

Hope to Hathersage (via Castleton)			Hope to Bamford (via Castleton)		
1 <sup>st</sup> walk check	2 <sup>nd</sup> walk check	3 <sup>rd</sup> walk check	1 <sup>st</sup> walk check	2 <sup>nd</sup> walk check	3 <sup>rd</sup> walk check
17 <sup>th</sup> August 2020					
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## Hope to Hathersage or Bamford (via Castleton)

**Start:** Hope Station

**Finish:** Hathersage or Bamford Stations

Hope Station, map reference SK 180 832, is 18 km south west of Sheffield, 231 km north west of Charing Cross and 169m above sea level. Bamford Station, map reference SK 207 825, is 3 km south east of Hope Station and 151m above sea level. Hathersage station, map reference SK 232 810, is 3 km south east of Bamford Station and 163m above sea level. All are in **Derbyshire**.

**Length:** 27.0 km (16.8 mi). **Cumulative ascent/descent:** 728/742m.

For a shorter or longer walk, *see below* **Walk Options**.

**Toughness:** 8 out of 10

**Time:** 7 hours walking time.

For the whole outing, including trains, sights and meals, allow at least 13 ½ hours.

**Transport:** Hope, Bamford and Hathersage Stations are on the Hope Valley Line from Manchester to Sheffield, with a journey time of 19 to 26 mins from/to Sheffield. Sheffield is the terminus of the Midland Main Line from London St. Pancras, with up to two trains per hour (journey time from 118 mins Mon-Sat, longer on Sundays).

**Saturday Walkers' Club:** Take a train no later than 9.00 hours.

**OS Landranger Map:** 110 (Sheffield & Huddersfield)

**OS Explorer Map:** OL1 (The Peak District – Dark Peak Area)

### Walk Notes:

This route at the top of the scenic Hope Valley starts with a gentle loop through pastures between the Peak District's breath-taking limestone and gritstone landscapes with ever-changing views to the hills around. You head for the mysterious Mam Tor, before ascending its flank through the large landslipped area at its foot. A variation leads to the dramatic limestone gorge of Winnats Pass and past a couple of the show caves Castleton is famous for. A high-level traverse of pastures-with-views loops down to Castleton through the fascinating Cave Dale (a collapsed cave), past the Norman Castle ruins towering above it.

After lunch you pass the fascinating Hope Cement Works, which dominate the views from any hill walk in the area, pass through Bradwell and go steeply up to Bradwell Edge. The impossibly scenic Over Dale is skirted along its rim and Abney and Offerton Moor are crossed along good paths with surround views. The descent to the Derwent River offers yet more stunning views before a riverside finish to either Hathersage or Bamford.

**Note:** To protect ground nesting birds, **only dogs kept "...under effective control on Public Rights of Way..."** are allowed on the Access Land of Abney Moor/Smelting Hill/Offerton Moor, until at least 04/2022.

### Walk Options:

**A late starter** might want to – after 4.6 km – follow Hollowford Road for 300m into Castleton for lunch first, before continuing the route (see route map and text).

**A Variation in the morning takes you past Speedwell Cavern, the bottom of Winnats Pass dry gorge and Treak Cliff Cavern**, rather than past Odin Mine and through the active landslip of Mam Tor.

**A Variation of that route** leads up through the dramatic dry gorge of Winnats Pass to the side of the road.

**Cut out the loop through Castleton Village** and past its lunch stops: cut 750m.

**An out-and-back in Castleton to Peak Cavern** adds 500m.

**Finish the walk in Castleton** and take a bus back to Hope or Sheffield or Chesterfield (14.0 km/8.7 mi).

**Finish the walk in Bradwell** and take a bus back to Hope or Sheffield or Chesterfield (16.9 km/10.5 mi).

**An Alternative Ending leads to Bamford Bus or Train Station**, this is 800m shorter.

**A Variation of the Hathersage Ending** crosses the Derwent on Stepping Stones and leads to Jagger's Lane and the heart of the village. This is almost 2 km less distance and even walking on to the station from the village would still be shorter than the main walk route (but with a lot more tarmac and road noise).

**An optional loop through Hathersage** village past its tea stops adds up to 1.6 km.

### Elevenises

Hot drinks and some snacks in the shop at the **Blue John Cavern**

### Lunch

**In Castleton** (13.4 km/8.3 mi to 14.1 km/8.7 mi from the start)

**Castleton Fish & Chips, Dolly and Ted's Tearooms, Peak District National Park Visitor Centre Café, Three Roofs Café, The Castle, The Bull's Head, Castleton Maid Ice Cream, Peveril Tea Rooms, The George Inn, Rose Cottage Café, 1530 The Restaurant, Tilly's of Castleton, Ye Olde Nag's Head, The Baytree Tea Room & Gifts, The Rambler's Rest, The Peak Hotel, Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese.**

**In Bradwell** (16.6 km/10.3 mi to 17.6 km/10.9 mi from the start) [details last updated 23/07/19]

**Ye Olde Bowling Green Inn** Smalldale Head Road, Bradwell, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S33 9JQ (01433 620 450, <https://www.yeoldebowlnggreen.com/>). Open all day every day. Food served all day.

**The White Hart Inn** Towngate, Bradwell, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S33 9JX (01433 208 513). Open from 16.00 weekends, 17.00 weekdays.

**The Shoulder of Mutton Inn** Church Street, Bradwell, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S33 9HJ (01433 640 427, <http://www.thesoulderatbradwell.co.uk/>). Open Mon-Fri from 17.00, Sat-Sun all day.

Food served Wed-Fri 17.00-20.15, Sat 12.30-20.15, Sun 12.30-18.15.

### Tea

**In Hathersage** [details last updated 23/07/19]

**The Plough Inn** Leadmill Bridge, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 1BA (01433 650 319, <http://www.theploughinn-hathersage.co.uk/>). Open Mon-Sat 11.30-23.00 and 12.00-22.30 Sunday. Last food orders: 21.30 Mon-Sat and 20.00 Sun. The Plough is located 230m off route, 1.3 km from the end of the walk.

**The David Mellor Design Museum Café** Leadmill, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 1BA (01433 650 220, <https://www.davidmellordesign.com/design-museum-cafe/>). Last orders at 16.30.

**The Little John Hotel** Station Road, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 1DD (01433 650 225, <http://www.littlejohnhotel.co.uk/>).

**The George Hotel** Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 1BB (01433 650 436, <https://www.george-hotel.net/>).

**Bank House Bar & Restaurant** Main Road, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 1BB (01433 449 060, <https://www.bankhousehathersage.co.uk/>).

**The Scotsman's Pack** School Lane, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 1BZ (01433 650 253, <https://www.scotsmanspackcountryinn.co.uk/>). A 'Scotchman' or 'Scotsman' is a name given to a pedlar, not necessarily from Scotland, which is how the inn derived its name.

**In Bamford** [details last updated 23/07/19]

**Tastebuds Café** at the Hope Valley Garden Centre. Open daily to 16.00 in summer.

## Notes:

### The Hope Valley

The Hope Valley is a wide valley running East-West along the boundary between the gritstone moors and edges of the 'Dark Peak' and the limestone outcrops and deep cut dales of the 'White Peak'. It is a rural area centred on the village of Hope, but although it appears to be a single valley, the name of the river changes several times. The head of the valley lies at Castleton below Mam Tor, once the home of Iron Age people. From here, the Peakshole Water flows out of Peak Cavern to Hope, where it enters the lower reaches of the River Noe, which has risen on Kinder Scout near Edale. The Noe then flows to Bamford, where it enters the River Derwent, which has travelled about 15 km from Bleaklow and is a tributary of the River Trent.

The valley is now technically the Derwent Valley, but the term "Hope Valley" is still used as the Derwent flows through Hathersage and Grindleford. Other streams in the area include the Burbage Brook.

The area is a popular tourist destination, particularly as the Hope Valley Line railway from Sheffield to Manchester runs through it.

From earlier times there are traces of a Roman fort at Brough, just to the east of Hope. Its Roman name Navio was later replaced with the Old English word for fort, Brough. It is thought that the fort was probably built to protect Roman lead-mining interests in the Peak District.

Later, the parish of Hope covered two thirds of the Royal Hunting Forest of north Derbyshire.

### The Peak District (National Park)

The Peak District is an upland area at the southernmost end of the Pennines.

The Peak District National Park is one of the UK's most popular and is located within the boundaries of five counties (Derbys., Ches., Staffs., Yorks. and Greater Manchester). Founded in 1951, it was the first national Park in England. The Park spans an area of around 1,440 km<sup>2</sup> (550 mi<sup>2</sup>) and – despite its name – its terrain consists mainly of rolling hills, farmland, moorland and some gritstone escarpments (the "edges"). It is however significantly higher than much of the terrain in the surrounding area.

The Peak District is formed almost exclusively from sedimentary rocks dating from the Carboniferous period. They comprise the Carboniferous Limestone, the overlying Gritstone and finally the Coal Measures, though the latter occur only on the extreme margins of the area. In addition there are infrequent outcrops of igneous rocks including lavas, tuffs and volcanic vent agglomerates.

The northern Dark Peak (whose geology is gritstone) is one of the most famous landmarks in the Peak District National Park, known for its exposed and isolated tracts of moorland, as well as its expansive rolling plateau which is covered by cotton grass bogs and heather moorlands. The soil of the area is composed of moorland peat which provides the perfect environment for the plant life in the area. The areas to the flanks of the high moorland host numerous copses which are composed of Oak and Birch.

The southern White Peak (whose geology is mainly limestone) is another distinctive area within the park due to its gently sloping Limestone plateau, crisscrossed by the Limestone Dales. The Dales provide the areas' drainage and vary in steepness throughout the area.

### River Noe

The River Noe is a tributary of the River Derwent. It flows approximately 19 km (12 mi) from its source, the confluence of two streams running off Kinder Scout, east through Edale and then southeast through the village of Hope. The river flows into the River Derwent a kilometre south of Bamford. The entire length of the river is closely followed by the Hope Valley railway line. The portion of the river downstream of Hope, along with the valley of the River Noe's main tributary, Peakshole Water, is known as the Hope Valley.

### Hope Cement Works

Hope Cement Works are a dominant feature of the landscape in the Hope Valley and can be seen from most hill walks in the area. Founded in 1919 (planning had begun as early as 1910 but WWI delayed the build), the Works have been built strategically placed between existing sources for two of the main components needed for cement production: a hill formed of very pure and dry limestone, known to have limestone to a level of 500m below ground, on the one side, and a large clayfield (basically decomposed shale and alluvial deposit) on the other. Owned by Blue Circle until the turn of the millennium, subsequent owner Lafarge had to demerge the business when joining its UK operations with Anglo American's Tarmac UK and sold it to ArcelorMittal, who later sold it to Breedon Cement. Hope Cement Works now is the largest cement manufacturing operation in the UK and a major contributor to the local economy, employing 165 people.

The plant was electrically powered from the outset, and is now using power supplied from the National Grid, and it was also linked to the Hope Valley Line by a 3.2 km single track railway from the start. Annual production capacity is about 1.5 million tonnes of cement (approximately 0.05% of the world's cement production).

[https://www.cementkilns.co.uk/cement\\_kiln\\_hope.html](https://www.cementkilns.co.uk/cement_kiln_hope.html)

### **Mam Tor**

Mam Tor is a 517m hill, whose name means "mother hill", so called because frequent landslips on its eastern face have resulted in a multitude of "mini-hills" beneath it. These landslips, which are caused by unstable lower layers of shale, also give the hill its alternative name of "Shivering Mountain".

Mam Tor is on the southern edge of the Dark Peak (sandstones) and overlooks the White Peak (limestones), including the notable dry gorge of Winnats Pass. The summit of Mam Tor is encircled by a late Bronze Age and early Iron Age univallate hill fort, occupied from around 1200 BC. The earliest remaining features are two Bronze Age burial mounds, one just below the summit and the other on the summit itself.

The most notable feature of Mam Tor is the still active landslide which invades its southeast side almost to the summit, and interrupts the ramparts of the hillfort. This rotational landslide began roughly 4,000 years ago. The toe is a debris flow. The landslide is due to weak shales underlying sandstones. Current mean annual movement is up to 0.25 metres, depending on levels of rainfall.

### **Castleton**

Castleton is one of the most beautifully-situated villages in the White Peak, on the cusp of the Peak District's breath-taking limestone and gritstone landscapes. It lies at the top of the scenic Hope Valley and in the lee of mysterious Mam Tor. It also has the dramatic limestone gorge of Winnats Pass in walking distance, as well as the fascinating Cave Dale and a Norman Castle ruins towering above it. In addition, there are four former lead mines open for visitors as show caves, with Peak Cavern having the largest natural cave mouth in Europe (Peakshole Water rushes out of it), nowadays used for special events including concerts, while Speedwell Cavern offers an underground boat ride.

### **Limestone Way**

The Limestone Way is a 74.7 km (46.4 miles) waymarked long-distance footpath in Derbyshire. It runs through the limestone scenery in the heart of the White Peak area of the Peak District, from Castleton south through Peak Forest, Miller's Dale, Monyash, Yougholme, Matlock, Parwich, Tissington, Thorpe, Lower Ellastone and finishing in the Dove valley at Rocester over the county boundary in Staffordshire. It originally ran only to Matlock, but was diverted to its current, longer route to join up with the Staffordshire Way.

### **White to Dark**

The White to Dark Way is a 43 km (27 mi) waymarked multi-day path from the White Peak to the Dark Peak developed in 2012 by TrailZilla and Country Walking Magazine. It claims to be the first major walking trail dedicated to linking the Peak District's two 'halves', across terrain ranging from meadows, woods and farmland to wild moorland and gritstone edges, going from Bakewell to Hope. The route includes Monsal Head, Cressbrook Dale, Litton, Eyam, Stanage Edge and Win Hill. <https://www.livefortheoutdoors.com/whitetodark>

### **Derwent River**

The Derwent is a Derbyshire river of 106 km/66 mi length and is a tributary of the River Trent, which it joins south of Derby. Its waters ultimately reach the North Sea via the Humber Estuary. For half its course the river flows through the Peak District and for most of the first 10 km it forms the border to South Yorkshire. In the lower reaches between Matlock and Derby it was one of the cradles of the Industrial Revolution, providing power to the first industrial scale cotton mills. Today it provides a water supply to several surrounding cities, and its steeply sided valley is an important communications corridor through the uplands of the Peak District.

### **Derwent Valley Heritage Way**

The Derwent Valley Heritage Way (DVHW) is an 88 km (55 mi) waymarked Long-Distance Path along the Derwent Valley from Ladybower Reservoir via Chatsworth, the Derbyshire Dales area, and through the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site to Derwent Mouth where it flows into the Trent.

### **Hathersage**

Hathersage is overlooked by the ringed cliffs of Stanage and Millstone edges and the ancient iron-age hill fort of Carl Wark, and the distinctive Higger Tor can be seen through a break in the cliffs, standing on Burbage Moor. The origins of the name are disputed, although it is generally accepted that the second half derives from the Old English word *ecg* meaning "edge", although there is little to suggest it is to mean "heather's edge".

The area has been occupied since at least Mesolithic times and has remains of a Romano British settlement. Later the area became an important source of pins, needles and brass buttons as well as of building stones and millstones. In 1990, the cutler David Mellor opened the award-winning Round Building on the site of a former gasometer as a cutlery factory. In 2007, an extension was opened as a design museum.

A number of local landmarks are associated with Robin Hood "of Locksley" (there is a Loxley over the moors near Sheffield) and one of the graves in Hathersage is claimed to be Little John's.

In 1845, Charlotte Brontë stayed at the Hathersage vicarage, visiting a friend, whose brother was the vicar, while she was writing *Jane Eyre*. Many of the locations mentioned in her novel match places in Hathersage. Hathersage boasts a public heated outdoor swimming pool.

## WALK DIRECTIONS

Arriving at **Hope Station** in the heart of the **Hope Valley** in the **Peak District National Park**, leave through a wooden gate into a small car park (having gone over the overbridge if arriving from the direction of Manchester) and continue down **Station Road** at a bend, away from the railway line, ignoring a left turning Private Road. Away on the left you can see **Shatton Edge** with its transmission masts (a hill walked up to in the afternoon) and **Lose Hill** away on the right (SWC Walk 302 Bamford to Edale via Win Hill and Great Ridge). In 200m you cross the **A6187** at a T-junction and *turn right* along its left-hand pavement towards **Hope** village. In 280m ignore **Aston Lane** turning right, and in another 40m, just before crossing the **River Noe** on a road bridge, *turn right* to cross the road and go through a wall gap down some railed steps into a pasture by a footpath sign ('**Killhill Bridge**', '**Edale Road**').

You now follow the River Noe on your left through the large pasture, soon with **Win Hill Pike** visible on the right on top of its plateau, pass a few marker posts and in 400m ignore a footpath joining from the right from the railway line, as you continue in the same direction through a metal kissing gate. In 50m you *turn left* down to a stile and standing stone squeeze gate in the field corner and then continue along a clear path along a line of trees on the left with a barbed wire fence on the right. In 90m go through a wooden gate by a signpost and *turn left* down some railed steps to a gravel drive and *turn right* along it. You pass an old mill and in 220m *turn left* at a T-junction with **Bowden Lane** and cross **Killhill Bridge** on your left. In 60m cross **Edale Road** to the right and continue along a signposted footpath through a standing stone squeeze stile and between drystone walls then over a stone slab stile and between a fence and a hedge.

In 60m go through a wooden gate (you can see the chimney of the **Hope Cement Works** (passed later) and its quarry ahead) and *turn right* at a three-way signpost ('Lose Hill'), past a standing stone and through a wooden gate and along a fenced path. Ahead rises **The Great Ridge**, with **Mam Tor** on the left end of it. In 25m and in another 70m go through a standing stone squeeze stile and a gate and *veer left* to and through another gate in 20m. You go through a small pasture and then in the same direction through a larger one. At the end of the second field go through a wooden gate and *turn right* and immediately left to cross the **Cement Works' Railway Line** on a footbridge. Go through a wooden gate and cross a pasture towards a small cottage. At a tarmac drive at a bend with the cottage on the left, follow a footpath signpost down the drive to the right of the cottage (The Meadows), in 40m continuing in the same direction along gravel. You cross a footpath at an oblique crossing and continue in the same direction through a wooden gate with a small sign '**To Castleton Village**', with a fence on the left and a hedge on the right.

In 130m go over a stile and along a wide track. In 90m go through a metal gate, ignore metal field gates to the left and right and ahead and *veer right* through a wooden gate to the right of a metal field gate and follow a left-hand field boundary. In 70m go through a wooden kissing gate into another pasture and follow a clear path, with **Lose Hill** up ahead on the half right. In 90m by a stile to the left of a wooden field gate [!] *veer left within the pasture*, [!] ignoring a footpath in the same direction over the stile, signed 'Mam Tor'. In 30m in the field corner *turn left* along the field boundary. In 40m go through a standing stone squeeze stile and a wooden gate and over a duckboard to cross a muddy area and follow a left-hand field boundary. In 100m you pass a redundant stile and in 80m leave the field over a stile to the left of a metal field gate and follow another left-hand boundary. On the left you get fine views of **Castleton village and Peveril Castle** ruins towering above.



In 150m cross an often-dry stream on a duckboard and in 60m pass a marker post and go through a wooden gate and down some steps to a railed footbridge over a stream and through a standing stone squeeze stile and a wooden gate into a sloping pasture and follow its right-hand boundary. In 75m go through a wooden gate to the right of a (missing) field gate and through another pasture. In 80m go through a wooden gate to the right of a (missing) field gate and continue towards some farm buildings. In 20m pass a two-way footpath signpost and in 110m go through a wooden gate and pass **Spring House Farm's** stables to the left. In 40m *turn left* at a three-way signpost along the tarmac drive and in 40m *turn right* at another three-way signpost ('Castleton') along a gravel car wide track. In 30m go over stile to the left of a wooden field gate ('Private Road – Walkers Only'), with Mam Tor now ahead, and in 220m ignore a right turning drive to **Field's Farm** and continue in the same direction a little to the left – soon on tarmac – through an often-open metal field gate. In 80m cross a stream on a bridge (with a wooden footbridge on the left below in the grounds of **YHA Losehill Hall**). In 10m ignore a right running footpath through a wooden kissing gate and soon you have the wall around the hostel on the left.

At the end of the wall cross a car wide gravel drive and continue in the same direction through a standing stone squeeze stile and a wooden gate by a footpath signpost and along a gravel path. In 80m go through a wooden gate and cross a stream and follow the gravel path through a pasture. On the left you have the **Peveril Castle** ruins towering on the hill above Castleton village and a little to the right of it, the gorge leading to **Peak Cavern**, ahead a little to the left the impressive cleft of **Winnats Pass** – one of the most dramatic gorges in the country – to the left of **Mam Tor**. In 120m pass a footpath signpost and go through a wooden gate to the right of a metal field gate and cattle grid and continue in the same direction along a car wide gravel track. In 230m you pass the **Hollowford Centre** (a 'Training & Education Centre for young people' run by the Lindley Educational Trust) on the right and the **Hope Valley RFC** pitch on the left. In 150m *turn left* at a T-junction with **Hollowford Road** on tarmac. [*There is a good path in the trees on the right for 130m and a stream on the right amongst the trees.*]

After about 250m along the road you pass **Castleton Burial Ground** on the left and [!] in another 70m *turn hard right* almost back on yourself along a signposted footpath along a car wide gravel lane. [**But for an early lunch**, continue along the lane into Castleton and pick up the route again here.] In 50m continue in the same direction along a gravel footpath, leaving the track which bears right through a metal field gate. In 120m you get good views of **Peveril Castle and Winnats Pass** through a gap in the trees on the left and in 80m go through a wooden field gate and *turn left* with a marker post along a wall on the right. In 50m *turn right* with the path and enjoy the views ahead of the narrowing bowl of **the top of the Hope Valley**, with the hills closing in from both sides. You can also see the buildings at the entrance to one of the show caves away on the left, passed on one of the coming optional routes (**Treak Cliff Cavern** halfway up on Treak Cliff).

In 160m go through a wooden gate to the right of a wooden field gate and go through a pasture along its right-hand boundary initially, in 25m passing a footpath signpost on the left by a drystone wall corner on the right. Continue with a ditch on the left towards a gate at the opposite field boundary and in 140m go through the wooden gate to the left of a wooden field gate and follow a couple of right-hand field boundaries. In 140m go through a wooden gate to the right of a wooden field gate and cross a stream on a concrete slab and go along a gravel track towards **Dunscar Farm**. In 30m *turn left* at the farm along a signposted footpath ('Edale vis Hollins Cross') along the tarmac drive (over a stile to the left, if the wooden field gate is shut). In 140m ignore a right turning footpath into a pasture and in 20m cross the **Odin Sitch** (from Middle English *sich/siche*: "a

watercourse”), whose ultimate source is **up the active landslip flank of Mam Tor**, walked through soon enough on one of the imminent optional routes.

**By a cattle grid, at a signposted four-way footpath junction you have a choice:**

**[I] To go past Speedwell Cavern and to the bottom of Winnats Pass** for a peek into this highly impressive dry gorge, **then on past Treak Cliff Cavern** to Blue John Cavern, go through a wooden gate to the right of a cattle grid and continue in the same direction along the tarmac drive with a drystone wall on the left and a pasture to the right. In 300m ignore a footpath joining from the right along another tarmac drive. In 70m *turn right* along the pavement of a road at a T-junction. You pass an entrance to a coach park on the left and in another 40m *turn left* across the road and go through a gap in a drystone wall and follow a signposted path (‘Speedwell Cavern’) across a pasture and in 90m go through a gap in a drystone wall and continue in the same direction through another pasture and in 30m cross a marked public footpath (you will continue along it to the right in a few minutes) and in 20m go through a wooden gate onto a road, opposite **Speedwell Cavern’s** entrance. *Turn right* through the car park and at its top end (and at the bottom of the gorge) you’ll find an info panel on the geological history of **Winnats Pass**.

[The pass is very scenic indeed and **you can walk up the pass along the broad grassy strip** to the side of the usually busy road and pick up the route five paragraphs below in the text at “In 60m...”. **In more detail:** you walk for 800m to the very top of the walled grassy strip, en route passing a couple of cave entrances and a memorial plaque for all Ramblers who fought for access rights, while admiring this most spectacular gorge (former coral reefs apparently, about 336 million years ago). **Note:** this is unstable rock, there is always a danger of rock fall, but especially so after heavy rainfall, so don’t walk too close to the rock face and at all times mind rock climbers above, as their activities can also cause rock fall. 75m after the last cave entrance you ignore a wooden gate with a National Trust marker in a drystone wall on the right and in 40m another one to continue steeply uphill to the very top of the rise. In another 60m walk through a wooden gate in the drystone wall and continue close to the road, with a wall on the left. In 50m squeeze through a gap between the wall and a boulder and in 60m by a footpath signpost on the other side of the wall, *bear right* to the right of some farm buildings (**Winnats Head Farm**).]

Retrace your steps to the footpath crossed earlier and *turn left* along it towards a wooden gate in a drystone wall 70m away. Follow a clear path along the bottom of **Treak Cliff** and in 400m the path merges with a concrete path coming up from the road on the right below. You rise with the path and pass some buildings by **Treak Cliff Cavern** and *turn right* at the top of the buildings along a wire fence on the right. In 30m pass a footpath marker post and keep rising with the path up the flank of the cliff. In 200m you get good views of the continuation of the Odin Mine and Landslip Route below. In 100m the path turns left further uphill the scarp, now with a grassy gully on the right, and in 140m at the top of the fenced area ignore a right turning wooden gate, leading into the Access Land of the landslip area, to continue in the same direction up some steps and through a wooden gate with a yellow marker and through the earthen then grassy plateau away from the fence on the right. In 150m go through a wooden gate in a fence and continue to the right of **Blue John Cavern** and its shop (selling hot drinks and ice cream).

Pick up the directions four paragraphs below (“In 20m go through a wooden gate...”).

**[II] To go up along the stream to Odin Mine and then through the active landslip area of Mam Tor** to Blue John Cavern along the now closed former A road, go through a wooden gate to the right of the cattle grid and *turn right* (signed 'Mam Tor & Odin Mine') up a pasture. In 200m *turn right* across a concrete slab bridge over the sitch and over a stile and *turn left* in another pasture. In 35m go through a wooden kissing gate in a drystone wall by a footpath signpost and continue directly towards **Knowlegates Farm** (i.e.: the direction of the signpost is slightly misleading). In 150m go through a standing stone squeeze stile and a wooden gate to the left of a metal field gate and follow a fence along the left side of the farm. In 90m by the farm buildings go through a standing stone squeeze stile and a wooden gate and ignore a left turning footpath along the gravel driveway and continue in the same direction along a gravel track. In 20m go through a wooden gate and up a stepped section and in another 10m go over a stile into **Access Land**. There are **large displays of bluebells** in season in this open area amongst the bracken, especially away to the right. They can even be seen from up on The Great Ridge.

*Bear left* along a clear path and in 100m go through a wooden gate. In 130m the terrain levels out for a moment and you ignore a faint path to a stile 40m away (a public footpath runs along it). You curve to the left of a spoil heap and follow the path down to a **plank crossing of the Odin Sitch**. Ascend a bank on the other side and follow the path towards a wooden gate by a tarmac road in 60m, en route passing the remnants of the old **Crushing Circle of the Odin Mine** on the left. *Turn right* along the road, in 20m passing on the right a **bus stop** for a seasonal service from Castleton village and in another 30m passing on the left a gate by an info panel, leading to the **Odin Mine** (Lead Ore and Quartz). This is openly accessible, although at the time of writing parts are fenced off for **danger of rockfall**. Continue along the former through-road – closed for car traffic since 1979 following another large landslide – **through the active landslip area** of Mam Tor, called **Little Mam Tor**. This is a Public Way.

In 30m pass an info panel explaining the landslip ('Mam Tor – The Problem') and continue through a wooden gate to the right of a wooden field gate and past a National Trust 'Mam Tor' sign. In 70m on the right you have fine **far views** down the Hope Valley **towards Bamford and Stanage Edges**. The road curves up to the left and in 370m you *turn up to the left* with the road, ignoring a right turning public footpath along a gravel drive to Mam Farm and on to Hollins Cross. You go through a wooden gate and in 100m continue along a **collapsed stretch of the road**. In 350m go through a wooden gate to the left of a wooden field gate to leave the **Access Land** and continue through a turning circle by a parking area and further up along the road. In 170m by a café kiosk and a bus shelter *turn left* (signed 'Blue John Cavern') along a tarmac drive down through a dip and in 130m *turn right* to the right of **Blue John Cavern** and its **shop** (selling hot drinks and ice cream).

In 20m go through a wooden gate and follow a clear grass path veering left uphill. In 100m the gradient eases and you keep curving to the left with the path, now with a grassy gully on the right and a grassy rise on the left. In 75m you can spot the top of a farmhouse ahead and aim to a point to the left of the farmhouse (**Winnets Head Farm**), i.e. keep curving to the left. [**This is not Access Land**, so please stick to the right-of-way as described.] In the back you get first views of parts of **Kinder Scout**. In 200m by a wooden field gate in a drystone wall and with a wooden gate out to the road 30m away on the left, with the top of **Winnats Pass** away on the left along the road, follow the right-of-way by **going back on yourself** to pass the farm on its right-hand side.

In 60m you continue past a wooden field gate and *veer left* along a drystone wall. In 130m leave the pasture through a wooden gate 5m to the right of its left corner and continue in



the same direction (290°) through the next field. In 150m leave the field through another wooden gate in a drystone wall and cross a road to walk into another pasture with a footpath signpost and a National Trust **Windy Knoll** sign. *Veer right* through this field along a clear path (310°), ignoring a left fork in 20m (towards **Bone Cave**). In another 210m, by a wooden gate 40m away on the right, *turn left* at a T-junction with a gravel path. Follow this path all the way to the far-right corner of the field in 450m and leave it through a wooden gate to the right of a wooden field gate onto a road. *Turn right* for 20m and *turn left* through a metal field gate and continue along a tarmac drive with a drystone wall on the left, signed '**Rowter Farm Campsite**' (a Public Way, while the footpath forks right across the pasture).

On this long straight stretch, you have far views in most directions across the pastures: on the right behind is **Rushup Edge** and **Middle Hill** is away on the hard right (to the right of the road just crossed) as is a higher but unnamed hill on the near right. In 675m ignore a left turn leading to Rowter Farm where the track continues as gravel. The fields on the right show signs of **disused quarries and mines**. In 150m ignore a footpath turning left over a ladder stile ('Castleton') and climb a stone step stile to the left of a metal field gate and continue in the same direction along the farm track. Immediately ignore a right forking signposted footpath through a metal field gate and in 600m *turn left* with the farm track between drystone walls, ignoring a bridleway turning right through a metal field gate into a pasture. In 200m go through a metal field gate (a public footpath and a bridleway join from the right through a metal field gate) and *turn left* with the signposted **Limestone Way** over a stone step stile or through the metal field gate to its right and continue through a wide grassy area between drystone walls.

In 30m walk through a gap to the left of a wooden field gate and continue with a bridleway signpost, veering to the right away from the drystone wall on the left (50°, broadly towards the distant Win Hill). In 120m you pass a dewpond on the left and in 100m the path drops gently downhill. In 170m at a three-way signpost you ignore the left-forking footpath along a drystone wall and *fork right* with the bridleway away from the wall ('Cave Dale'). In 60m go through a wooden gate in a drystone wall and continue in the same direction through a slightly sunken area, the very beginnings of Cave Dale. In 160m go through a metal gate and a standing stone squeeze stile and *bear left* along a drystone wall on the left towards Cave Dale proper. You can still see **the easterly half of The Great Ridge**, from **Back Tor to Lose Hill**. In 320m *fork right* downhill with the Limestone Way by a marker post outlining the **Permissive Access** area you are now entering, ignoring the uphill left fork.

You can now see **Win Hill** in the distance and in 350m pass redundant gate posts. The path curves to the left and continues its rough descent through the tight dale (an ancient packhorse route). In 300m you get first **views again of the Hope Valley's** pastures below as you go through a gap in a drystone wall (a missing gate) and also get first glimpses of **Peveril Castle**, with **Lose Hill** behind. The path now has stretches of bare rock, which will be **slippery when wet**. In 100m you pass through a narrow gash and then have full view of the castle. In 70m there is a gated cave entrance on the left (just one of eight caves in the dale, believed to be **a collapsed cave** itself) and in 70m the dale widens out to an amphitheatre, with the castle sitting high up on the rim of the spectacular dale, and the gradient and the walking becomes easier. In 330m there is another short stretch of rough ground while going through a narrow gash and in 60m you go through a wooden gate at the **town end of Cave Dale** by the signed start of the Limestone Way ('Matlock 26 miles, Rocester 46 miles'). You pass an info panel and in 40m reach **Pindale Road** on the fringes of Castleton. The afternoon route will go up the road to the right.

*Turn left* along the road. In 50m stay to the left of a large triangular green, the **Market Place** (with an interesting panel on the right, as well as some benches for a quiet picnic), and at the far side of the green continue along a tarmac lane past an outdoor store and continue in the same direction along a cul-de-sac, signed '**Peak Cavern**', ignoring the left turn to Peveril Castle (English Heritage, ticketed entry). In 30m you pass **Castleton Fish & Chips** and in 115m on the right a Silver & Stone Shop, opposite **Dolly and Ted's Tearooms**, (seemingly re-incarnated under new management, after having been dubbed 'The Worst Café on Earth' and a subsequent repossession order). In 20m you reach a road bridge over **Peakshole Water**, which emerges from out of the **Peak Cavern** just 250m away (and the **Russet Well** en route). The route to it is well worth an **out-and-back**.

Return to the Silver & Stone Shop and *turn left* just after it along a tarmac path, soon with Peakshole Water on the left. In 150m you reach the main road through Castleton opposite the **Peak District National Park Visitor Centre** (and its **Café**) by the **Three Roofs Café** on the right. *Turn right* along the road. In 60m you pass **The Castle** pub (Vintage Inns Group, entrance around the right at the back) and **The Bull's Head** (a Robinsons pub). Down **Castle Street** on the right you'll find the **Castleton Maid** Ice Cream store, the **Peveril Tea Rooms** and **The George Inn**. On the left in 25m you have **Rose Cottage Café** and **1530 The Restaurant**, opposite **Tilly's of Castleton** tea rooms. You pass **Ye Olde Nag's Head** pub on the right, and the route turns right along **Back Street**.

**For additional tea stops**, *turn left* with the main road: in 100m you pass **The Baytree Tea Room & Gifts** where the road turns right, a continuation down a side street gets you to **The Rambler's Rest** coffee shop and café in 50m and a right turn with the main road leads past **village store and bus station** to **The Peak Hotel** ale house and **Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese** pub in 150m from the right turn.

*Turn right* along **Back Street** at the corner of **Ye Olde Nag's Head** and in 40m pass the churchyard entrance on the right, leading to **St. Edmond's Church**. In 75m continue in the same direction to the left of the green on **Market Place** and in 50m *turn left* along **Pindale Road**, in 30m ignore the path into **Cave Dale** on the right and continue along the quiet road. In 130m you pass the last house on the left and have open views again across the Hope Valley to The Great Ridge and Win Hill. In 250m *fork left* along a level tarmac lane, ignoring the right fork uphill. The lane continues along the bottom of a hanging wood, ever so gently rising, and in 450m – as you go over the brow and start a gentle descent – you get good views of the Hope Cement Works ahead. In 220m continue in the same direction along a signposted bridleway where the tarmac turns left and a car wide gravel track joins from the right out of **Pin Dale** past a cottage. In 10m *bear left* with a signpost towards a walled garden, ignoring the continuation of the car wide earth track.

In 100m go through metal barriers into a wood towards the now audible cement works. In 150m the **large and imposing industrial buildings** are slowly beginning to take shape through the trees and in another 150m you are close to the main chimney and one of the large processing plants on the left, some limestone conveyors in the air, giant storage halls and (out-of-sight behind the buildings) the train tracks and loading facilities. In 20m pass a Public Bridleway signpost on the other side of a fence and also the first of many large metal 'Footpath and Bridleway' signs erected by the works' previous owners, **Lafarge**. In 15m carefully cross a concrete works road (heavy machinery crosses here) and *turn right* with a bridleway wooden signpost on the left, going underneath the limestone conveyor and continue along a wide gravel path, parallel to the **conveyor high above**.

You rise gently with the track so that in 100m you are just a few metres under the conveyor and in 40m go under the conveyor at just above head height and in 30m under another arm of it. This one comes in from the right, ultimately **from the main works limestone quarry** (out-of-sight behind the wooded hillside's flank). In 60m ignore a metal field gate on the right and follow the descending path. In 100m carefully cross another concrete/gravel works road (heavy machinery crosses here) by the corner of a large warehouse-type building on the left. **[!]** Ignore the main right forking bridleway and **[!]** *fork left* along the narrow public footpath between trees (in 15m passing a footpath *and* bridleway-sign though). There are still some works buildings away on the left and the occasional spoil heaps on the right amongst the trees. In 60m, now with a drystone wall on your right, the path starts to ascend and 120m you go through some gate posts without a gate and in 70m through some more as you rise up the minor hill of **Mich Low**. You have left the works site behind and there is a pasture on the left.

In 10m a bridleway and a footpath join from the right and you continue in the same direction, still gently uphill. In 30m you go over the brow and get first views of some houses ahead in **Smalldale**, a part of **Bradwell**. In 30m *turn left* with the gravel-cum-tarmac drive by a house away on the right, with some fine views on the right up Smalldale across a jumble of small drystone-walled pastures to the opencast mine works at the top. In 80m you get views ahead of the edge at the top of the hill to be climbed in a short while: **Shatton Edge**. In another 170m *fork right* along an unmarked gravel path towards a building up on the right and in 15m *turn left* along a gravel track, in 30m entering the car park of **Ye Olde Bowling Green Inn**. Go through the car park to a road and *turn down left* along it. In 60m ignore **Back Lane** turning right and in 40m *turn right* along **Town Lane's** pavement, where a public bridleway joins from the left along Michlow Lane.

You have sports fields on the left and in 150m *turn right* at the junction with **Main Road**. In another 20m, just before **bus stops for services to Castleton or Sheffield or Chesterfield or Buxton or Bakewell** (via Baslow, Bamford or Hathersage) *turn right* up **Hugh Lane**, away from the main road. In 150m you pass the Methodist Church's graveyard on the left and then the Methodist Chapel. Ignore **Smithy Hill** turning up to the right and in another 50m *turn left* downhill at a T-junction with **Town Gate**, by **The White Hart** pub on the right. In 75m at a T-junction with a road and by the **Bradda Brook** running behind a drystone wall on the other side of it (and a toilet block across a bridge), you *turn right* along **Brookside**, with the brook on your left. In 100m pass a house built across the brook and in 75m cross the brook on the road where it emerges fully-formed out of **Bagshaw Cavern** from under the hillside on the right. In 50m *turn left* with the road to the main road and *turn left* along the B 6049 towards **St. Barnabas Church**.

In 70m pass another set of bus stops either side of the road and in 25m – just before **The Shoulder of Mutton** pub on the left – *turn right* across the road and continue along **Church Street**. In 40m *fork left* along a tarmac drive off the road and in 30m go up a flight of steps to a higher road and *bear left* along it. In 40m ignore a right turn uphill (The Green) and continue in the same direction between houses, gently descending **Bessie Lane** and in 20m passing **The Olde Bakery**. In 25m *fork left* downhill and in 20m cross a streamlet on the lane. In 30m by a very small triangular green, *fork either way*, either left along (the only initially tarmac) **Boggy Lane**, or right along **Edge Lane**. [In wet weather Boggy Lane may be very boggy higher up, in that scenario stay with Edge Lane anyway.] **On Boggy Lane**, in 100m *turn right* at a corner of a stone barn to continue along a narrow path with a drystone wall on the right and in 200m emerge back on Edge Lane and *turn left* uphill along it. **On Edge Lane**, in 250m the alternative route joins from the left.

You pass **Edge Cottage** on the left and continue in the same direction along a signposted bridleway, a gravel track between trees. In 40m go through a wooden gate and continue in the same direction steeply uphill along a clear path along the right-hand boundary, with **Bradwell Edge** immediately up ahead. In 20m *turn right* at a T-junction and in 40m *ignore* the more prominent path to the left and follow a faint path to the right, still along the fence (150°). In 50m continue in the same direction where a broad path joins from the left and in 20m *turn left* with the path. You continue along a grassy path (35°), now in **Access Land** and more gently ascending the wooded hillside. In 70m ignore a right running path (a public footpath) and in 180m go through some standing stones and in 140m through a broken wooden gate and continue uphill.

As you rise up further, the views to the left to the Cement Works now also reveal the top of the very **deep limestone quarry** to the left of it. In 150m at the top of the rise a left turning unmarked public footpath along a drystone wall leads to a viewpoint on **Rebellion Knoll**. *Turn right* along a grassy path with the drystone wall on the left. On the left **across Over Dale** you can see **Shatton Edge** with the transmission masts at the left end of it and **Shatton Moor** sloping downwards into the valley from it, and **Burton Bole** (hill) rising above the edge. In 100m where the drystone wall curves to the right, you go through a wooden gate with a bridleway marker into a pasture, leaving the **Access Land** (this right of way is not on the OS map). In 60m in the field corner go through a metal gate by a signpost pointing back to 'Bradwell' onto a car wide gravel track (**Brough Lane**, a Byway Open to All Traffic) and *turn right* along it.

In 100m *turn left* over a stone slab stile in the drystone wall with a footpath signpost into **Overdale Nature Reserve**, impossibly scenic and owned by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. This is **Access Land** and you head towards a ladder stile over the opposite drystone wall on a bearing of 145°, although the easiest walking is along a curving sunken path initially, which in 80m bears left to the stile. In another 50m go over the stile (with a **Derbyshire Wildlife Trust** marker) and follow a clear grass path gently uphill, initially some distance from the drop on the left. In 100m you pass a bench with views by a random wooden post and – now with the drop on the left – in 130m go over a stone slab stile in a drystone wall into the next pasture out of the Nature Reserve and the **Access Land** and continue with the drop on your left. In 130m the path continues as a more defined sunken car wide track and in 100m it crosses the nascent **Overdale Brook**.

[!] *Turn right* immediately along a narrow path past a footpath marker post and follow the brook on your right towards a drystone wall 40m away and near the wall *turn left* with the path. In 30m *turn right* over a stone slab stile in the wall with a yellow marker into a large tussocky boggy field (with some disused quarries in it). *Turn left* with the path along the wall initially, avoiding the worst of the boggy ground, and in 25m start veering away from the wall on the path, gently ascending, and in 50m *turn right* at a T-junction with a clear grassy path through somewhat heathery ground (and some gorse), at a slightly elevated level as compared to the boggy ground. In 100m the path levels out and you continue towards a multi-directional signpost by a drystone wall. In 75m you pass a footpath marker post (the marker is on the reverse) and in 20m go over a stile in a barbed wire fence onto a car wide gravel track at a junction with a tarmac lane, signposted to 'Abney'.

You have **Bleak Knoll and Abney Moor** away on the right (with Camphill Airfield at the far side of it, a launch site for glider planes) and the track is a Byway Open to All Traffic on the right, curving to the right, this side of Bleak Knoll and Abney Moor, to 'Brough' (you were briefly on it about 10 minutes ago) and you *turn left* along the track, here a restricted byway, to '**Shatton**'. Go through a metal gate and continue along a grassy strip between a



drystone wall and a fence. On the right (on 115°) you have **Abney Low**, on all-green hill scenically zoned by walled pastures, with **Abney Clough** (on the left) and **Bretton Clough** (on the right) fringing it, and **Eyam Moor** rising behind it all (SWC Walk 315 Hathersage Circular via Bretton Clough and Eyam). In 30m the path joins the car wide gravel track to the left and you continue in the same direction towards a wide upland moor, with **Burton Bole** rising at the left end of it. In 450m the car wide track curves to the left to continue between fences, while the wall on the right – and a path along it – continues ahead.

Continue in the same direction along the grass path with the wall on the right (entering **Access Land** in the process) and in 40m *curve right* with the wall towards a metal field gate. In 25m go over a stile to the left of the metal field gate by a footpath and an Abney Moor Estate marker post, with a 'Dogs Are Not Permitted' sign. You continue along a grassy track with a barbed wire fence on the left and a small pond on the right. In 110m ignore a right forking car wide track to a metal field gate and continue along the fence to a stile 40m away to the left of a (missing) field gate. Over the stile, *fork left* along a faint path (a signposted footpath) up the rising **Abney Moor** at a slightly higher level, ignoring the grassy track along the drystone wall on the right. In 140m you pass a **Grouse Butt**.

In another 100m the path re-joins the track. You are now nearly level with the moorland plateau on the left and in 100m *turn right* with a footpath signpost downhill with the wall. In 230m go over a stile to the left of a metal field gate and continue along the clear grassy track in the same direction with a marker, where the wall turns down further to the right. In 70m the path *bears left* and in another 70m you have good views of the clough ahead. In another 120m, with the **High Low** (hill) ahead, *turn left* at a signposted four-way footpath junction, in the direction of '**Offerton**'. You rise gently along a clear grass path through the heathery moorland up **Smelting Hill** towards a fence line on the top. In 120m by some benches go over a stile in the fence line (here at least to 04/2022 to protect ground nesting birds on the moor: **dogs are not allowed** apart from on the right-of-way and under effective control at all times) and you have **spectacular views** from this high point across the vast Offerton Moor and across the Hope Valley to the hills to the north east (most prominently: Stanage Edge and Higger Tor).

In 250m go through a metal gate in a drystone wall and continue in the same direction along a clear path. In 30m go over a duckboard to cross a boggy area and then the **Siney Sitch** and *curve right* with the obvious path. You cross **Offerton Moor**, in 100m passing a tumulus (on the OS map) away on the left and in 230m reach **Offerton Edge** (Hope Valley below, Hathersage to the right, Bamford to the left, Bamford Edge and Ladybower Reservoir (partly) ahead, as are Win Hill and Kinder Scout away to the left) and start the descent along a clear path. In 150m three distinct farm buildings come into view at the bottom of the drop (you will walk through them) and the path bears to the right to continue along the flank of the hill. The track leads in about 400m to a metal field gate onto a tarmac lane, **but try to find** a left forking unmarked public footpath **after 300m** through the bracken towards the bottom corner of the fenced area, where there is a stile by a footpath signpost and a metal field gate by a bridleway signpost. In 75m you have a stream on the left and in 50m go over the stile, leaving the **Access Land**. *Turn left* along a tarmac lane past **Offerton Hall** in 50m and **Offerton House** in 60m.

In 30m you *turn right* through a wooden field gate with a footpath signpost on the other side of it and a **White to Dark** marker on the post. Follow a clear fenced path and in 110m go through a wooden gate to the left of a wooden field gate and continue in the same direction along a clear, slightly sunken, path towards a wooden gate in the lower field boundary. In 230m go through a wooden gate to the right of a wooden field gate and



follow a left-hand boundary further downhill. In 200m go through a wooden gate into a narrow pasture and walk down to the **Derwent River** 40m away by a four-way signpost. The **Derwent Valley Heritage Way** runs along the river bank and you have some **Stepping Stones** providing a (usually safe) route across.

**Here you have three choices:**

**For an ending at Bamford Station**, *turn left* along the river (signed 'Shatton') and pick up the directions at the end of this text under **Bamford Ending** (2.5 more km).

**For an ending in Hathersage Village** (1.4 more km), cross the river (signed 'Castleton Road A 6187') via the Stepping Stones and go up some steps on the other side. *Turn right* along the river, ignoring another signposted footpath straight ahead. Looming half right ahead, framed by wooded ridges, is **Higger Tor**, as you follow the right-hand field boundaries of three pastures (100, 120 and 140 metres) and dip down a little with the path to cross a stream between railings on an earth path. In the next field in 70m where the Derwent turns to the right, you continue gently uphill in the same direction with a hand-painted 'F/P'-sign to a gate (although the OS map shows the right of way differently).

In 120m go through a wooden gate in the top right field corner and up some steps to cross the A6187 carefully and go over a stile to the left of a metal field gate and *veer right* up a pasture. In 40m go over ladder stiles either side of the railway line and *bear right* uphill through another pasture. Head for a wooden gate in 65m (i.e. not the field gate 30m away to the right) and in the next field *bear right* to its top-right corner and leave it through a metal gate onto **Jagger's Lane** on the westerly fringes of **Hathersage**. *Turn right* along the lane, ignore all ways off and in 450m you reach the main road through the village, with **The George Hotel** and **Station Road** 50m to the left.

**For an ending at Hathersage Station** (3.3 more km), *turn right* along the river (signed 'Leadmill') and follow the riverside path for 2.1 km to Leadmill Bridge and the B 6001. **In more detail:** in 60m go through a wooden gate into a pasture and in 130m through another wooden gate into another one. You have the **High Low** (hill) on the right (SWC Walk 315 Hathersage Circular via Bretton Clough and Eyam) and **Millstone Edge** a little to the right. In 100m go through a wooden gate in a fence and continue either side of a redundant wire fence, at times awkwardly over tree-roots on the path. In 60m go through another wooden gate and continue to the left of a wire fence along a narrow earthen path, with a hay meadow on the right. You briefly get views of **Froggatt Edge** away to the far right between wooded slopes (SWC Walk 322 Grindleford Circular via Chatsworth House) and in 450m go through a wooden gate and along the boundary of another hay meadow.

In 100m go through another wooden gate and continue with a wire fence on the right. In 200m, by a large house on the other river side (**Nether Hall**), path and river turn right – away from the noise of the A 6187. You now have fine views back on the right up the Hope Valley. In 40m go through a wooden gate and walk through one last meadow. In 200m go over a two-railed concrete slab bridge over a stream and in 40m go through a wooden gate and over another two-railed concrete slab bridge over a stream. This is the **Dunge Brook**, an extension of the **Siney Sitch**, crossed earlier up on Smelting Hill/Offerton Moor. You now have a steep sloping wood on the right (**Goose Nest Wood, Access Land**) and in 350m go through a wooden gate into a pasture. In 160m pass a wooden footpath signpost on the left, indicating – on a hard-right turn – the direction SWC 315 takes from here, up towards the High Low.

You now reverse-walk the start of that walk: pass a rickety corrugated barn on the right and in 150m go through a wooden gate and through a standing stone stile in a drystone wall onto the B 6001 by **Leadmill Bridge** over the **Derwent River** on the left. You have the recommended (pub) tea stop the **Plough Inn** up along the road on the right in 230m. *Turn left* across the bridge and **either** follow the roadside pavement for 600m to the turnoff to Station Approach, en route passing **The David Mellor Design Museum Café**; **or turn left** through a wall gap and then a wooden gate by a signpost and continue along a fenced path. In 160m walk through a wooden gate and ignore a footpath forking right towards the road and continue with a fence on the left. In 70m pass a redundant stile and in 220m go through another wooden gate. In 40m a farm track joins from the left from **Nether Hall Farm** and you continue with a hedge on the left and in 130m go over a stone slab stile in a drystone wall or through a double wooden field gate to the right of it and *turn right* along a tarmac lane at a bend by **Nether Hall's** drive on the left. In 150m the lane goes under the railway line and in 90m you cross **Station Road** and *bear right* with the **Station Approach** road along its pavement. In 120m *turn right* to the platforms.

**For more tea stops and/or a tour through Hathersage** (adds up to 1.6 km): **do not go up Station Approach** but follow the B road (Station Road) into the village and follow the route as per the route map, in 340m passing **The Little John Hotel**, in another 40m reaching **Main Road** at a T-junction, opposite **The George Hotel**. *Turn right* and pass some restaurants and the **Bank House Bar & Restaurant** along **Main Road** and in 380m *turn left* along **School Lane** to in 170m reach the recommended **Scotsman's Pack** pub. From there return to Main Road and *turn left* along it uphill. In 150m *bear right* away from the main road and follow **Back Lane** to the bottom of **Station Approach** 350m away.

## Bamford Ending

In 100m you pass a corrugated shack by the river and in 60m go through a wooden gate and up a stepped railed path by a signpost and on along a fenced path. In 30m go through a wooden gate and continue along the fence on the left with a drop to the river on the right and **Offerton Edge and Moor** visible up on the left. In 80m the path drops to cross a stream (coming off Offerton Moor down Old Clough) on a railed plank bridge and in 50m you *turn right* through a metal field gate, as a public footpath joins from the left. A large meadow opens out as the river turns right and **Glover Bank** drops down from Offerton Moor on the left and you continue along the river, in 400m passing the impressive stone **Kentney Barn**, where you go through a gap in a drystone wall (a missing field gate).

In 170m walk through some spread-out trees and in 100m on the opposite side of the river, the **Upper Hurst Brook** joins from down Hurst Clough (crossed late into SWC 266 Sheffield to Bamford). In 120m you go through a wooden gate in a fence line and in 190m through a gap to the left of a wooden gate (a missing field gate). The path rises gently away from the water level (opposite you can see the A road-junction near Bamford Station) and in 100m you cross a stream on a concrete bridge. You continue along a fenced path high above the river and in 210m go through a wooden gate and continue along the drop. In 100m on the right you have the confluence of the **Rivers Derwent** (from the right under the A road) **and Noe** (from the left). In 70m pass a marker post and go through a metal kissing gate and follow a downhill path to in 30m cross **Overdale Brook**, crossed much earlier near its source at the top of Over Dale. In 50m go through a wooden gate onto a tarmac lane by a footpath signpost and *turn right* along the lane.

In 30m you cross the **River Noe** and cross the **A 6187** carefully and *turn right* along the opposite pavement (a shared foot- and cyclepath). In 70m pass the **Hope Valley Garden Centre** with its **Tastebuds Café** (open daily to 16.00 in summer). In 100m cross the **Derwent River** on a footbridge to the left of the road bridge and **[!]** *turn left* immediately along a tarmac cul-de-sac (Mytham Bridge), with the Derwent on the left. In 80m ignore a left turning public footpath and in 125m you come out on the **A 6013** by a **bus shelter for services to Sheffield** on the right and – on a green island – remnants of an **old toll gate** from the Sheffield to Chapel turnpike road (with an info panel).

For **Bamford Station** cross the A road and *turn left* along the pavement for 50m.