

Tatham Fells Walk 5 - Ivah & Whitray

Length: 5 miles with 760 feet of climb (2.9%)

Start grid reference SD 676 635

Park by the roadside on the Bentham-Slaidburn road, near its junction with a minor road (Lythe Lane) leading west towards Lowgill.

DIRECTIONS

From the road junction, head north for 50 yards to a waymark post, then fork left off the road (the finger on the waymark post points too far left) across rushy grassland to a waymarked stile in a fence. Cross the stile and the next field, to another fence and stile. After this stile, head towards the left-hand of two small blocks of conifers ahead, to reach a wall stile in a partly-ruined wall.

After crossing this, keep ahead, with a fence/ruined wall on your left, through an excavated area, to a stile 20 yards to the right of the field corner (and just left of where the barbed-wire ends). Cross this, and follow the fence on your left to a gate(way). Go through and continue in the same direction as before, with the fence on your right, to a gate/stile. Cross this, then a nearby ladder stile next to a forest corner.

After this, aim for the next block of conifers, bearing right as you approach it, towards Craggs farm. Go through a gateway by the field corner, then through a green gate with a stile on its right. Go ahead to cross another stile by a green shed. Pass the shed, and a barn, on your right, and a house on your left. Keep in this direction, through (or over) two wooden gates, with another house on your left, then through a green gate. Turn left to a metal gate, after which, cross a track and pass a gate on your right, to a stile.

Cross this, then turn right and follow the wall on your right to a wall stile in the field corner. Continue with a wall on your right at first, then diverge from it to follow a power line. Keep 20 yards left of the line to reach a wall stile just to the right of a thorn tree. After this, bear left, and follow the right side of a shallow valley down to a stile in a fence, where the fence crosses a wall. Now follow the fence on your right, with Croasdale Beck below, to reach another stile leading onto a road.

Turn right across Lane Foot bridge, after which, turn left, and walk down the grassy field, with Croasdale Beck on your left. After a boggy stretch, you will reach the bottom corner of the field, where you will find a footbridge over the beck.

Cross the bridge, follow the path right for 20 yards, then turn sharp left, up to a stile. Cross into a field corner, then follow the fence on your right to some sheep pens. Go through a metal gate, and past the pens to a wooden gate and stile. Follow the path beyond through some gorse and continue, converging with the wall on your left, to a gate.

After the gate, turn right and follow a track past the houses (Brackenbottom) and then left to a paved area. Bear right to go through a wooden gate by a power pole, then follow the fence on your left. When you reach the fence corner, bear slightly right to reach a wall stile just to the right of a length of fence ahead. After the stile, follow its instruction by turning right and following the wall on your right (a bit overgrown) until it becomes a fence.

From here, turn left through some rushes, then follow the right side of a shallow valley, with a boggy ditch on your left, towards some woodland. When you reach the woodland fence, turn right (ignore a stile on the other side of the ditch) and follow the fence on your left to a stile. Cross the stile, and the footbridge just beyond, then go straight up the wooded slope to a stile just to the right of an oak tree. Cross the stile, then turn right and follow the fence on your right to another stile. Cross this, then follow a small path through woodland to emerge on a surfaced road.

Turn left along the road to Ivah, keeping straight on at the junction, and continuing along the road for 300 yards to a sharp right bend. Just after the bend, turn left across a cattle grid, and follow the track beyond to Swans farm.

Go through the left-hand gate, then turn right before a large barn to a gate. Go through and follow a muddy track up to another gate. After this, follow a faint grassy track, near a fence/hedge on your right, level at first, and then downhill to the field corner where you pass a boulder and cross a small stream before going through a

narrow gate.

Keep ahead around the hillside, through an old gateway with a tall waymarked post on its left, to a short waymark post. From here, aim for the left-hand-most farm ahead, and head down to another short waymark post, after which aim slightly left of the farm, and go down to a narrow gate at the right-hand end of a wall. After the gate, turn right and head downhill through rushes to a footbridge over Whitray Beck.

After crossing, head straight up the steep slope ahead, and when it eases, aim left of the farm to pass left of a wall corner, then follow the wall on your right to a gate, then a wall on your left to Whitray farm. Go through a gate into the farmyard, and keep ahead to reach a surfaced road.

Turn left along the road and follow it for nearly a mile to a T-junction. Turn left here, and follow the road back to your starting point.

Tatham Fells Walk 5

- Start grid ref. SD 676 635
- Route
5 miles, 2.9% climb

This map is for orientation purposes only and should not be used for navigation. The route directions should be used in conjunction with OS Explorer Sheet OL41 Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale, or the Harvey Superwalker map of Bentham.



0 ————— 1/2 mile

Heights and contours in feet

Map based on Ordnance Survey Popular Edition One Inch to One Mile sheet 25, published 1924-33

