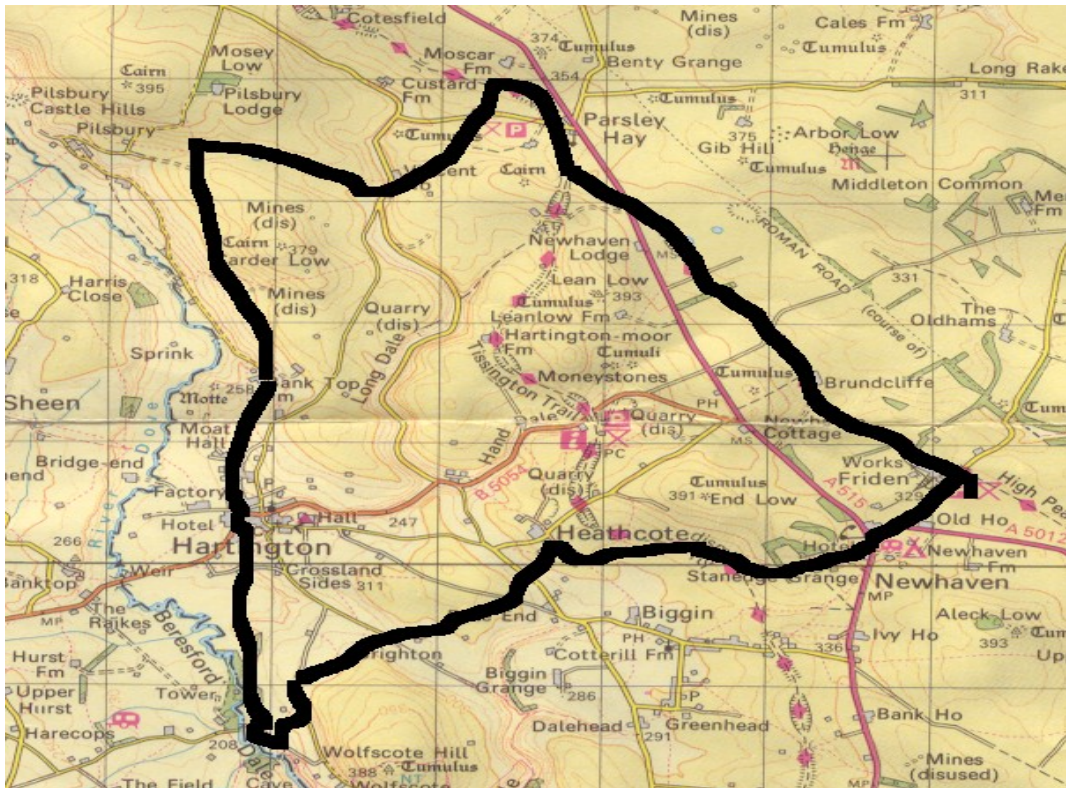


**WALK 7.
FRIDEN.7.
12 miles. 4 hours.
Map White Peak.**



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Start at picnic area at Friden (172607). Walk NE on the High Peak Trail, passing the brick works on the left. Pass through the tunnel and join the Tissington Trail at Parsley Hay (147637). In another 500 yards opposite Moscar Farm on the right at (143639), go L off the Trail into a field SW down to Darley Farm. Cross the road and continue SW through seven fields to Vincent House (137632).

Go straight across the road W, and enter a field at a signpost. The route now goes W, to corner of first field then, WNW for two fields, then W over one large field passing corner of wall on left; there are no clear stiles, only gaps in the limestone walls. In the fourth field, go over the wall (125634). Then turn left to go S for 50 yards to a wall. Over this, then, S again. Pilsbury is away on the right; Sheen Hill beyond that, the fine extensive views include Chrome and Parkhouse.

Pass a derelict farm building on the left, and a huge fallen tree against a wall, then go through two farm gates and over a stone wall. The land falls away to the right, but the walk continues along fairly level ground SE, with Carder Low, a Bronze Age Barrow, on the left. There are old mine workings hereabouts, so go with care to a stile in a wall, then, in 100 yards, a substantial wooden stile, and so down to Bank Top Farm (129615), which has a date 1859 cut in a wall. There are remnants of an old Castle Motte above. Take the road S down to Hartington, passing Moat Hall.

This fine old town was a market centre in the C.16, (charter dated 1203), the period of the foundation of St Giles, which retains much of its mediaeval work, despite its restoration in 1858. The hall dates from 1611, as its gables and windows tell. Once the home of the Batemans, it is now a Youth Hostel. Several packhorse routes converged in Hartington; the village pond must have been very busy. The presence of the Stilton Cheese

Factory, however, shows that the village has moved on with the times, for the first cheese factories in England were established in Derbyshire in 1870, Hartington's being one of them. Go S out of the village, taking the footpath which goes left of the toilets, then S over several fields, the path takes you closer to the River Dove, then over a footbridge into Beresford Dale once owned by Charles Cotton whose friend Izaak Walton visited him frequently, and stayed at Beresford Hall, now dismantled. You may still see the inaccessible fishing house built by Cotton in 1674 in this lovely stretch of the River Dove. You pass Pike Pool on the left with its impressive rock tower where they used to fish. Kingfishers and Dippers can be seen here; several weirs keep the river deep, probably built by Cotton.

Cross the river by another footbridge, the river is now on your right. Keep to the left of a flat open area between woods, walking SE on a track, going uphill now, with a wall close on your left, leaving the River Dove behind. At a point where four tracks meet (131585), turn left and go N up a lane, which has a wall either side; it turns right in two hundred yards then goes E to join a metalled road in another hundred yards. Turn left to go NNW on the metalled road. There are splendid views. Turn NNE and make for a junction at (137593). Go E straight across on a rough track for about 1000 yards, then left for 20 yards, then right to reach a road at (145599). Go straight across the road and enter a field by a stile, going NE uphill to a stile, into a farm yard: go right then L around a barn, then left of the farm, past Chapel Farm, (the Chapel is at its gate), and enter Heathcote.

Turn right along the road SE past several 17 century houses, and in 100 yards go left through a stile and in a few yards a gate, then E across a field to a stile in a wall. E across the next field to another stile, then continue to a substantial stile. Cross a farm track, which is only 20 yards long and enter a field, make for a stile at the far side, then follow a wall on your left, over a stile down steps, which lead down to the Tissington Trail at (155601). Go right and in 40 yards leave the trail on its N side near the remains of a bridge, going up some steps through a wooden stile into a field. Slowly angle away from the trail, to a stile in a wall going SE, then E to the top corner of the next field, then head for a sign in the centre of a Horseshoe Plantation. Halfway along the plantation, a track leads through the trees where a signpost indicates Heathcote and Newhaven. Proceed due E through the plantation, a wall either side, to a farm gate and a good strong stile on its left. The track seems to be well-used, but on nearing the farm, Stanedge Grange, go E through a substantial stile into a copse. E over two fields, an old reservoir on your left. Newhaven Hotel is now facing you; angle left then walk down the side of the Hotel and out on to a busy road at (166601).

The Newhaven Hotel stands as an indication of the former importance of this spot. The copper ore, for instance, was carried this way from Ecton to smelting works in Derby. The drovers came to the cattle and sheep fairs held here annually in the 17 century and later. When the turnpikes came in 1777, a new Hotel had to be built to replace "a mean public house nearly opposite the nine mile stone". There is still an old milestone there, mostly illegible. The Newhaven Hotel was built in 1795 with stabling for 100 horses. It is still a large building with a five-bay front, porch, and a big canted bay-window; it is painted white with black quoins and window frames. According to "The Beauties of England and Wales" (1802), the inn had been built lately by the Duke of Devonshire, "a large, handsome and commodious inn where travellers meet with every requisite accommodation". There is a tradition that one such traveller was George IV who was so pleased with his welcome that he granted the inn a free and perpetual licence. It was originally called the Devonshire Arms; perhaps the name was changed when the inn became part of the Duke of Rutland's estate early in the 19 century.

And so left down the road, to a garage, turn right on the A5012 for 100 yards, then left, up a minor road past the brickworks, back to the Picnic Area and start.

Checked 21Oct 2002.