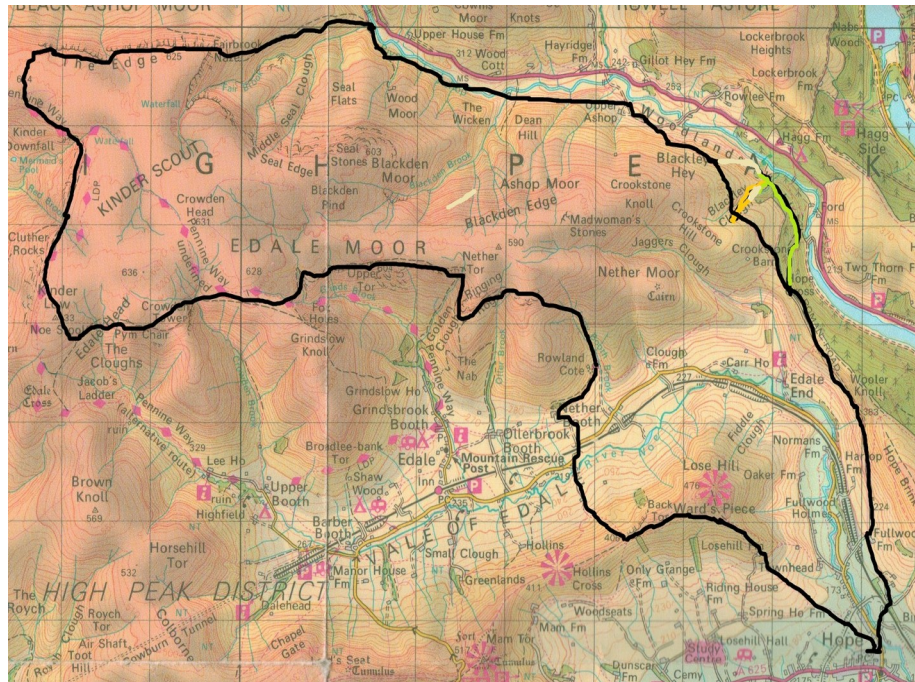


**WALK 65.
HOPE 65.
23.3 miles. 6 hours 41 minutes.
Map Dark Peak.**



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**To do this walk, a knowledge of use of a compass and good clothing is
required**

Start at Hope (171835). Walk N 400 metres from the church on the Edale Road, then go down a lane over the River Noe. Continue L to go under a railway bridge. Walk NWN along the lane for 100 metres to come to a fork, go L along a drive to Rosven, a smart, restored house. Proceed to the house and go through a stile to go past the house on the L, walk through a field with wall on the R; the railway, one field to the L.

In 250 metres come to a gateway and proceed to a gate on the L where there is a slot stile. From this, bear L; this point is near Fullwood Stile Farm. Walk N on a hard surface lane, trees either side, pass through a gate then climb slightly, fine views to the W. come to another gate with a stile; this height brings good views; Jaggers Clough carves the hillside ahead, the track levels here. Ahead soon reach Hope Cross (161874), a restored mediaeval landmark bearing the signs Sheffield; Hope; Edale; Glossop; 1737. Go forward through a gate, then another in 200 metres. Come to a four arm sign. Go straight on NWN, the track is now firm grass, wall on R. in 300 metres a sign open country. Continue with wall on the R down to where the path cuts into the hillside at Blackley Clough (marked on the map as a ford).

Pass over a wooden stile and walk forward on the firm stone path. The path descends to where it forks off to the ladder stile over a ford and the A.57. But do not take this: instead, take the drive up to Upper Ashop Farm. Where the drive enters the farmyard, go L and walk uphill through open country with wall on R. cross a tiny stream that has curved a valley out of itself in the mountainside. Keep to the wall on the R; there is a worn path to take. Alport Dale can clearly be seen. The path levels out and drops down where another little stream has dug into the hillside. The path is still level. Blackden View Farm on the other side of the valley looks well sheltered behind its copse of trees. Walking now through Ashop Moor; Blackden Edge is above on the L; walk around Dean Hill to the ridge cut by Blackden Brook which has come down from the ridge above, cutting a spectacular course for itself out of tough Gritstone; and it is here the path comes to a corner of two walls at 131893.

Turn L and walk uphill with wall on the R. down below, the Blackden Brook flows strongly. The view ahead, to the SW, shows deep cuttings around the spurs; the edge looms above: the path is well used it levels out in this deep valley which is walked towards the ridge. Two signs indicate the direction to the Snake Road. Drop down to cross the stream, then climb up the other side of this valley to walk N, the stream now on the R. the track has now turned right around; now walk towards the Ashop with the Blackden Edge behind. Follow the path round the spur of the Wicken then walk NNW with the river on the R and the Snake Road behind that. The walk is now in the valley of the Ashop which, in parts, flows in deeply cut channels surrounded by trees. The path cuts into the hillside where streams though tiny, their power must be immense in very wet weather. Ahead, is a glimpse of the Snake Inn, white among trees. The path improves as it proceeds along the hillside and enters a wide valley down which flows the Fair Brook. It resembles the entrance to Ashop Clough.

Walking now SW; drop down and cross the stream, then walk up this interesting valley with the stream on the L. the path is clear and firm; the stream on the L thunders down in wet weather, forming charming waterfalls. The edge above changes shape as the valley is climbed, the narrower and deeper as the valley is climbed, streams come down from the L to join the Fair Brook; the upper reaches in front are filled with large boulders which can be avoided by going around them. As the top is reached at 093891 look down the valley that has been climbed.

Walk NE, to the nose of Fair brook Naze, then turn and walk W along the edge on a good path. The views to the N extend over the terrain; the cars glisten on the Snake Road and Bleaklow in the distance. In about 1 mile, at Upper Red Brook 079896, turn to walk S for 500 metres to a trig point, at 077893. Then walk SE for half a mile to Kinder Downfall at 083889; a mighty water fall that can be seen for miles in very wet weather.

Walk S the path hugs the edge from which is seen the Kinder Reservoir and Mount Famine to the S. at Kinder Low, go E for a few hundred metres to a trig point at 079871, then 300 metres SE to the edge path not far N of Swine's Back. Turn and walk NE with the Edale Valley on the R, passing Noe Stool and Crowden Tower, look to the changing shape of the valley below: gritstone scenery water-worn into spurs, weatherworn into grit outcrops and some scree. Follow the edge around Hartshorn and Ringing Roger; the druids Stone. At 135874 cut down steeply on poor paths to the valley made by Lady Booth Brook and so down to the Youth Hostel at 140866; to enter it by two good wooden stiles, then leave down the drive to a road at 141860.

Turn R and walk 700 metres W; go under a railway bridge, then L down a narrow lane to cross the River Noe by Backtor Bridge. Walk S up a steep drive to Backtor Farm. At a gate in front, take the wooden step stile and continue on a severely stony path up to a gate, on the L is a stile. Continue climbing uphill, wall on L now grass underfoot. In 100 metres leave the wall and walk E uphill to a stile above. Climb steeply uphill, Back Tor rising precipitously on the L to come to a fence on top of the ridge.

Go L and walk along the ridge; Back Tor on the L. in 150 metres, take a step and bar stile. The views now stretch over Hope and Castleton. In about 300 metres through Bocket Booth Plantation, come to a wooden stile and sign, in a few hundred metres further on a slightly rising path, there is another stile and a sign to Hope and Castleton. Climb gently a little further to a sign and stile. Back Tor and Lose Hill which have been avoided are up to the L. keep to the wall on the L to the next stile and proceed through an open field. Cut off to the R and go downhill; soon to be joined by a wall on the L and a line of trees on the R. pass a sign standing alone and come to Losehill Farm.

Pass it close on the R and in 30 metres, pass a stile not needed, then go sharp R over a ladder stile and walk through field close to wall on the R to a fence and stile and a sign; a stone building on the L. proceed downhill and go through a gateway; then in 30 metres go L over a stile into a field close to a hedge on the R to a stile in hedge in front under a tree. Continue downhill to a stile at the side of a gate and one of those precious sign erected by the P.D. and Northern Counties Footpath Preservation Society number 93 erected in 1938 with directions to Mam Tor. Continue to a swing gate in hedge then through a field to a stile in a corner to enter a lane. Take this for 100 metres, then leave it at a stile and another sign, then, proceed between farm buildings to a stile then 15 metres to steps in a fence. Cross a railway bridge. Walking now with trees on the L into a field, then walk with fence on the L to a stile then 15 metres to another stile. Continue in the same direction through stiles then down to school playing fields on the L then down between houses and school to a gate and stile and so back to the start.

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