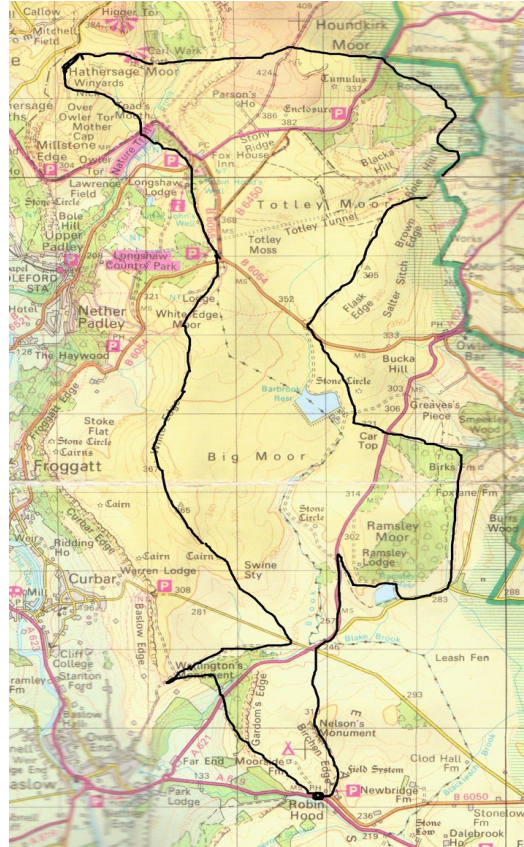


WALK 100.
ROBIN HOOD BASLOW. 1.
22-6 miles. 6 hours 17 minutes.
Map White Peak. SK28/38.



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Start at the Eric Byne car park near the Robin Hood (281721). Walk uphill for 25 metres then go L over a ladder stile, pass a sign to open country, then after about 300 metres go R up a steep bank to scramble to the top of Birchyn Edge. Then walk NNW on the top of Birchyn Rocks. Pass on the R large rocks named after Nelson’s ships.

Just past the Trig. Point, go L down the slope and walk N to the corner of the wall and out on to the road at a stile and cross roads at 278740. Walk now N on the A.621 for about half a mile. At this point at 281750 a track crosses the road from NW to SE. Cross the road and go R through a stile at the side of a gate and walk SE on a good grassy track. Short stakes marked Wildlife sanctuary show the way to Ramsley Reservoir. Go L and walk around the reservoir joining a track to then go R to the road. Turn L and walk down the road to a junction where there is a gate on the L. pass a sign and walk N on a good wide track, choose the track on the R at a fork. Walk now past Hewett’s Bank the track dropping all the time to enter some trees and arrive at a Wooden Footbridge over a brook.

Still going N, to reach a sign, and two gates to emerge on to a lane at 295766. Bear L and walk W, on the R is the conical shape of Smeekly Wood carry on uphill W up the lane to a road. Go R to see a gate on the other side of the road at 289772. Go through the white gate and walk along a lane towards Barbrook Reservoir. In a few hundred metres pass a guide stone marked Sheffield;

before the reservoir. Go R here NW uphill on a grassy track, providing easy walking to reach a boundary wall where good stone steps in the wall (281778); do not go over the steps, but continue walking close to the wall on the R.

Walk NW passing sheep pounds and Bar Brook and come to a sign and stile to the R at 276782. Go onto the road and walk R to a stile on the L which gives access to the moors. The route NE is represented on the O.D. map by a black line.

Follow the narrow path that leads uphill to a Trig. Point at 285788, then continue in the same direction. A ventilation tower from the railway tunnel lies to the NW. now approach a danger area to the R indicated by a red flag: so keep away from the R and join a wide and well used track; turn L on it and walk downhill; this is now Wimble Holm Hill. In front see a gate, before that take a path L, following a bridle way that goes around the nose of Wimble Nose Hill, contouring on the level to then drop down to a gate at 286797, where the bridle way gives way to a path.

Walk uphill through a field, following wall on the R to the top to go through a small gate and then go on a wide track that goes NE through a landscape of fern and trees follow the track now a bridleway going NE; Blacka Hill is to the L come to two wooden seats and fork L on a track that drops through trees, Blacka Dyke on the L. go over a footbridge then drop steeply to go over stepping stones at 294807.

Turn L and walk WNW on a good path, passing two uprights of a former gateway, the stream now on the L to walk uphill. There is a choice now: go R over a wooden footbridge of sleepers; a sign directs to the quaintly named Devil's Elbow Gate to follow a narrow and muddy path, climbing fairly steeply on a path that indicates that water runs down here in wet weather. Arrive now at sign Public Bridleway to Shorts Lane. Continue up to a gate and the road at 286813.

Bear R and walk NNE with Houdkirk Moor on the L and an interesting view to the R. in only 100 metres, cross the road to a sign, then ascend steps to a gate. Through the gate strike out W uphill on a bearing that will eventually lead to Carls Walk. There is no path through heather so it is high stepping uphill; it is hard going and slow. Continue on a line that comes into wide basin; Hounkirk Hill lies to the R. walk now through grass which is little improvement. Pass another concrete post. Eventually arrive at Houdkirk Road (276817).

The worst is now over so continue in the same direction as before, then go SW on a worn path over the moor, climbing at first, then levelling out. Eventually arrive at Burbage Rocks. Drop down on to a good track that goes under the rocks. Cross the track and drop down to Burbage Brook at the side of a plantation. Cross the brook by a stone bridge and start the climb up on a worn path to get to Carls Walk. This is a superb hill fort of about two acres, situated on a ridge where gritstone boulders abound. Parts of the original defences still stand to a height of 10 feet. In the E side the situation of a former gate can be seen. There is a rampart of turf fronted by large blocks which suggests to some that the fort dates from just after the Roman period. On the Longshaw Estate lie two enclosed settlements, one of them with two oval huts within the walls. Their date may be Iron Age.

Follow the path around and under the N side of the Fort, then continue W to the sheep pound so as to walk around its N end (253816), then turn L to walk uphill toward Owler Tor. In only 400 metres go L off the path where there is a cleft in the ridge on the R, then walk ESE down the hillside on a worn path through Winyards Nick to a stile and another sign at Toads Mouth (260806). The last section to the road is done on grass.

Cross the road to a gate and a N.T. sign. Then on to Barbrook Brook to cross by a footbridge, and walk SE uphill through wooded scenery parallel to the road on the L. This comes to a gate at 265801. Cross the road, go R, then walk a few metres to a white gate to re-enter the Longshaw Estate. Proceed along a track towards the house. Take a path that goes around the house through woods, then out at a gate onto a fine hard path that goes gently uphill to a sign and wooden pole at 269790. Fork L and go out onto a road junction; do not go down the road to the R, but make for a

gate in front. Take some steps to the R of a gate then walk on a wide track going S. White Edge Lodge stands to the R in its proud isolation. Then walk uphill with fence to White Edge.

Commence on the long but interesting slog S along White Edge, pass a path to the R to Lady's Cross then through a gap in a wall and sign; carry on S on the Edge. The views to the R is the Derwent Valley and beyond Eyam Moor.

Pass a Trig. Point at 264758 and look E to see Barbrook Reservoir then carry on, the fields to the R. where a wall comes close to the path and a sign post, angle L to walk SE through rough ground and mud with wall away to the R, it gets closer all the time until the path joins it and a stile and out onto the road (277740).

Cross the road and go through a gate to walk W on a good track to Wellingtons Monument. Just by the monument cut down L on a very steep path, bear L at the bottom with wall on the R. follow the wall as it angles R and walk downhill on a rough path with wall on R. over a stile then walk down a jitty with a house on the L. Cross the stream on a packhorse Bridge and up to the road at 268733.

Cross the road and walk to the L of a house to walk uphill through trees going SE under Gardoms Edge. at the top go through a broken wall, then a large gritstone outcrop on the L. Carry on down through ferns on a good path to a stile in a wall then out on to the road, over the stile then walk L up the road to the start.