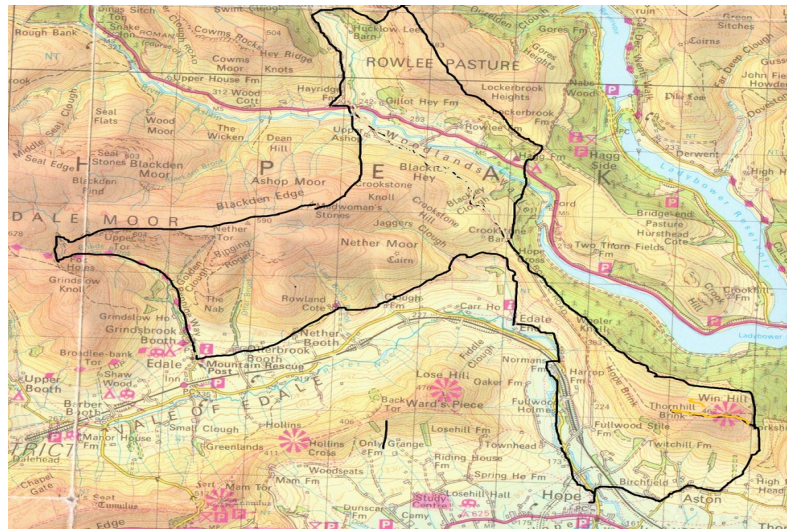


WALK 85.
RESERVOIRS 85.
23.5 miles. 6 hours 40 minutes.
Map Dark Peak. .



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Start at Hope (172835). Walk N on the Edale Road for 400 metres, then go R down a cul-de-sac. Cross the river, then, in 40 metres, go R up a lane to come to Farfield Farm; go R along a farm drive to gates with ball finials, then turn L and walk up to Aston, a small hamlet with a fine Tudor House, Aston Hall. It was built in 1578 by Thomas Balguy with five bays, a central doorway with Doric Columns.

Just beyond the hall, the road curves; at a cottage, go L up a short lane which becomes a short sunken footpath leading to a stile and enter a narrow field, passing a chipped out gritstone water trough. At the top, go over a ladder stile, then climb the hillside on a sunken track, (one of the packhorse hollow ways). Follow the path to a wall on the R; go through a gap then walk N with wall on the L to Win Hill Plantation.

Enter the trees and cross over the track that comes down from Win Hill on the L. Do not take the stile on the R that goes down the precipitous Parkin Clough, but continue in the same direction, fence on the R and follow the boundary of the plantation on the R as it curves to the NW. Take a stile on the R of a gate and continue on a path through heather which gives fine views of the hills. Walk to the point where a wall comes down from the L to join the path being followed (172861). Go R over a stile and enter Wooler Knoll Plantation.

Walk on a wide track that Zigzags downhill through the trees generally to the N, and emerge on the walk that follows the water's edge. Go L and walk NW on this hard surface, level going. Walk NW on this hard surface. In about three quarters of a mile, just before the metal bridge at 163878, go L on a wide track into the woods and walk N with the river not far away to the R. soon come to a gate at the top of a short rise. The hoof marks indicate that others have come this way; hence the gate opens easily. Go downhill on the R and walk N on this low path for less than half a mile to Haggwater Bridge (162884) with a stile on the R of a gate. Cross the bridge and walk N uphill on a steep and rough track to the A.57; with a sign to open country. Go through a gate and cross the road.

Walk N uphill; a sign shows way to Hagg Farm Hostel, and soon pass it whilst climbing on the rough track on the ancient route to a gate at a cross roads of footpaths at 163890. One path goes N to Lockerbrook; another goes SE to Crookhill. Do not take these but go NNW up a bank

passing a sign to open country, making for a stile over a wall, then keeping in the same direction, walking on short grass with wall in the L. Views now of the open country to the E up to Back Tor and Howden Ridge. Another stile lies ahead; another open country sign here. Bear L and walk W.

Now walk through Rowlee Pasture, keep to the L, passing Bellhag Tor, climbing gently on a narrow path to get changing views up the valley of the Ashop (stunning). .soon reach a point near Alport Castles to turn L and drop down (145911) with views of the Castles on the R to a sign stating that it is the end of open country. Go through a gateway, and walk downhill with a wall on the R to eventually get to a ladder stile over a wall. Descend fairly steeply and come to a metal sign erected by the P.D. and N.C. F. P. Society number 107 erected in 1948. Come to a bridge and stream from which go R and follow a wall around to a farm buildings to another sign dated 1948 by the same society. Pass through the farm buildings; one of them now a camping barn, then out the other side and go on a farm drive. Walk down this farm drive to a fork to go L down the bank to a step stile, then a ladder stile and so to the A.57 by another sign by the same society numbered 106 dated 1948. Cross the road, go through a gate, pass a sign to open country and cross the River Ashop by a bridge or by the ford. Then take the drive which leads to a gate with a stile on its L, then bear R on a drive to Upper Ashop Farm. Do not go through the farm gateway but go L up a steep bank even though it seems like a most inconspicuous footpath. Almost a once, come to a small stream; go now up the Clough this small stream has created, so then bear L and proceed uphill.

This Clough is short but steep; there is no worn path but plenty of room for footholds alongside the stream to the top where there is a shooting Cabin (142887). Alas this is not the top, so bear R and walk steeply SW uphill. Follow a broken wall on the L and eventually come to Mad Woman's Stones: why this name! but before meeting the mad woman continue in the same direction to a trig point at 129878 then on the edge path passing Ringing Roger. Walk N on the edge path for a short distance, then, before Hartshorn go L and drop down steeply on the Pennine Way down to Edale.

Cross the river by a bridge and walk through this interesting village as far as the church, then go L down a lane alongside the cemetery. Cross the stream by a bridge, and take a stile by a gate, then go straight ahead through a field, fence on the L making for Ollerbrook Farm which can be seen ahead. Go into second field and walk with wall on the R into the farmyard; bear R and walk E. the old buildings are well kept; the cottage has mullioned windows. Pass from Ollerbrook Farm to Nether Ollerbrook Farm; pass also the access to Ollerbrook Clough, and proceed on a lane between fields that leads into a field where the drive goes up to Cotefield Farm.

Do not take the drive, but go straight ahead to a gate below the farm, then bear R to a corner in the distant hedge where a sign stands directing through a field to a hedge with a stile. Bear L here, and go uphill through a field where a sign requests to keep to the hedge on the L, then cross another field to the top corner of the hedge on the R, then climb to a step stile and wicket gate; this is the Edale Valley with its flat alluvial base from which rises Lose Hill, Back Tor and Mam Tor. For part of the way there is a line of trees on the R to then make for a wall with gap in it, then proceed to another gap in wall and so descend to a gate leading into Rowland Cote Youth Hostel (140866).

Go through the grounds close to the buildings; do not leave to the S, but take a stile over a metal fence and drop down steps to a stream and bridge, then a wicket gate, and so on a narrow path around the hillside to join a wall that comes from the R. Go in a Clough and out again, only to do the same in another Clough to then climb steeply untill the wall goes away and come to a sign. Then come to a stream that comes down Jagers Clough; a sign indicates open country (154873)

Do not cross the stream but take a stile at this point; a pile of stones forms a useful step; the direction to Edale End is carved into the stone. Go E through Backside Wood to a stile and then a footbridge and so then down to Edale End Farm, which is the Wardens Office of the N.T. with refreshments. Go through the farmyard down to Bagshaw Bridge over the River Noe; do not go

over the bridge but take a stile in the wall on the L. walk through the field away from the river to a N.T. stile then across a small footbridge, and so through a rough area high above the river, walking now through trees. Another N.T. stile is reached then a footbridge, then through a field to a gate, on the L is a stile. See now on the R the river enters a tunnel. Take a wicket gate on the R and emerge out on to the Edale Road at 167857.

Walk down to the railway bridge and bear R on the other side to go down a drive, passing another wicket gate and come down to the river again as it flows out of the tunnel. Enter Norman Farm through a wicket gate, bear L; go to a step stile, then pass a metal shed, then enter a field, river on L, walking S to a gate. Walk through a long field; the river has left away to the L and walk with trees on either side: a stroll around the flanks of Lose Hill whose bulk rears above to the R.

At the far end of the field, a cutting leads to a tiny stream to then go forward close to a hedge on the R, a section on a bank side to a high stile which leads to the level of the next field. Walk near a bank on the L to a stile and then river on the L, the scene quite pleasant.

Cross a slatted footbridge in a gap in the hedge and walk in the next field with river on the L. go through a gate then a long narrow field and continue on the river side walk with a line of trees on the R. take a stile and a field to then rise up a bank to a stile and continue on level ground to a sign and stile and so out on to the road at 167845. Bear L and walk back to the start.