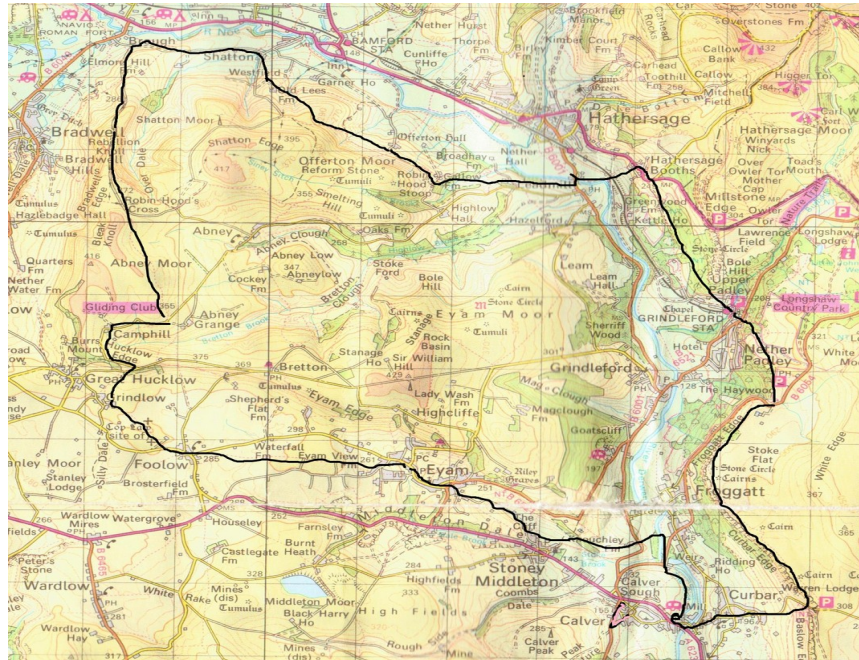


**WALK 109.**  
**CALVER. 109.**  
**24 miles. 6 hours 40 minutes.**  
**Map White Peak. Dark Peak. SK28/38.**



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Start at Calver (247743). Walk S on the A.623 for 400 metres, then turn L to walk uphill, passing Cliff College, and reaching the cross roads in several hundred metres. Bear R and walk uphill through Curber. Where the road curves L, go straight on through a stile and walk uphill through a field to stile, then up through stiles to the same road then uphill to near the top and go L on a good track to Froggatt Edge.

Walk N on this popular route where the views to the L take in the valley of the Derwent and its W hills. Carry on the edge to leave by a gate at a road at 253776. Bear R; walk uphill for a few metres to a small gate on the L, then go downhill on steps to then cross a stream, then up a bank to walk N on a good path with Hay Wood on the L. Come to a wooden step stile; on the R is a path from the Grouse Inn. But continue N with a wall on the R, the land dropping on the L. Go through a wide gap in a corner the path drops through trees to meet a wider track. Go L down this to a footpath sign in Nether Padley to then bear R and come down to the B.6521 at 252787.

Go forward a short distance, then drop down a jitty to Grindleford Station. Pass the entrance to Totley Tunnel and continue on the road that goes past Padley Chapel which was for long a ruin, Eyre married Joan Padley on his return from Agincourt. Their brasses are in Hathersage Church. In 1588, two Roman Catholic priests were discovered hiding in the hall; they were executed in Derby. The ruins of Padley Hall lie on the N side of the Chapel; a quadrangular house of the C.14 and C.15. The chapel has a hammer-beam roof with angels.

Walk past houses, go over a cattle-grid and a N.T. sign to Longshaw Estate, then, in a short distance, drop down L towards the ladder stile at a railway bridge. A hundred metres or so short of the bridge, go R into Rough Wood, walking N parallel to the railway on a clear track, away to the R is Oxhay Barn; come to a step stile in a fence, then continue in the same direction, the wall sometime close, sometime not. Take another step stile and the track becomes a high path with the land dropping to the L; now come to a gate, no stile.

Walk through a field, wall on L, and cross the drive to Kettle Farm. Enter woods; do not go L on a path under the railway but walk over a small stream to a gritstone wall ahead with substantial stile. Walk through a field, wall on L, then bear R uphill to cross a farm drive and continue uphill on to another drive to the road at 241807.

Go L, passing the Millstone Inn. In 200 metres, go L down a lane; a little way down the lane, a sign at a gate shows the entrance into a field to drop sharply to a stile at a gate, then proceed downhill through a field, wall on L; views over the valley. Go through a gateway with stile; in the field, bear R; go through a gateway, no gate, but a stile at the side, then walk downhill with wall on R to the railway.

Cross the railway line (no bridge), go over a bar stile, then down to a hard riverside path that emerges on to the road at Leadmill Bridge (233807). Go L over the bridge, then immediately R through a slot in a wall to a step stile. Now level going, walking with river on the R to a stile in the next field to bear L and walk away from the river towards steps where there is a short bank to climb. Walk W to steps in a wall, then gain more height, hedge on R. go through a gateway, no gate but remains of an old stile on R. then climb up towards a farm ahead to go over a wooden stile and out on to a lane at 226806 (Mount Pleasant Farm). Go R along a lane for a short distance to a sign directing to go L. On the L, the Dunge Brook flows down its little glen through the trees of Callow Wood. Above stands Highlow Hall, the ancient home of Robert Eyre (another link with Padley). Highlow Hall is a modest but delightful C.16 manor house in a fine setting; irregular, with a crenelated front and a square porch a C.17 stairs within. Several C.17 gateways and a barn survive.

Walk uphill to a gate with steps on the R, then enter Callow Wood on a firm track through sparse trees, Dunge Brook down on ones L. now rise up to a wall, the land falling away on the L to provide a scene typical of many areas in the beautiful Peak District of Derbyshire.

Come to a small wooden gate in the wall; go through then climb the steep, forbidding bank to Callow Farm which juts out above. Go through a gateway into the farmyard; from this height look back at the Derwent Valley it is breath-taking.

Go forward 20 metres on the farm drive to a gateway, no gate, then bear R off the farm drive on a rough area, contouring along the bankside, farm buildings below on the R. Ascend the bank and get views of the Hope and Edale Valleys. Go over a stile, cross a minute stream, then follow a worn path on the bankside. Come to a step stile and on to the road at 215808.

Bear R and walk NE along the lane; soon the Offerton Hall comes in to view. This is where Ralph Eyre lived, one of the famous family that dominated Derbyshire in the C.15. They owned Highlow and Padley which have been passed. The house was erected about 1550 but about 1640, it was stated to be in ruinous condition, so was rebuilt by Robert Glossop. It is a fine, large gabled manor house with a stair turret. A chimney breast on the ground floor is 40 feet in circumference. There is a Cruck barn in the yard.

Come to two sets of step stile, go over the stile and walk uphill, rising gently on a wide track. Proceed through moorland and suddenly catch a view of the Ladybower Reservoir. The path levels out as a ladder stile is approached and come out on to the road at 201815. Shatton mast stands in front. Bear R and walk steeply downhill to Shatton; bear L when the farm is reached at the bottom of the hill and walk W along Townfield Lane for a hundred metres to climb stone steps on the L. enter a field and walk W with fence and wall on the R. the lane on the R which we could have taken; how did it get so deeply cut. Go through a stile on the R to re-enter the lane, then, in 20 metres, go R through a metal gate, walk through a field, wall on the R, towards Elmore Hill Farm.

Go through a gateway into next field and go in the same direction to another field, hedge on R. go into the farmyard, then R to a gate and walk through field with wall on the L. come to a gate in a wall with a stile on its side and come out onto a stony lane at 184820.

Walk S uphill. To the R, lies Bradwell, the steep track levels out to approach Robin's Hood Cross which lay on a packhorse route, well known now to hang-gliders; only the base now remains, built into a wall; it originally marked the junction of the parishes of Abney, Hazelwood

and Bradwell, and was referred to as far back as 1317 when its name was Robin Cross, named after Robin Archer, Lord of Abney.

A little further on, at 185801, go R off the lane at a sign and a step stile, then walk along Abney Moor, a level track to the road at 189786. Instead of going down to Abney Grange, go R along the road for 100 metres, then cross the road to a step stile into a field and walk to the far lower end and a wooden step stile, then drop sharply to a small stream which flows down a small Clough, the head of the valley below Abney Grange.

Climb the steep bank to a ladder stile, then level going with a line of trees to the L. drop to a wall with a stile in it. , then pass a Water Board Building and climb the bank to steps in a wall and gain the road at 182781.

Bear L and walk downhill for several hundred metres to railings on the R; go R here off the road to a rough path through trees to the road below where a sign shows the way. Cross the road to a broken wall with a wooden step stile into a field to walk downhill, wall on L to a slot in a wall, go downhill towards Rose Farm where the route is not clear; the route may go through the farmyard itself. Emerge on to the road and make for the point at 182774 to then go down a lane at a sign where the road curves.

The direction is now generally SW towards Foolow; go down the lane which is paved in parts and come to a stile. Cross a field to a stile ahead. Carry on to cross a farm drive to get to a wall with stone steps. Cross the next field to a stile in the wall to gain a road at 189768. Go L and walk through Foolow, referred to as Ffollowe in a C.15 document. The Old Hall is a small C.17 building with a canted bay. The chapel near the small C.19 Church is dated 1836 but its interesting Tuscan porch and thin lancet windows suggest a date of 30 years earlier. The cross is mediaeval but the base is 1868.

Pass the duck pond on the R and the Public House on the L and walk E out of Foolow to a sign on the R in several hundred metres, go R into a field, (then walk E on a pleasant route to Eyam). From the road angle L to a stile then another then walk with wall on the R to a low wall in front. Walk through several stiles with wall still on side to enter a Lindon Dale, a tiny limestone dale with a sign to Eyam. Climb the dale bank and angle L through a broken wall. Now walk E with mounds and depressions from former workings.

The next stile is wide slot and remains of a ladder stile and a sign. Go forward to a gate, then into a lane to cross by slot stiles. Its 20 metres to the next stile; a glance at the map shows how irregular shapes the fields here are. Pass more mounds and depressions on the way to the next stile, then go forward to another slot. The next is a gritstone steps in a limestone wall. Most of the paths around here were for the lead miners going to work. Go through a long narrow field to a wall at the end then through a field that drops slightly.

Go through a slot; enter a wide field, go over steps in a wall to enter a narrow jitty between houses and enter Eyam. Most people know the story of the plague of Eyam. The church has been rebuilt but retains some work of several past periods. A C.9 Saxon cross in the churchyard is notable for its head which has course vine scrolls. Eyam Hall is a late C.16 or early C.17 house. The S front was rebuilt in 1676; it is built in three storeys. The entrance is classical. The wrights who live here have lived here since C.17. Leave the historic village; notice the plaques on several of the houses explaining the people who died in the plague.

Leave the village just past the road junction on the R to go down a minor road going SW past the Lydgate Graves to a slot on the R of a gate and sign to Stony Middleton then walk down a narrow jitty to a good stile to enter a large field past trees on the L then go downhill to a poor stile. Go out on to a road to pass houses and come to Stony Middleton and the Memorial Hall built in memory of the second Baron Denman of Dovedale.

In the Elizabethan or Jacobean Hall (much altered in the C.19), the family of Denman lived. Joseph and Thomas were great Victorian reformers. Joseph was a judge. His successor, Thomas, was remembered in the village for his eccentric ways; he carried his pig with him in his carriage. Lord Denman built thermal baths on the supposed site of Roman Baths; the arm spring still flows. The parish church has an unusual feature: an octagonal nave added to a C.15 tower in 1759. The tollhouse near the main road was built in 1840; it is also octagonal.

Avoiding the main road C.623, walk down to the church (on the R), passing the remains of the baths on the L; go just past the church to a slot on the R to walk L uphill. Arrive at a gate on the R is a wall with a stone step. Walk forward to Knouchley Farm where one might encounter the worst mud ever seen as a gate is entered. Bear R, pass close to the farm outbuildings and a Georgian farm house on a dry drive and come out on a road at 241756 on them B.6001.

Cross the road to a slot on the L of a gate then drop through a field, wall on L, go L through a gate, then drop down to the River Derwent and two slots between five uprights. The turn R and walk to Froggatt Bridge with steps in a wall. Go over the C.17 Bridge which has two arches odd in shape and size, bear R and walk S alongside the river to stone steps in a wall. Come to the New Bridge where to climb up stone steps to the road, cross it, and continue on the river side walk to a sign and stile and out on the road turn R and walk back to the start.