

THE BULLOCK SMITHY HIKE

SUGGESTED ROUTE

To be used as a guide only, in conjunction with an Ordnance Survey map.

The route described may not necessarily be the shortest but is judged to be the safer or easier to navigate than the alternatives.

PLEASE NOTE, THE LATTER STAGES ARE NOT AS EASY TO NAVIGATE AS THE OLD ROUTE, PLEASE TAKE CARE ON ROADS AND KEEP QUIET NEAR DWELLINGS.

Key :- L = left, R = right, ST = stile, CP = checkpoint, T = turn, FP = footpath, X = cross.

Start - opposite Scout HQ Hazel Grove - SJ925862.

Leave start point in Devonshire Park, exiting to rear of park via right hand gate onto Devonshire Rd R, TL at T Junction (400 yds) TR into Old Mill Lane, follow track over 2 footbridges and ahead over fields and thru woods to kissing gate, TR on track to X roads, X and follow Anson Road to Boars Head, X road and over canal bridge, follow track to Lyme Park, on seeing the Hall take FP R up alongside wood, over 2 ladder STs and on to CP at Bowstones.

Checkpoint No 1 - Bowstones - SJ 974813.

Follow road downhill to X roads, ahead into Hotel drive, at bend follow track ahead, L on FP just before 2nd cattle grid, follow path over ST and footbridge to road, TL and shortly R on FP thru fields, keeping wall on L, to farm, continue on track and road to X A6 in Furness Vale, over level crossing, follow road, after sharp left take 2nd FP on R, immediately X road follow FP NE under railway bridge, ahead across field, L on track, R up hill on FP thru Shedyard Farm to road, TR ahead on road, track and FP to CP on FP just over the summit.

Check point No 2 - Chinley Churn - SK 037 843.

Follow FP and track downhill to drinks point at road, L down road take Bridleway on R, ahead to FP posted Edale / Castleton, thru gates and downhill to pick up Waymarkers to FP on R, over ST in corner of field (not easy to see, keep on L of minor stream) and downhill L to footbridge keeping wire fence on L over footbridge and ST, follow path to road, R and ahead uphill on track via gates and STs to CP at Edale Cross.

Checkpoint No 3 - Edale Cross - SK 077 861. (note no drinks).

Follow FP down via Jacobs Ladder and Lea Farm to Upper Booth Farm, TL thru farmyard and R thru gate, follow FP across fields to Barber Booth, join main road, continue to car park and CP in Village Hall.

Checkpoint No 4 - Edale - SK 124 853.

Exit CP L along road to FP on R posted Hollins Cross / Castleton, follow FP over Hollins Cross and down into Castleton, over bridge on metalled road, TR at Brook House, follow FP by stream & main car park to main road. TR over roundabout to CP at old garage forecourt.

Checkpoint No 5 - Castleton - SK 149 829.

Exit CP to left and after 100m TL on FP thro car park. TR at Goosehill Road and follow uphill to gate and FP. Take path diagonally up hillside to Cow Low to gate and stile where bear left & follow wall to join Limestone Way. Cross track & follow Limestone Way with wall on R. At wall junction leave Limestone Way & TR over stile/metal gate & follow wall on R, down Oxlow Rake to house Oxlow End, L on road and R at T junction, at green island, TL to CP in Hall over main road.

Checkpoint No 6 - Peak Forest - SK 113 792.

Exit CP TR on main road (**TAKE CARE OF TRAFFIC**) uphill to where road bears L, take FP R over crash barrier uphill (direction sign missing on post) and forward through 6 STs, at 6th bear left heading for STs diagonally over fields, TR on road (Limestone Way) and continue forward into Wheston Village, at T junction TL and take track on R continue ahead to CP in barn at Monksdale Farm.

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Checkpoint No 7 - Millers Dale (near) - SK 142735.

Exit CP to R picking up path down to metalled road, TR and R again at main road, follow road over bridge and up hill take track on L (Long Lane/Limestone Way), join road then TR on road, X main road, ahead on FP beside Waterloo Hotel, TR on road to X roads, ahead on track (Highstool Lane/Midshires Way) to CP in 200 yds.

Checkpoint No 8 - Chelmorton (near) - SK 118692.

Continue along track bearing L along metalled road to T junction (A515) TR and 100yds pick up path to L posted High Peak Trail, follow path ahead to metalled road, TR and follow road bearing R twice, on to Earl Sterndale and CP in Chapel.

Checkpoint No 9 - Earl Sterndale - SK 091669.

Leave CP, TL down road, over crossroads take track (half mile) on L, uphill through gate on R, TR on FP to Dowell Dale (bearing 290), TR up hill. 300yds after 2nd cattle grid take track on L and FP R posted Booth Farm, fork R on track, take FP over ST R before Booth Farm, over ST by water trough, diagonally R to wall ST, head L towards building then TR down small valley, across fields keeping wire fence on L, bear left to ST over small stream bridge. Follow uphill keeping wall to R and to R of Brand End Farm (barking dogs) to ST where R then L following wall steeply uphill to ST and path to track to Shop Farm. Follow track thro gate and then track to CP at Brandside Parish Hall

Checkpoint No 10 – Brand Top - SK044685.

Leave CP by the track at the rear and descend to minor road, TL over stream and follow road to junction where TR to Flash Stores to main road (A53). TR then TL on minor road signed Knotbury. Continue on minor road to 3rd junction where TR at triangular junction, uphill signed no through road. At end of road keep left on track and after bridge over stream TL on FP to Three Shire Heads, over bridge TR heading north towards Holt, follow FP, thru gate, follow FP along fence then wall, follow round up field, after about 150 yds R thru gate, follow FP (fence on R), at corner TL then up field, over wall ST and ladder ST, X main road (A54) at Sparbent (GR 003693), follow track to ford (**if it's rained !!**), TL follow track down valley to CP in old Cottage.

Checkpoint No 11 - Cumberland Cottage - SJ 994699.

Leave CP down track over footbridge to road, TR follow road for 1 mile passing Dingers Hollow Farm, take next L up hill. At top TR then first L to Macclesfield Forest, take track R of Toothill House, posted "Forest Walk", continue on track for 1 mile to road, TR and follow to main road A537. TL on Buxton Old Road approx. 100m to the CP in Chapel. (**beware of traffic, keep on the right!!**).

Checkpoint No 12 – Walker Barn - SJ 955737.

Leave CP & retrace to A537 TR then TL on FP/track, fork L at the bottom, over stream, follow FP thru Hordern farm, up hill, join the "Gritstone Trail" (GT) over metal ST and follow to road, TL, 100yds TR still following the GT, at the ST by a holly tree, where the GT rises continue on the level path (do not take FP down hill) until it joins a road, TL, at cattle grid take the FP R down field (bearing 330), over ST to join Cow Lane, ahead at road (Chancery Lane), R down High Street, L along Water Street, ahead under aqueduct, immediately TR up track to join canal, TL follow towpath to bridge No 25 and CP on car park.

Checkpoint No 13 – Whiteley Green - SJ 927789.

Leave CP, TR down road, immediately join Middlewood Way (MW) at bridge, follow MW for 2.5 miles to Coppice car park, leave MW, TL on Shrigley Rd then Coppice Rd to Hockley Stores Post Office, X into Towers Rd and follow to main road, TR to the final CP in the scout HQ.

Checkpoint No 14 – Hazel Grove - SJ 925862.

WELL DONE !!!!!