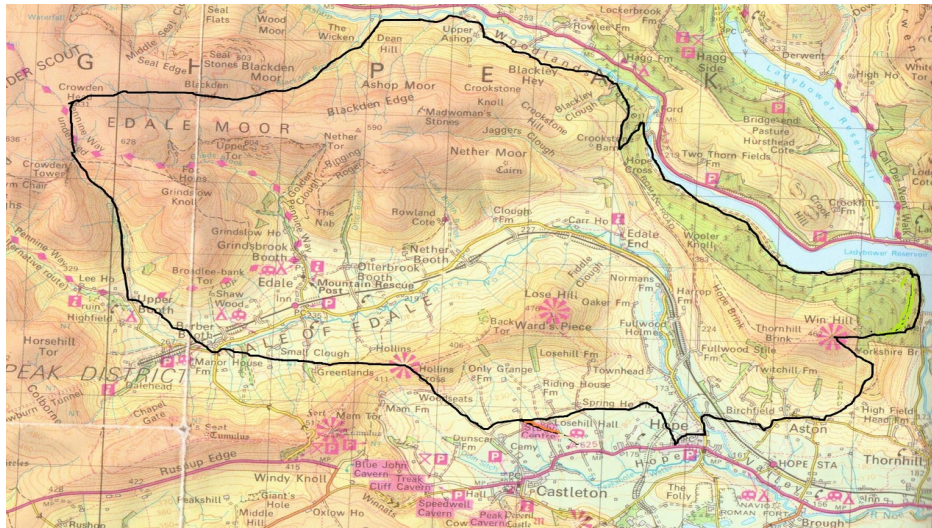


WALK 81.
KINDER 81.
22.6 miles. 6 hours 10 minutes.
Map Dark Peak.



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Start at Hope (172834). Walk 400 metres N from the Church on the Edale Road, then go down a cul de sac. Cross the river, then, in 40 metres, go R up a lane just beyond a cottage where there is a footpath sign. Go under the railway bridge and come up to Farfield Farm; go R along the farm drive and emerge on to a road through a gate with ball finials. Turn L and walk to Aston, passing Aston Hall, a building of some importance, built by Thomas Balguy in 1578. It has five bays with central doorway between Doric columns.

Just beyond the hall, the road curves; go L here up a short lane next to a cottage, then walk 30 metres to a wooden stile and enter a narrow field that rises to another stile and another field that rises. At the top go over a ladder stile, then climb the hillside on a sunken track; the views improve as the climb progresses. Where the climb gets less steep, go L on a prominent path to the W through heather and come to two stiles in a wall. Climb the steep bank to come to Win Hill (187851). the views are extraordinary.

Descend to the ladder stiles and go E down to Win Hill Plantation where there is a wooden stile. Then descend down Parkin Clough, this is; precipitous to say the least and tricky in bad weather. At last come to a stile and arrive at a track. Do not go down to Yorkshire Bridge, but turn L and walk N on the track that leads onto a road. Continue N and pass the Dam, then walk on a pleasant route with the reservoir on the R. proceeds through this delightful valley to a metal bridge at 164879.

Just before the bridge, go L up a narrow path through the woods, climbing steeply at first, then, when the path turns L in a few hundred metres, rising gently untill some ruined houses are reached. Continue in the same direction S to a wooden door at the famous Hope Guide Stone (161874). Bear R and walk NNW with fine views with broken wall on L to a two-step stile near a footpath sign with four arms. Carry on in the same direction, with wall on L, go up to a stile ahead; this time a sign to open country. Go forward on the same direction and on a track that once the Romans trod.

Carry on to Blackley Ford, go over two stiles and go downhill until a sign to open country is reached at 144891. Do not carry on down the lane to the R but go forward to Upper Ashop Farm, skirting it by going L uphill, then walking on a sloping hillside in and out of one or two Cloughs and reaching Blackden Barn at 131892. Where the ladder stile on the R takes the footpath down to the river, turn L and climb uphill with wall on R; ahead is Blackden Ridge which will take some effort to reach, cross a stream at a ford, then reach the level of the stream whose waters will be followed up the fascinating Clough.

There is always something interesting in this Clough; rock outcrop with overhanging trees in little glens; huge boulders; a few waterfalls; rock outcrops with strange shapes and easy scrambling near the top there are rock spurs and outcrops the last stretch is the steepest and most difficult. The view down the Clough is enthralling it must be one of the best stretch in the Peak District.

Take a compass bearing S to get to Hartshorn (1900ft) from the edge path, over peat and mud no path. Then take a path to Crowden Head bearing R and walking W with several paths that can be taken. The best one is the stretch of the Pennine Way from the top of Grinsbrook. On reaching Crowden Head; the highest point here is over 2000feet (a mountain!).

Turn and walk S for the top of Crowden Clough, following a grough feeder that goes down to it, then cut down the steep clough itself a tricky course when the water is high and fast. At last arrive at a footpath sign to Barbers Booth and Edale. Take the first and walk to Barbers Booth alongside a stream to a sign that informs that open country is being left behind. Enter now farmland and walk through a large field keeping to the R to drop down to a footbridge and walk with stream on the L. another stile leads to top of a bank of a stream. Pass a stone building to then drop down muddy steps to stream level. Cross a step stile and approach farm buildings to a stile and so out onto a road at 103852.

This is Upper Booth. Go L, in a few metres, near a phone box, go L again into the farm yard its-self, a sign states it is a N.T. farm. Go round to take stone steps on the L of a gate and go straight forward, not to the L as the signs indicate, but through a gate and into a field close to the farm building on the R whose windows have good stone mullions. Walk through the field, going SE, to a stile then continue through a field noting on the L a considerable land slip. After another stile walk with fence on the R to a double stile, then 40 metres to a single stile. Walk now through the middle of the next field to a gateway and proceed on a farm track. Go through a gate; the railway is close on the R; cross it then go through a farmyard where there is a building with massive quoins and stone dressings, then enter Barbers Booth.

Pass the Methodist Chapel and come to a road to go R over the bridge, then immediately go L over the poorest stile in this part of Derbyshire.

Climb a steep bank, then set out on a gentle climb up to Hollins Cross. Walking E, begin by crossing a field, go through a hedge, then a stile and walk on level ground over grass, to a deeply-cut stream to rise on stone steps to a stile and cross another field, passing a farm building on the R, and a section of wall not connected to anything. Walk then with hedge on the L; Mam Tor towering up on the R, a stile enters a field where a stone slab has N.T, footpath carved on it. Go forward to a stile; walk through a field, then go over a stile and enter a road.

Turn R and walk up to a house called Greenlands. On the L is a step stile and a footpath sign. Go over this and walk on a narrow path between fences to a gate and stile, then to another gate and stile, then climb not too steeply to Hollins Cross. At the Cross (136845) do not go L or R on the main path, but straight on. But in a few metres, cut off L (SE) and go downhill to a stile, then steeply to another, and so to a third, which to enter a stony track between fields, come to a step stile to go forward on a farm track, fence on L. this track becomes a lane. At a fork, go R but at the next fork go L and in 20 metres come to a gate of an educational centre. Go to the R of it.

Go over cattle grid and turn R at a sign, then go over a step stile, make for an open gateway on the L, then go sharp R. go over a cattle grid then make for an open gateway on the L, then over another grid, then go L along a tarmac lane with the estate wall on the R. the road curves to

the L; at this point go straight on up a lane between fields to a gate. Once through this, pass Spring House Farm on the L, then go L on a drive with farm and stables on the R.

Take a step stile and turn sharp R, then walk through a field, stables on R, until a hedge is reached. Just before this go R over a bar, then turn L and in 20 metres come to a sign and stile. Continue walking E in field with fence on L for 100 metres to a poor bar stile, then proceed through a field with hedge on L for a few hundred metres to a stile between two gritstones. Go forward to a stile and footbridge to then climb up a bank and walk on grass 80 metres to a slot stile and sign. Go through another field to a gateway, then another field to then see Hope's Tower and Spire.

In 80 metres go through a hedge in a line of trees and walk with hedge on R to a stile, and come to a gate with slot on its L, walk through a field with fence on the L: At this point join a path which comes down from Lose Hill and on the L another sign erected by the P.D. and N.C. footpath society, No 93 erected in 1938 one of many to be seen in the Peak District. (We hope these historic signs will be looked after in the future).

Bear R and go down to a swing gate in a hedge, then 80 metres down to a stile and along a short lane, then into a field with hedge on L, then onto a stile near a footpath sign. Go through a farmyard at the end of a farm drive; but go L, instead through a slot stile then 20 metres to a step stile, then over a footbridge over a railway line. Go through a field to a stile, then 20 metres to another. What a proliferation of stiles. Carry on through the last stretch to a road, then L, on a short walk past a school and back to the start.