



WALKERS ARE WELCOME

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Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk

Medium Walk: Hades from Winscar reservoir

- Length – 7.5 miles
- Grade - Mostly well-defined paths, stiles and steady ascents. There is a short stretch across open moorland
- Start – the Yorkshire Water car park at the top of Winscar reservoir
- Grid Reference – SE 155 030 Postcode – S36 4TF
- Maps – OL1 Dark Peak, OS Explorer 288
- Parking – car park at Winscar reservoir
- Public transport – 92/92A Barnsley/Holmfirth bus route
- Refreshments – none on this route
Please note: on older maps, there is a 'PH' at Dunford Bridge: the 'Stanhope Arms' closed some years ago
- Public Toilets – none on the route

Description

This circular walk takes you from Winscar Reservoir (pictured) and into the woods at Hades. You then return via Snailsden Moor. Included are extensive views over both South and West Yorkshire, and several steep ascents/descents.



Route Instructions

1. From the car park, follow the path anti-clockwise round the reservoir until it meets the main road. Turn left (1) and follow the road past Harden Reservoir.

Winscar suffered from leakage for many years. Yorkshire Water drained the reservoir in 2001 and using £400,000 worth of specialist grouting and artificial membrane corrected the problem. During the repairs, old pipework systems from the Dunford dam, which was built in 1850 and submerged by the Winscar dam when it was built downstream in 1975, were used to divert water around Winscar.



2. Turn left opposite Harden Lodge onto a signed
bridleway (2).
3. Follow the path and, after 200 m, at the T-junction,
turn left. After 250 m, turn right towards the woods.
You skirt old quarry workings (Snittlegate Quarry)
and emerge onto Linshaws Road. Turn left, then
right onto the marked track, into the woods.
4. After ~ 500 m, this track takes you past the ruins of
Hades (4).

As you pass the ruins, on your right, you will see 'Hades' spelt out in the dry stone wall. Hades was the Greek God of the underworld. The name of this, now ruined, village is not pronounced in the two syllable biblical manner. You say the word with one syllable and a silent "e", as in the nearby Hade Edge.

5. The road then descends and takes a sharp right-hand hairpin over a stream. The road and walls were extensively renovated in 2016. After a further 350 m, at the cross-roads, turn right onto the Kirklees Way. After 150 m, follow the marked path down to your right (5).

On your right, you will pass the 'Three Arches,' a 1993 installation by Lynne Regan (5b). This was funded by Kirklees Metropolitan Council and Public Arts.

6. Keep descending through the woods. When you reach Holme Styes reservoir, follow the path, over a bridge then right, along the shoreline. Continue, passing through a gate. When you reach the road (Cote Lane), turn left.
7. After 100 m, turn left onto the marked path. About half-way down, take the right turn and descend, down the steps (7). At the bottom of the hill, cross the metal bridge.
8. Keeping the stream (Fox Clough) on your left, follow the path as it rises. Do not take the well-trodden right fork. At the top of the hill, bear right at the ruined buildings (9). After 150 m, at the next building, turn left onto Weather Hill Lane.



9. At the end of the lane, turn left onto Cartworth Moor Road, passing Moorfield 'Mistake' Farm on your right (so-called as there was no water supply when the farm was built). When you reach the cross roads, turn left onto Linshaws Road, keeping the woods on your left.
10. After 1 km, as the road begins to level out, take the sharp right turn through a small wooden gate (10) (adjacent to a metal gate) onto a well-marked track towards Cook's Study Hill. To your right is Holmfirth and Huddersfield. Ahead of you, in the distance is Holme Moss TV mast.
11. After about 250 m, take the left fork. After another 80 m, take the path to your left, descending (11).

On your left, you will pass Snailsden Reservoir, the highest of a feeder group of reservoirs which supplies NW Sheffield.

12. Without crossing the stream, follow the path to the right as it slowly ascends. You will pass a 'DHW WB' marker stone on your right (12).
13. When you reach a shooting butt (marked no.8), turn left and cross the wooden planked bridge (13).
14. The path ascends the hill steeply. It is difficult to make out. However, 10 m after a grouse butt, the path becomes more defined. Turn right along the ridge of the hill. To your left is a trig point (475 m).
15. The path slowly bends to the left (Snailsden Pike End) revealing extensive views to the South, including; Winscar Reservoir and the A616, Woodhead Pass.
16. Follow the path as it curves round the hill, following Snailsden Edge. As the path leaves the edge, it bends to the right, descending. After passing through an old gateway (16), you descend steeply towards buildings and the Western end of Winscar reservoir. This is the point where the River Don joins the reservoir system.
17. When you reach the gate marked, 'Private No Access,' bear left parallel to the metal fence (17). Cross the wall either by the stone stile or through a gap in the fence or wall and descend to the road.
18. Continue along the road (Wetstone Edge). You will pass Harden reservoir on your left just before reaching the road. Turn right back onto your original route (see 4).
19. Take the right turn towards Winscar Reservoir to return to your start point.

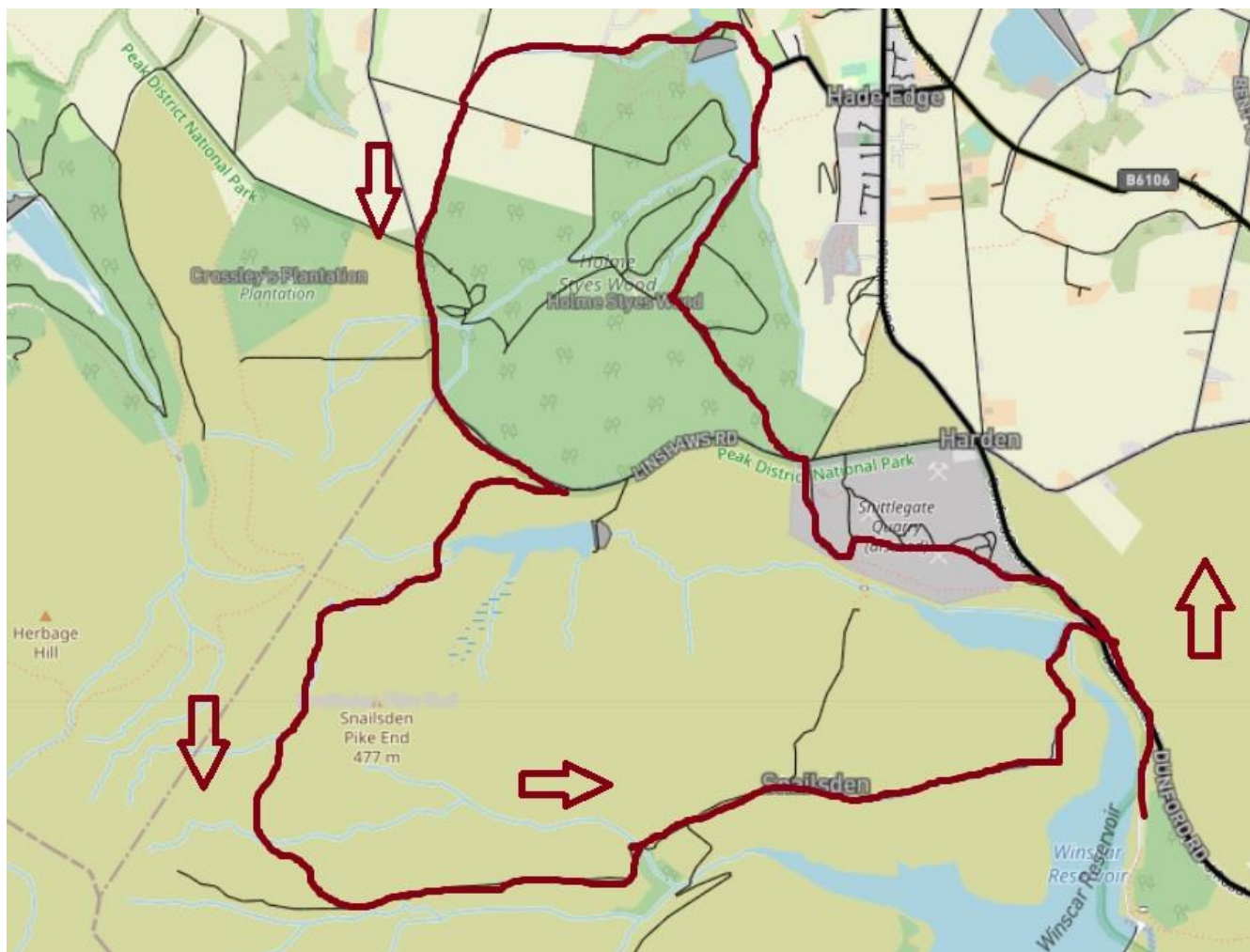


Nearby Dunford Bridge railway station was on the [Sheffield, Ashton-under-Lyne and Manchester Railway](#) situated immediately east of the [Woodhead Tunnel](#) (Sheffield to Manchester). When the line opened in 1845 the tunnels were incomplete and a stagecoach service operated over the hills to the station at [Woodhead](#). The station opened on 14th July 1845. It was replaced in 1954 when the line was electrified and closed when passenger services ceased on 5th January 1970. The line closed in 1981.

The route is now part of the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT), a route for walkers, cyclists and horse riders linking the North and Irish seas, which passes through the Pennines, alongside rivers and canals and through historic towns and cities in the North of England.



Winscar Reservoir, seen from the north (17)



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Historical information on the area is available from Stocksbridge and District History Society: <http://www.stocksbridgehs.co.uk/>

Please utilise the 'contact' link on our website if you wish to suggest any amendments to these instructions

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