

Hathersage and Cattis-Side Moor.

Walk Information

Walk Area:	Hathersage	OS Map:	Explorer OL24
Distance:	4.5 Miles		White Peak Area
Start Point:	Oddfellows Rd Car Park		1:25000
Map Ref:	SK 231 813		

General Information

Parking:	Pay And Display
Tea Shops:	Two
Duration:	2 Hours 50 Minutes

Altitude Data

Start:	521 ft (159m)
Minimum	515 ft (157m)
Maximum	1181 ft (360m)

Altitude Profile



Stepping Stones Over Hood Brook

One of the more demanding walks on this site even though it is only 4.5 miles long. If you are thinking of doing this walk please take into account that there is very little walking on the level, and that a large portion of the later section of the route is totally exposed to whatever the weather, so as with all walks please be prepared and if you have any doubts about the weather leave this walk for another day. Having said that the views down the valley from Green's House, and Stanage Edge from the road on Cattis-Side Moor make this walk well effort worth Effort. As a bonus for those stepping stone lovers amongst you, there is a set on this walk. One final thing to look out for as the route passed through the church yard of St Michael and All Angels is the grave of "Little John" the quarter-staff wielding companion of Robin Hood.

Getting There:

Hathersage is situated in the Derwent valley, Derbyshire, and the Peak District National Park, 12 miles north east of Buxton on the A6178 between the main A625 Buxton to Sheffield road and Castleton. Hathersage is also well served by both rail and bus services. Timetables for bus services to and from

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Hathersage are available from the Derby Bus Info website. Car parking for this walk is opposite Hathersage's open air swimming pool, this car park is quite small (only 45 spaces) and fills quite quickly. Alternative parking spots for this walk include the Railway Station and a car park at the top of the walk near Overstones Farm (SK 245 829), as this car park is directly on the route of the walk it could form an alternate start point. Only one tea shop directly on the walk, the Pool Side Café at Hathersage Swimming Pool opposite the car park; walkers welcome.

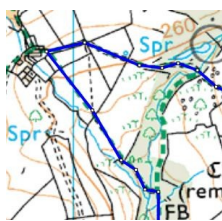
The Walk:

Leave the car park and turn left onto Oddfellows Road, walk up past the fire station on until the road bears right, ahead the footpath becomes a narrow passage between a garden wall and a house. Walk pawn the passage to the road, cross the road and continue into Baulk Lane to the right of the walking gear shop (The Square). Follow Baulk Lane for a little over a quarter of a mile, ignoring the footpath signs to both right and left. After crossing a cattle grid the surface becomes rougher underfoot, a short distance later the track swings to the right and rises for a short distance before resuming it's original direction as a grass track.

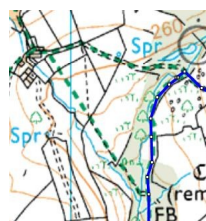


View From Green's House.

Walk along the track in the grass to a pedestrian gate next to a metal gate, pass through the gate and continue forward through two fields. On the rather blustery day I walked this route sections of this path were littered with windfall damsons. On entering the third field walk along the track to the point where it forks, this is marked with a way post. Fork left and go down the slope to a stock gated squeeze stile marked with a yellow arrow adjacent to the boundary fence of Brookfield Manor Training Center. Pass through the gate and walk between two fence lines until the path opens out with a derelict building directly ahead, again on the day I walked this section was littered with both windfall damsons and yellow plums. The path continues forward and to the right of the building to a gate. Cross the road beyond the gate (Birley Lane), then over a step stile into a field. Follow the grassy path across the field to a gate, go through the gate into the woodland regeneration area known as "The Warren".



Suggested



Alternate

Follow the obvious path through the regenerating woodland until you reach a footbridge over Hood Brook. At this point there is a choice of routes, to the left over the footbridge is the documented route of this walk, ahead an alternative that reduces the walk distance to four miles, the downside of the shorter route is that I have not walked it so you are on your own until you get to the stepping stones!

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The documented version of the walk now goes left and crosses Hood Brook via the footbridge, having crossed the footbridge follow the path up the slope through the woodland to a gate. Pass through the gate then cross two fields to another gate near to Green's House. This is the point from which the panoramic image above was taken. Having taken in the view go through the gate and walk down the path between a wire fence and a hedge to a squeeze stile, after going through the stile turn right and follow the path marked "Stanage via North Lees".

Walk along the track between the two stone walls until you reach a junction of four fields, the field we need is the one far right behind the stock gate with the yellow way marker. The path cuts across this field to a gate next to a rickety step stile, I used the gate! The exit from the second field is via another gate this time with a wooden step stile, again I used the gate; the path now drops down along a well worn path to Hood Brook and the stepping stones.

On the far side of Hood Brook the alternate route rejoins the walk. Once over the stepping stones negotiate the odd gate, stile obstacle course thing ahead and follow the wide grassy path across the hillside. As the path crosses the hillside it begins to climb, along the way look to the right for a arched window in a wall with no associated building or visible ruins. Eventually the path approaches a drystone wall with two farm gates, the exit we need is via the gate higher up the hillside, once again carrying a yellow way marker arrow. Once through the gate the path carried on across the moorland to a second gate, continue along the path past the stone with way markers carved into it's top. After a short distance the path reaches a section of woodland. Walk on up through the woodland until the path reaches a road. At this point toilets are available a few meters along the road to the left.



Stanage Edge.

On reaching the road turn right and follow it bends to the right and comes to a junction, turn left and walk along the road for a little over half a mile to the car parking area at the the next junction. The walk along the road is a steady climb of some sixty meters with clear views of Stanage Edge for the whole distance, on reaching the junction at the end of the road the walk has also reached it's summit at three hundred and sixty meters. This car parking area is the alternate start point for the walk, from this junction turn right and walk down the hill for around a third of a mile. Look for a vehicle track to the right with a footpath sign, and a warning to sat-nav drivers that it is not the entrance to the camp site. Follow this track until it bends right, at this point take the footpath to the left and towards the white gate. Walk along the clear path down the slope through the bracken until a stock gate is reached. Pass through the gate and walk down the field towards a telegraph pole near a wide metal gate, to be honest I found this descent the trickiest part of the whole walk. Having got down the grassy slope, this was quite slippery even when only a little damp, walk through the next field keeping the fence line to you left. Keep following the fence line until a tarmac track and cattle grid are reached.

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At the cattle grid the footpath seems to continue to the right of the fence, on the day I was there it looked more like a mud bath than a path, so I followed the roadway down the lane (both seem valid paths on the OS map). Should you choose take the mud bath path it will eventually re-join the lane through a metal kissing gate.



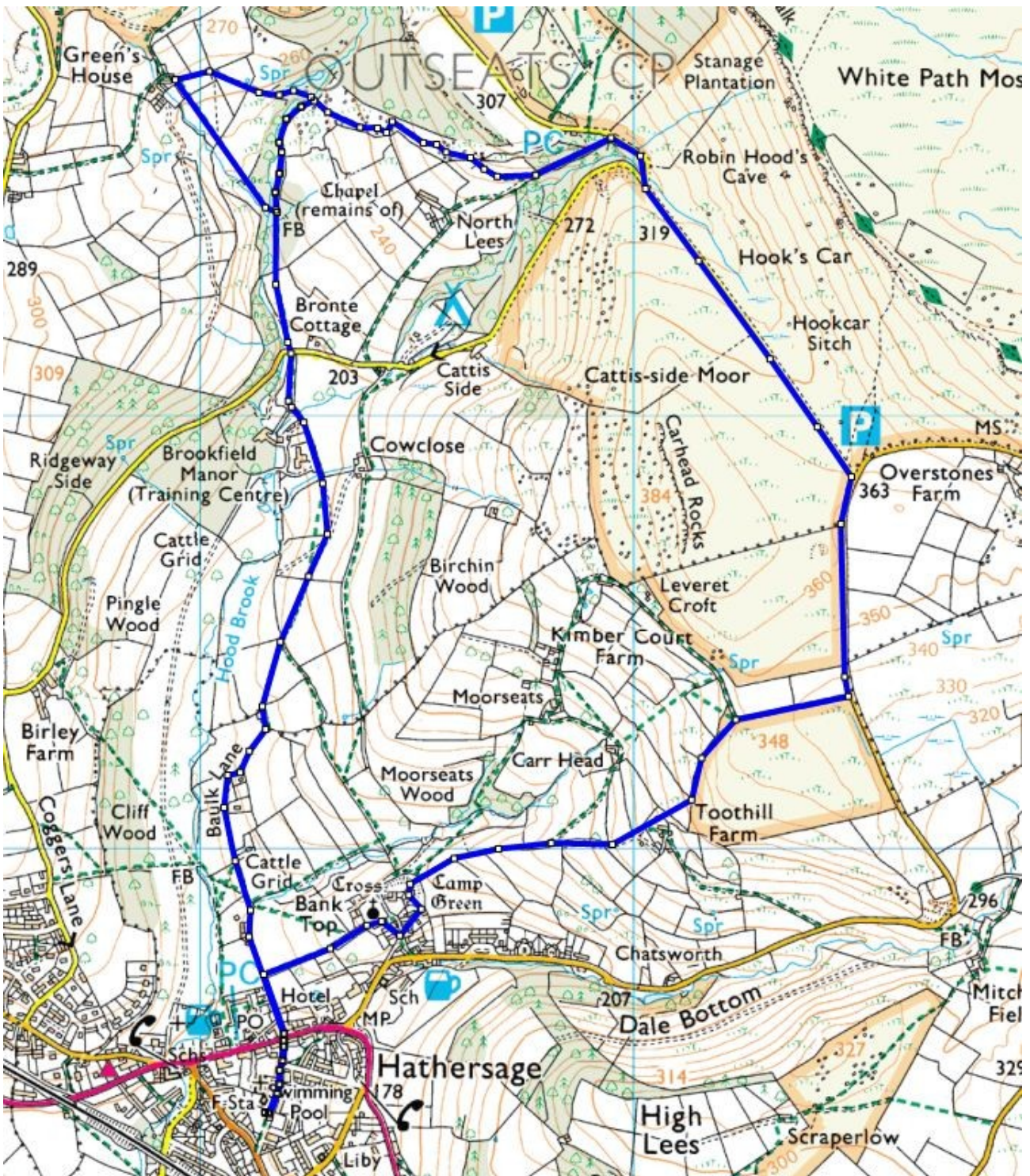
Little John's Grave
St Michael & All Angels, Hathersage.

Eventually the lane reaches the outskirts of Hathersage, as you enter the residential area the road turns right and reaches a junction, turn right (sign posted "Parish Church") and walk the few yards up the hill to the Litchgate of St Michaels and All Angels Church. Being mindful that this is a Church Yard walk towards the church, opposite the door to the church is Little John's Grave. A donation to the upkeep of the Church and Grave can be made at this point by means of a converted parking meter. From Little John's grave, return to the path through the church yard and walk to the gate exiting into a field, the path now drops down the field to Baulk lane with a high wall to the left. On reaching Baulk Lane,

turn left and walk back into Hathersage. On reaching the road the path to Oddfellows Road and the car park is directly opposite. You may however you wish to explore the village before ending your walk.

Map of walk with route overlay on following page.
(Includes Alternate Route.)

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Map courtesy of Mapyx Quo