

WALK 3 — Hudeshope Valley

From the wall at (A), turn right and follow the wall to the road. Turn left along the road and continue past the cottages and the Heather Brae retirement home for about one and a half miles. From the road you will get extensive views of the valley and pastures and the moorland above, the two separated by long dry stone walls. *The deep eroded gulleys which you will see are known as "hushes" resulting from the lead mining industry. They were formed by the sudden release of water stored behind earth dams which cleared out old diggings and exposed fresh veins of lead ore.*

Follow the road as it bends sharply to the left between extensive old mine workings. Ahead of you on the other side of the valley are the remains of the large Coldberry Mine which at its peak produced vast quantities of lead ore for local smelt mills, one of which was located at nearby Eggleston.

All of the old mine workings in this area are

highly dangerous and you should always take great care, even when on public rights of way.

Go through the gate across the road and immediately turn left alongside the stone wall. Go down towards the end of the wall and continue *past* a small gate to a stone stile. Go over this and cross Marl Beck to follow a clear grassy track past a stone barn and on through old mining remains until you climb up to a field gate ahead. Go through this and continue ahead alongside the stone wall (*do not follow the track to the left*). Carry on through three fields and over a stile onto an attractive path through a conifer plantation. The path drops down steeply to go across the front of the large Skeers Quarry and then down past the *lime kilns*.

Continue along Beck Road to join the main road after about a mile. Turn right down the hill and past the church and Teesdale Hotel to the car park.



Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work

Guard against all risk of fire

Fasten all gates

Keep your dogs under close control*

Keep to public paths across farmland

Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls

Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone

Take your litter home

Help to keep all water clean

Protect wildlife, plants and trees

Take special care on country roads

Make no unnecessary noise

* During lambing time, all dogs should be kept on leads

TEESDALE DISTRICT
COUNCIL

achieving excellence together

Printed onto paper made from wood taken from sustainable forests.
The wood pulp used in this process is Elemental Chlorine Free.

Explore **TEESDALE**
the great outdoors

3 CIRCULAR WALKS FROM MIDDLETON IN TEESDALE



Memorial Fountain, Middleton in Teesdale

All walks start from the Memorial Fountain at the public car park in the centre of Middleton. Walk 1 is an easy stroll along the banks of the River Tees while the other two walks include an uphill section on the Kings Walk. Only Walk 2 involves a steep climb and this can be avoided by returning along the Beck Road.

It is advisable to wear stout shoes or boots on these walks.

WALK 1: 2½ MILES (1 hour)
WALK 2: 4 MILES (2 hours)
Easy route — 3 MILES (1½ hours)
WALK 3: 6 MILES (3 hours)

NORTH PENNINES

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Routes have been waymarked with yellow arrows in places to guide you

WALKS 2 and 3 — The Kings Walk

For these walks, cross the main village street and go past the war memorial and along **Wesley Terrace**. At the end, follow the footpath uphill past a beech hedge which screens the churchyard. Continue along the path as it turns left and then right into a field. After a few metres, go left again through a stile into a courtyard. Head diagonally right, up two steps and along a narrow passage between houses to the road.

At the road, turn right for about 50 metres and go left along another road into the woods. Almost immediately, you take a rough track

up through the trees on your right **known as Kings Walk and is not right of way — permission has been given by Raby Estates for people to walk**

Follow this track as it climbs up through the trees and bends right up a steep hill to a barn on the right. At the barn, bear left on the track as it continues through the trees and drop down a wooden bridge over **Snaisgill Beck**. **Follow the bridge and go left along the narrow track to a stone wall on the edge of the park (point A) where routes 2 and 3 diverge**

WALK 2 — Miners Bridge and Aukside

From the wall at (A) turn left and follow it along the edge of the trees and gradually downhill to a track close to some disused lime kilns. **These kilns are an important reminder of our industrial heritage and were an essential part of the farming landscape before the import of cheaper lime from other areas. Limestone from the nearby Skeers Quarry was burnt in the kilns and the lime used to improve local soil. The kilns here show clearly how operations expanded over the years from 1840 when the first one — the furthest away with the pointed arches — was built and operated by the Parker family. Please take care near the kilns and do not damage any of the stonework.**

Turn left onto the Beck Road for a short and easy return to Middleton and enjoy a picnic alongside the attractive Hudeshope Beck. After about a mile you meet the main road where you turn right down the hill and past the church into the centre of the village and the car park.

For the main route, turn right over the **Miners Bridge** and then go through a field gate immediately on the left. Keep left to cross a stream and head for the fence going up the hill. Do not cross the small wooden stile but follow the fence up the steep hillside. At the top, take a rest and look back at the view over to the bridge and kilns. Do not go through the gate but turn right and follow the stone wall for a short distance to a stile which you go

over into a large field. Walk diagonally across this field going gently uphill past a stone stile. Go over this and follow the track in the next field to another stile in the hand corner by a stone barn.

Over the stile, follow the road down a few metres and turn left through the trees to the large house known as **Aukside** and into a large field. Keep to the right edge of the field for another 200 metres and cross a small stone slab bridge and go through a stile in the wall. **Keep in single file** through two fields, passing a small stone bar and a stile in the wall. Go through this and follow the narrow track alongside **Throstle Gill**, with a stone wall on the right.

Gradually descend to join a wider track through the woods and turn right along this bank to the left in front of a house. **From here, a path of Middleton opens out below you.** Follow the path between the cottages and turn left along the road for a short distance to a gap in the wall opposite. Follow the path alongside the parkland in front of **House** and clock tower to join another track which you should cross with care

Turn left past the old lead compound and then right, down a track to a field over Hudeshope Beck. Continue along the path into Bridge Street and turn left into the park where your walk began.

WALK 3 — Hudeshope Valley

From the wall at (A), turn right and follow the wall to the road. Turn left along the road and continue past the cottages and the Heather Brae retirement home for about one and a half miles. From the road you will get extensive views of the valley and pastures and the moorland above, the two separated by long dry stone walls. **The deep eroded gulleys which you will see are known as "hushes" resulting from the lead mining industry. They were formed by the sudden release of water stored behind earth dams which cleared out old diggings and exposed fresh veins of lead ore.**

Follow the road as it bends sharply to the left between extensive old mine workings. Ahead of you on the other side of the valley are the remains of the large Coldberry Mine which at its peak produced vast quantities of lead ore for local smelt mills, one of which was located at nearby Eggleston.

All of the old mine workings in this area are

highly dangerous and you should always take great care, even when on public rights of way.

Go through the gate across the road and immediately turn left alongside the stone wall. Go down towards the end of the wall and continue **past** a small gate to a stone stile. Go over this and cross Marl Beck to follow a clear grassy track past a stone barn and on through old mining remains until you climb up to a field gate ahead. Go through this and continue ahead alongside the stone wall (**do not follow the track to the left**). Carry on through three fields and over a stile onto an attractive path through a conifer plantation. The path drops down steeply to go across the front of the large Skeers Quarry and then down past the **lime kilns**.

Continue along Beck Road to join the main road after about a mile. Turn right down the hill and past the church and Teesdale Hotel to the car park.



**Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
Guard against all risk of fire
Fasten all gates
Keep your dogs under close control*
Keep to public paths across farmland
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
Take your litter home
Help to keep all water clean
Protect wildlife, plants and trees
Take special care on country roads
Make no unnecessary noise**

* During lambing time, all dogs should be kept on leads

TEESDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL
achieving excellence together

