

Hodder Bank Fell

Circular

Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Route Summary

Roads, tracks and fields. Can get very muddy in parts. Take care on unpaved road sections. Expect livestock and keep dogs under effective control. "Walking safely" information available at www.forestofbowland.com Walkers are advised to carry OS Explorer map OL41.

Route Overview



Category: Walking

Length: 6.910 km / 4.32 mi

Last Modified: 6th February 2018

Difficulty: Medium

Rating: ★★★★★

Surface: Undefined

Date Published: 6th February 2018

Description

Combining riverside and open fell, this walk offers fantastic views of the Hodder valley and surrounding hills. Starting from the village of Dunsop Bridge, the route takes in the parkland around Knowlmore Manor before heading up and over the expanse of Hodder Bank Fell then dropping back down to the valley floor via Fielding Clough and a return to the village via riverside paths and fields.

Waypoints

1.

(53.94593; -2.51787)

From the car park turn left then take the first entrance on the right and walk along the drive towards Thorneyholme Hall. Cross the bridge and, at the end, turn immediately left through the gate to take the footpath above the riverbank. Go through the gate at the end then bear right and go through a second gate in to a field.

2.

(53.94530; -2.51219)

Note: it can be very wet and muddy along this next section and you may have to come off the line of the path to avoid the most boggy areas.

Once through the gate turn left to roughly follow the line of the overhead wires. At the last pole head for a stile in the fence ahead. Climb the stile, cross the stream and then bear diagonally right up the field to climb a stile over the wall.

3 3.

(53.94589; -2.50677)

Turn left and follow the green track, passing Mossthwaite Farm and, eventually, Knowlmere Manor on your left - a very impressive building! Walk on to Giddy Bridge.

4 4.

(53.93997; -2.48525)

Just before the bridge, turn right to head diagonally right up the hill towards a wooden stile next to a gate. Climb the stile and cross the next field to another wooden stile. Once over this stile head diagonally right, uphill, to go over a stile in the right hand fence line. Walk slightly left up quite a steep hill and at the top go through a gate in the stone wall.

5 5.

(53.93820; -2.49173)

The next section of the walk takes you along the top of Hodder Bank Fell with some wonderful views. (Note that parts of the route are very wet and muddy, particularly at the beginning and end.) This section is approximately 1km long and is marked by a number of stone way posts (although the first post isn't visible from the gate). As you begin to descend you will see a wooden ladder stile ahead.

6 6.

(53.93481; -2.50696)

Climb the stile and continue along the path which follows the top of the side of Fielding Clough. Towards the end of the clough go through the kissing gate on the right hand side.

7 7.

(53.93193; -2.51614)

Turn left to go downhill and over a stile. Continue downhill until you reach a short track coming from the farm. Bear right here to cross the field and climb a stile next to a gate. Cross the ditch and bear slightly right to cross the next field and over another stile next to a gate.

8 8.

(53.93618; -2.51756)

Cross this next field, initially with the fence to your left then, as the river bends away, roughly taking a route between this fence line and the line of telephone poles on your right. The field can be wet/boggy in parts. When you reach the iron bridge over the river, cross the bridge.

9 9.

(53.93933; -2.51583)

At the bottom of the steps on the other side of the bridge, turn right to follow the fenceline, keeping the river on your right. Towards the end of the field cross to the left hand corner to go over a stile.

10 10.

(53.94173; -2.51748)

Keeping to the right hand edge of the field follow the path, passing a small barn on your right along the way. Before you reach the entrance to the farm yard of Root Farm, turn left to reach a kissing gate half way along the wall.

11 11.

(53.94375; -2.51998)

Go through the kissing gate then head uphill to go through a gap (previously a kissing gate) in the wall ahead. Turn right down the slope and cross a stile into Root Farm then turn left to continue along the drive until you will reach the main road. Turn right to carefully cross the bridge and follow the road back to the car park.

