

Bakewell & Hassop Station

Walk Information

Walk Area:	Bakewell	OS Map:	Explorer OL24
Distance:	3.5 miles		White Peak Area
Start Point:	Northern End Of Town Bridge		1:25000
Map Ref:	SK 220 687		
Post Code	N/A		

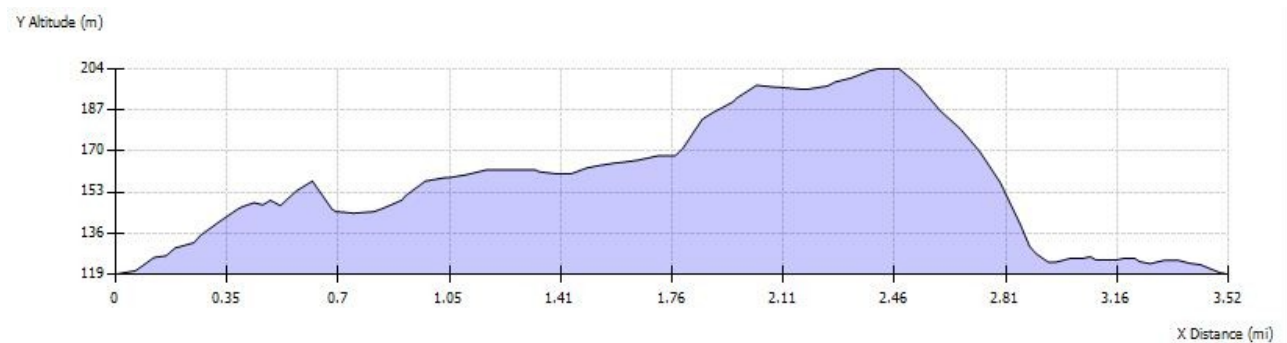
General Information

Parking:	Pay And Display
Tea Shops:	One
Duration:	1 Hour 30 Minutes

Altitude Data

Start:	400 ft (122m)
Minimum	390 ft (119m)
Maximum	669 ft (204m)

Altitude Profile



A nice gentle short walk, nothing too uneven underfoot, the only section that may be considered steep is towards the end of the walk on the decent to Holme Hall. This walk has the advantage of a tea shop around a third of the way along at Hassop Station, and tea rooms a plenty in Bakewell it's self when the walk is over. One unusual feature of this walk is the total absence of any stiles!

Getting There:

Bakewell is a prominent market town in Derbyshire located on the A6 towards the north of the county, to this day agricultural and cattle markets take place each Monday (Bank Holiday's excludes as is the week of the Bakewell show). During these times the town becomes extremely busy, and parking can be difficult if not almost impossible. Parking for this walk is best from either the car parks off Coombs road (Northern end of the River Bridge), or at the agricultural centre is driving in from the



Town Bridge And The River Wye

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South.

There is also limited town centre parking in the market place, on non-market days; but it is so limited I personally tend not to bother with it. Given the number of different long and short stay parking options available I have chosen not to detail parking charges. Until recently there has been a tradition of feeding the duck's and geese on the river (as well as the trout that rise to grab bread before the ducks). This activity has now been banned by the local council. The reason given is that it attracts too many male ducks who then the mob the female ducks during the breeding season.

The start point for this walk is the northern end of the 12th century bridge over the River Wye, if you have parked in town cross the bridge (take care the footpaths are very narrow, and the bridge is both busy and narrow). If you have parked in one of the series of car parks off of Coombs Road, make your way back to the River Bridge.



Bakewell Station

From the bridge walk up Station Road and away from both the bridge and the A6. The road splits almost immediately, keep left and walk up the hill. The road curves left as it climbs, continue following the road until it reaches a point where an number of roads converge. Remain on Station Road by continuing straight ahead at the junction. A short distance beyond the junction to the right is the former Bakewell Station with it's small pay-and-display car park. Pass to the left of the station buildings to access the Monsal trail.

On joining the Monsal Trail the former track bed of a rail link between Manchester and London, turn left and walk north-east for a distance of a mile to Hassop Station. The station is now a tearoom and bookshop, with indoor seating and a sun terrace overlooking the Monsal trail, well worth a visit if you have the time.



Hassop Station Tea Rooms

From Hassop Station continue along the trail in the original direction for a further quarter of a mile or so to the point where a bridle way crosses the trail. This point is easily as it is signposted and has a bench to take in in the views. Take the obvious path to the left through

the gate and continue up the hill, the path soon becomes walled on both sides. Continue forward passing through three gates until the right hand wall is replaced by a fence. The next section of the path is grassed, and from the depth of the hoof prints is often used as a gallop; that being the case it may be advisable to keep dogs on a lead. The end of this fenced section of the bridle path is marked by a further gate and is the highest point of the walk. It literally is all downhill from here. Once again walking between dry stone walls, for a short distance the path becomes uneven and slippery if wet. This next section I found to be quite active in terms of wildlife, spotting a couple of pippits (identified by their striking white tail bars) and rabbit's a plenty, one disappeared into a home not

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five yards from me as I walked. Again the presence of so much wildlife may need to be taken into account if walking with dog's as there is a deep disused quarry near-by. Continue forward through a further two gates exiting into an open meadow. The path continues along the obvious path through the middle of the meadow descending back towards Bakewell, the spire of Bakewell's Church can



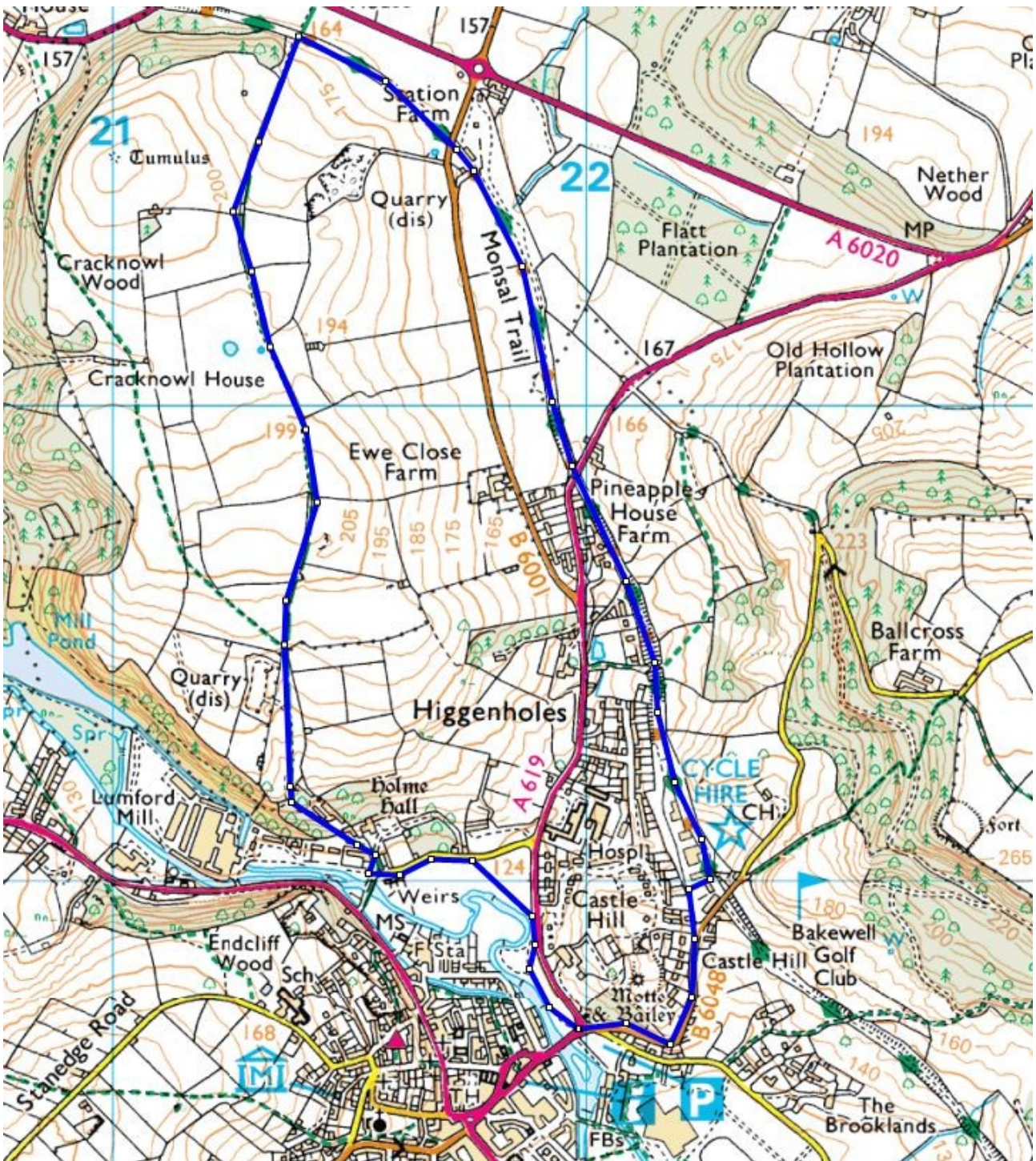
Riverside Path

be seen in the valley below. This is the steepest section of the walk, so care may be needed if the grass underfoot is wet. Leave the meadow via a wooden gate into a rough tree lined lane that continues to descend past Holme Hall to the River Wye.

On reaching the road at the end of the lane, there is a pack-horse bridge directly ahead, this bridge has never been widened and shows just how narrow some of these bridges were. Do not cross the river, rather turn left along the road and look for a small sunken wooden gate in the wall to the flood meadow on the right. The gate has two stone steps immediately in front of it that are not obvious until the gate is reached. Pass through the gate and follow the path diagonally to the left towards the river. When the path reaches the wall once more do not take the steps up to the road, take the path between the bottom of the wall and the river. The path soon opens out once more into flood meadow, continue towards the bridge, exiting the meadow by a gate at the end of the bridge to return to the start point of this walk.

Map with route overlay on following page.

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Map courtesy of Mapyx Quo