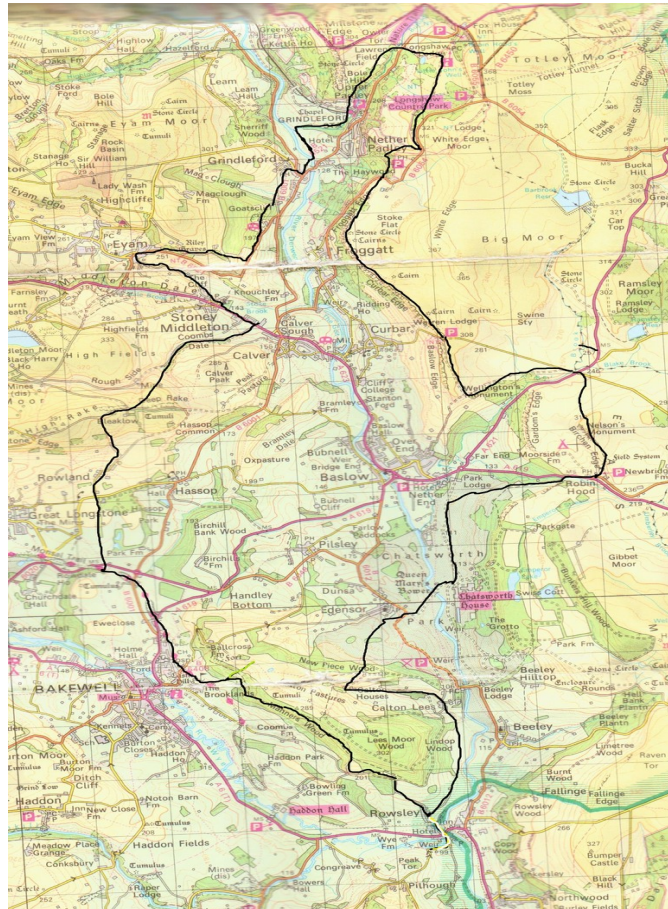


WALK.123
ROBIN HOOD BASLOW. 123
29-8 Miles. 8 hours 5 minutes.
Map White Peak.



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Start at Robin Hood Baslow (281721). Walk downhill towards Baslow for a few hundred metres, cross the road A.619 to go through a stile on the L. go down some steep steps to the go over a footbridge over a stream. Walk up R to a wide track, then go R on this track to a stile on the R of a gate. Go under Chatsworth Rocks on the L. take two high stiles on the R of gates, walk downhill through a stile at the L of a gate in a fence. Then take the bottom track at the bottom of the hill to walk L through the beautiful Chatsworth Park past the historic house of the Cavendish's, then over Pains Bridge over the River Derwent to walk on a path to the R of the road to Edensar.

The village was removed from its original position between 1838 and 1842 by the 6th Duke of Devonshire who left its planning to his gardener Paxton. Only one of the residents refused to move and his house in on the L. The church by Gilbert Scott came much later. Much good solid stonework went into the village in an interesting mixture of stiles : Norman, Swiss Chalet Roofs, Italianate Windows, Jacobean Gables, Barge Boarding, Tudor Chimneys, Half –Timbered Dwellings

In the village, go past the church then look L for steps up to a wicket gate, the walk up through this delightful deer park, passing Maud's Plantation, to reach a gate and fine stile; with a large sign and seat for weary limbs.(247689). Walk S along a wide track through woodland to a gate with a stile on its L.

Walk SE downhill past a three armed sign: notice the House Moscar Lodge in the L corner it was built for the Csar Nicholas who on a visit from Russia was supposed to visit Chatsworth; it was built in the Russian style to make him feel at home, but alas he did not come.

Head to a gate , no stile, then proceed downhill through Calton Houses on a wide track; a few stone cottages. Drop down and walk E on a good track to Calton Village. At a gate go R on a road to look for a stile past the last house at 257680, then walk S through a field, look for a stile in the wall on the L. Then go downhill and walk through the base of the valley to two gates and a sign. Go through the R gate then a gate in the wall ahead, level going to the L corner and a stile in a gate in the wall.

Proceed on a muddy stony farm track through trees to a gate with a stile on the L into a field then along the farm track (very Muddy in winter) to go through a farm and so out onto the road in Rowsley.

Go R on the road and walk uphill passing the church on the R. go NW along a lane through trees to a junction of footpaths at 244669 where instead of going down an old road to Bakewell, go R up into woods to join a good track on from the R. go L on this through woods on a good mainly level track for about a mile until come to a square 4foot high water board? Construction on the R, at this point go downhill through trees on a rocky muddy track to then walk through golf links at 228687.

Descend to the railway bridge over the trail, to go down steps onto the former railway line trail. This was the old Midland Line that is now closed from Matlock to Buxton. Go L on the trail and walk to the old station at Bakewell. What is left is still interesting: Blind Arches in pink ashlar with sections of simple leaf decoration and imitation Corinthian Capitals (without Columns). The railway dates back to the 1860's when the Duke of Rutland insisted on the line being placed out of sight in a tunnel behind Haddon Hall. The glass canopy of the station was designed by Paxton himself. The station was closed in 1967 after 100 years of operation.

Carry on the trail and pass Hassop Station, built by Edward Walters in 1863 for the Duke of Devonshire which is similar to the one at Bakewell, then at 214707, go R off the trail through a wooden gate and cross the field to the road where the Rowdale Toll road stands. This was erected in 1812 on the new Buxton to Ashford turnpike. Cross the road and go over a stile next to a gate on the L of the toll house. Then walk N over the fields to come to the boundary wall of Hassop Estate.

The original estate of 20,000 acres belonged to the Eyres from 1498 to 1853; before then, it had belonged to the Foljambes of Tideswell where they have a splendid tomb in the Parish Church. They sold it to the son of Robert Eyre of Padley. The last Eyre to own it was the Countess of Newbrough. The Eyres were on the side of the Stuarts in the Civil War when the house was held for the King by Colonel Thomas Eyre who fought Cromwell at Edgehill. After Naseby, Thomas was imprisoned in Derby Goal where he died of neglect in 1646. Another member of the family supported the Stuarts in the 1745 rebellion and was beheaded for his loyalty .

The hall was originally a C.16 house; it was rebuilt in 1827-33 by Thomas Eyre, 7th Earl of Newbrough in seven bays, and three stories, balustrade at the top; the effect is heavy. There are subterranean passages reminiscent of Welbeck.

Walk N under the formidable limestone wall which surrounds the estate, taking several stiles to reach the road at 213721. Cross the road , then go straight ahead up the minor road to Rowland following an old Packhorse trail. Just beyond the last house in the village, past the reservoir on the R, go L (N) up a steep lane that comes to a sign at 215731. A little further on, a footpath sign on the L indicates a well-known route to Longstone. Do not take this but continue up the narrow lane to reach a wooden gate, then come out onto a wide industrial road .

Bear R and walk along what was an impressive deep rake now filled in but was a deep scar where the lead and minerals had been taken out and should have been left for visitors to inspect. Pass Bleaklow Farm hidden away to the R, then, in half a mile go L down a side track that crosses Deep Rake and goes N through rough ground to a metal gate. Go forward a short distance, wall on the R, then go L so as to walk on a path above Coombs Dale, follow it around at the higher level, no path; go through a metal gate and keep to the same height to come to a wall to cut downhill a few metres to a wooden stile. Contour at the same height: the ground falls away sharply to the L to come

to a step stile into woods where the path is overgrown and difficult to see as it drops, fence on the R. pass a sign and continue downhill on a narrow path to reach steps and stile to join an industrial road that leads own to the A.623 at 235751.

Go L to walk to Stoney Middleton, go R down a side street, then up L to pass the village hall bearing the name of Baron Denman of Dovedale. Joseph Denman of Bakewell and his nephew lived in this village. Thomas was one of the greatest reformers of the Victorian era, a judge, and a persistent opponent of slavery. His son rose to high positions, one an Admiral, another a Judge. Stoney Middleton Hall dates from about 1600 but was altered in 1820-30 by Lord Chancellor Denman whose family had come into the property by marriage in 1790. The Church at the foot of the village is an octagonal unusual shape.

Just around the corner past the last house is a stile on the L that leads up a steep bank which levels out; come to a slot and go through a narrow jitty. Over a stile and enter Eyam, passing the Lydgate Graves. A sign states that during the Middle Ages, this was the main road into the village. Male inhabitants had to take it in turns to stand watch at night at the gate nearby. This was confirmed by the Watch and Ward Act of 1833.

Go R off the road to Grindleford, passing, passing the Wesleyan Reform Church. In a few hundred metres, go R off the road onto a minor road or track that climbs steeply, signed to the Riley's Graves. At a fork, go R on a lane that, level going past the Riley's Graves: this family buried here were placed here by the Mother who buried each of her children and husband, they succumbed to the Eyam Plague. In a short distance, go R at a sign and walk through woods, a delightful spot. Drop down on a sunken path to the road at B.6521 at 235762.

Bear L the views of the Derwent Valley are striking. In a few hundred metres, at a road junction with the B.6001, go L into the woods just before the junction, walking on a hard track. Just where the track goes R, there is a stile with a pole, to then enter a field to be faced with Goatscliffe Brook which you cross: no footbridge to a slot, then proceed along a narrow jitty with fence on one side and wall on the other.

Climb now a few hundred metres up to a slot, into a field, to bear L and walk with a hedge on L up to a metal gate with stile on its L. Go through a field with wall and a few trees on the R, contouring in fact and come to a metal gate with stile and emerge in an open spot with trees. Now descend keeping to the L. Here, pass an arch on the L and go through a wooden gate, then pass alongside houses and so out onto the road at 242778.

Cross the road to a jitty which leads down to Grindleford Bridge. Cross this, then, a short distance on the L, just beyond the garage, is a stile into a field, River Derwent on the L. Walk N until a concrete bridge is reached, go through a small gate, then bear R and walk NE, climbing gently, wall on L. go through a gap in a wall, then bear R and proceed on a good track that leads to a bridge over a railway and out into a lane.

Bear R over a cattle grid and pass historic Padley Hall on the L. cross a stream, then just past the garage, go through a slot in a wall and walk NE up a delightful valley of the Burbage Brook. Near the top go over wood bars at a wall, the stream now near, tumbling over massive boulders. Go R up a road via a gate. Cross the road to a gate other side, then enter woodland of the Longshaw estate. The path goes past a pond. Make for the main road through the estate at 259781.

Go R towards the Grouse Inn before which go off the road through wooden gate into a field and make for a wooden gate in the far L corner. Go past an Eastern Estate sign. Follow the wall on the R to come to another footpath sign: go R here and walk the long pleasant slog over White Edge. On a fine day the views are extensive. The route drops down near Swine Sty avoiding Ladyford Brook, then following a line of posts drop down to the road at 277740. Bear L and walk downhill SE to a cross roads and a stile to enter Burchin Moor. Walk S through damp ground to Birchin Rocks; there is a path on the top or underneath the rocks. Then follow the path down on a good track to a stile and so out on to the road. Turn R and walk down to the start.