



WALKERS ARE WELCOME

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Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk

Medium Walk: The Canyards and Broomhead Reservoir

- Length – 7.5 miles
- Grade – Well defined paths. Stiles and some rough ground, steep in sections
- Start - Bolsterstone village, near Stocksbridge
- Grid reference - SK 271 967
- Maps – OL1 Dark Peak, OS Explorer 278
- Parking - on the road
- Public transport – none on this route
- Refreshments – [The Castle Inn, Bolsterstone](#)
- Public Toilets – in Bolsterstone



Description

From Bolsterstone the route descends towards Broomhead Reservoir before climbing towards The Canyards and distant views of the Peak District. We return via White Lee Moor and Broomhead Reservoir before ascending to Bolsterstone.



The Canyards (

Route Instructions

1. Turn right at the Village Hall along Heads Lane
2. Soon after passing a large Victorian building (Waldershaigh) on your left, turn left on the marked footpath. Go through the small gate and then right through the farmyard, round the back of the barn and through the gate
3. Cross the fields down towards the stile and enter the woods
4. Follow the footpath downwards. At the fork in the paths take the right path along the edge of the woods and down to Yew Trees Lane by the Broomhead Bridge. Turn right onto Yew Trees Lane

5. Cross over the Broomhead Bridge, then turn left into Lee Lane Plantation (5)
6. Follow the Yorkshire Water path until it comes back to the road at the wooden walkway section. Go through the fence onto New Road
7. Turn right and after 30 m, take the signed restricted byway on the left. Continue until the track joins the road. Continue up the road. At the junction turn left past Wigtwizzle Barn. Follow the road round
8. After 800 m take a right turn. This is signed public bridleway, marked '10.' Continue up the track
9. Pass through the farmyard and then after 300 m take a left turn through a new metal gate. Until recently, this was a large gap in the wall (9). There is no sign. This is access land. Follow a path to the right, up to the stone wall. Follow the stone wall south east, running parallel to the road



This route takes you through 'The Canyards,' a 64.1 hectare (158.4 acre) biological and geological site of Special Scientific Interest which was notified in 1990.

This site possesses the most impressive examples in England and Wales of 'ridge-and-trough' or 'tumbled ground'. Beneath a 10 m high cliff, the north-facing valley side above Broomhead Reservoir is a chaotic mass of sub-parallel ridges, separated by intervening narrow areas of marshy ground. The site is formed in Upper Carboniferous Millstone Grit and shows the most extreme form and best example of 'tumbled ground', with innumerable small Millstone Grit blocks (controlled by jointing) taking up a large landslip.

10. Continue on the path by the wall. You will cross an ancient earthwork, Bar Dyke

Bar Dyke is a cross dyke earthwork that is bisected by two roads. It could be either Iron Age or post Roman although it could have been constructed as early as the Bronze Age or as late as the Medieval period. It is ~400 m long and follows a SW-NW uphill course. The banks are between 0.5 m and 1.5 m in height, the distance between them is ~ 8 m. The internal ditch is ~ 1 m wide with the deepest section measuring nearly 3.5 m from the ditch to the top of the bank.

11. After crossing a broken wall, follow the wall, heading towards distant telegraph poles. Pass through the gate in the wall, turn right, then left, continuing uphill along the road
12. Cross the road at the crossroads and continue up the road straight on. Kennedy's Moor is on your left

This stretch of road was part of the Tour de France route on 6th. July 2014. At the time, it was extensively painted.

13. Take a left turn onto the marked path, '157: White Lee Moor' (13)



14. Follow the path parallel to the wall, keeping the woods on your right
15. Cross the ladder stile and continue straight on
16. At the next stile, turn left onto the road
17. At the next junction go straight on and then at the next junction turn right
18. At bottom of hill, turn right into Dwarriden Plantation, passing above the Cruck Barn (18) and continue on the marked footpath. At the end of the path cross the road and take the permissive path down the hill through the woods

The Cruck Barn is a listed (1985) Grade II building which was restored in 1994. It is the only survivor from a group of early 17th-century farm buildings. It is now a private residence.

19. When you reach Broomhead Reservoir, turn right along the footpath
20. Take a left over the dam wall, then right at the end of the wall along the track. Ewden Village is ahead of you.
21. After ~50 m turn left onto an unsigned path through the woods. Follow this path up until you reach Yew Trees Lane. Turn right and return up the road to Bolsterstone



Work started on both Broomhead and More Hall Reservoirs in 1913. They were officially opened in 1929 after delays caused by the First World War. It was not until 1933 that leaks in Broomhead were sealed. Broomhead provides drinking water, More Hall compensation water.

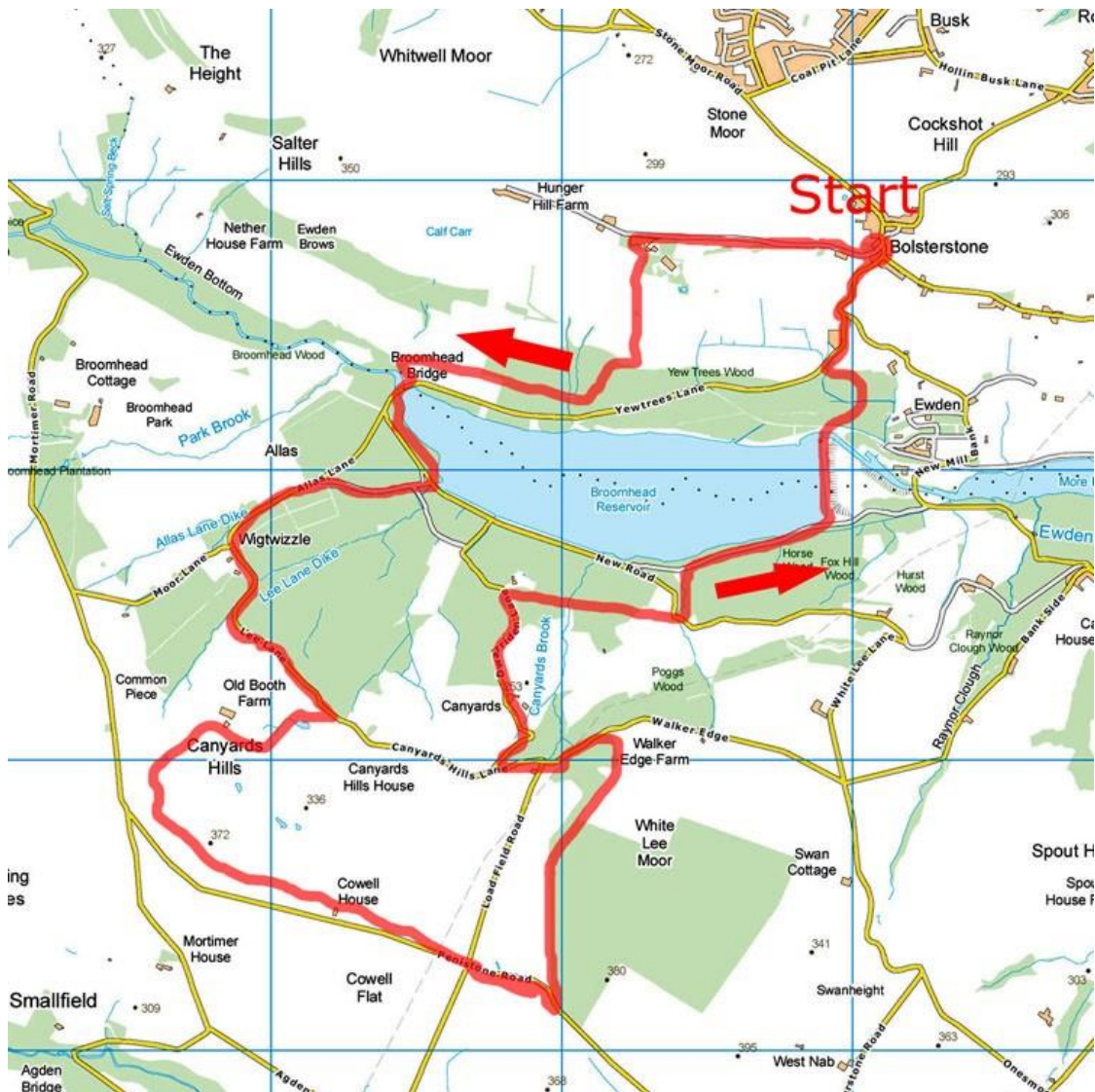
Ewden Village was purpose built to house the labourers and their families. The huts were erected by Walkers, Sheffield timber merchants; each had electric light and hot and cold running water in well fitted bathrooms. There was a Mission Hall, canteen, recreation hall and a general store, run by the Stocksbridge Co-op.

Due to the need to move construction materials to the site and take spoil away, the Ewden Railway Company was formed. The connection from the Great Central line to the "Ewden Sidings" started close to the Wharcliffe Wood signal box with a spur off the main line into a long curve and a 1 in 26 down slope. After crossing the River Don and the main road, using bridges of girder construction, the track then ran along the valley and into the sidings.

the run-off at the Eastern end of Broomhead reservoir

This walk is sponsored by Bank View café:





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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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