

Walk 6 Moorside and Millstones

Start & Finish: The Memorial Hall, Main Street, Addingham, LS29 0LZ, SE 079 497.

Full walk: About 5 miles (8km), height gain 830ft (272m).

Shorter route: About 4 miles (6.2Km), height gain 672ft (202m).

Shortest rote: About 3 miles (4.8Km), height gain 670ft (202m).

Summary:

The full walk is one of the more energetic in this collection but the views over Addingham and up Wharfedale from the edge of the moor, and the sight of the millstone quarry, the Doubler Stones, and the many traditional farmhouses, make it well worth the effort. The going is fairly gently uphill across meadows until the Moorside Road is crossed, when it becomes steeper, and can be muddy. The route down is across meadows, steep at first, below Windgate Nick, but then more gently down to the village. There are two shorter options to give plenty of choice.

The Walk

From the **Memorial Hall** opposite the Fleece Inn, go **left**, up Main Street and take the **second left** on to Stockinger Lane. **Continue** up the lane, along a green tunnel of holly bushes to **cross** the Addingham bypass (with care). On the other side, go **very slightly left** across the large Stock Field.

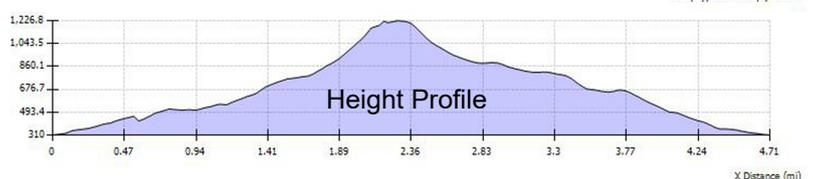
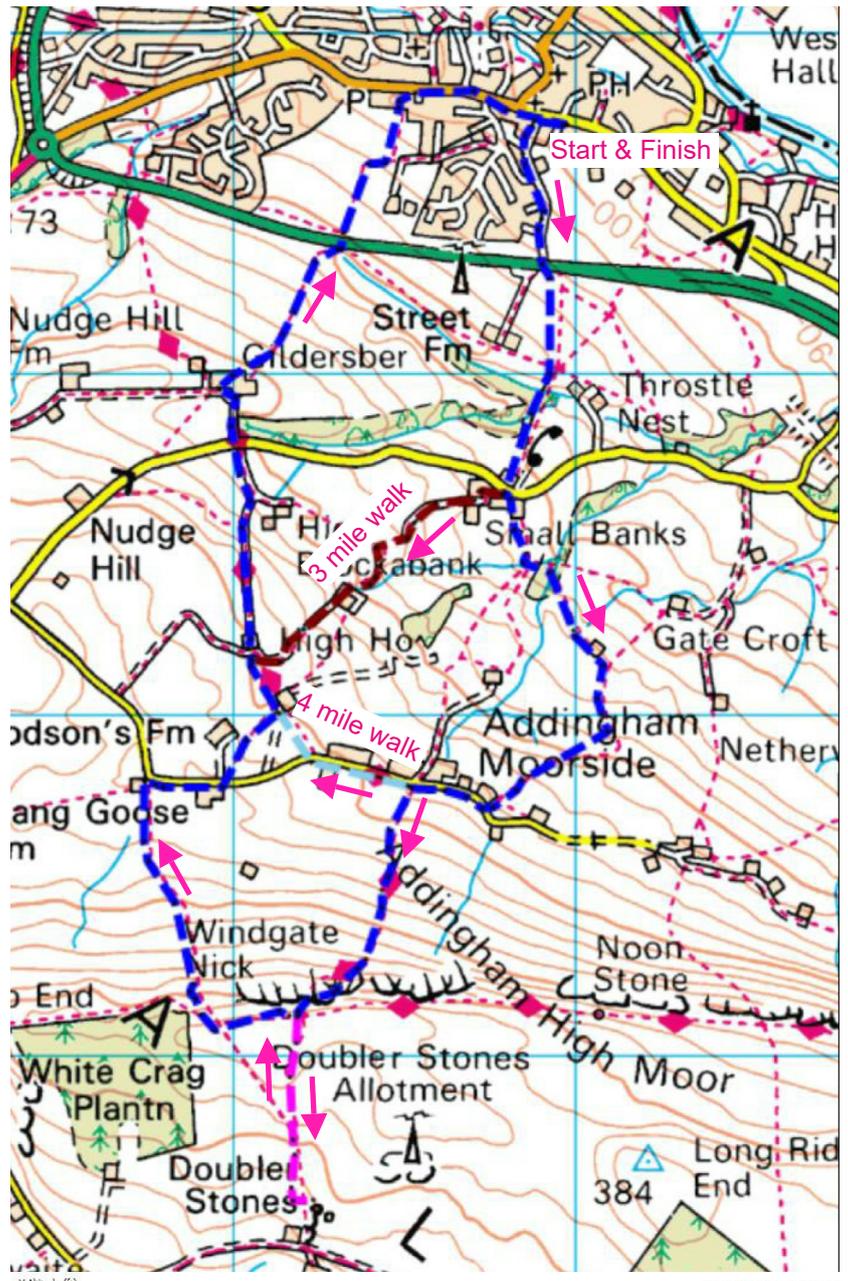
At the top of the field go through a **wooden gate** and down the Cat Steps and the path continues **up to** Cocking Lane.

For the shortest, 3 mile, walk, turn right along Cocking Lane and then **bear left** through Small Banks. After the houses, head **diagonally and gently uphill** across a field to a wall stile. Following the fence line, look for another stile and **turn left** onto a path leading into delightful woodland, with a stream, where Cuckoo Nest farmhouse (dated 1758) appears to hide away. Go **over the track** to a small metal gate and continue to head quite **steeply uphill** to the right of Cuckoo Nest and **cross the field** to an obvious wall stile in the far corner. The field beyond leads to **School Wood Farm** where the **longer walks are rejoined**. Turn **right** here for High House (**go to next page**).

For the longer walks, bear left across Cocking Lane to a small gate in the wall, skirt around a garden to another gate and cross the field to the beck with a stone **slab bridge**. Here turn **left** (east) and cross Lumb Beck and almost immediately, at the end of a short stone wall, **turn right**, bearing steadily and **diagonally uphill** across fields. Keep going **steadily uphill** across **several fields**, following waymarks, towards a newly planted copse, including a short, steep section (by which time the copse is on your left), and then **towards** Sunny Bank Farm, on the right, and Moorside Lane.

Skirt round to the **left** of Sunny Bank Farm and **turn right** (west) along the road, **continuing** past Lumb Beck Farm.

For the shorter 4 mile walk continue along Moorside Lane, for 500m, then take



the **footpath right**, sp 'Addingham', towards School Wood Farm, where the **full walk** and the **shortest walk** are rejoined, and then High House. (Go to lower down page).

For the full walk, turn left off Moorside Lane up the **first footpath**, sp 'Millennium Way'. Go **left** over a wall stile and then **straight** up through pasture and moorland to a **high ladder-stile**. After the stile, bear right and then up through the rocky Millstone Lumps quarry to the cairn at the top of the slope. Fine views can be admired over Addingham to Beamsley Beacon, Simon's Seat, and beyond to Upper Wharfedale, Great Whernside and Buckden Pike to the north-west.

An option now is to take a detour straight across the moor (waymarked 'Silsden Strolls') to see the Doubler Stones. These are spectacular mushroom-shaped stacks of rock. **Return the way you came to the cairn and turn left on the main route.**

If you are **not going** to the Doubler Stones, **turn right at the cairn** and continue along the moor edge path to the **seat**. In clear weather the distinctive whaleback of Pendle Hill can be seen to the south west. The grassy path **descends** from near the seat (do not take the track) **straight down** to the former farmhouse of Slade. Here **turn right** along Moorside Lane, past Scar Ghyll and take the **footpath, left**, after passing the drive to Hodson's Farm. **Cross** the field to a gate, continue to School Wood Farm and **turn left** here over a stile.

The 3 mile and 4 mile walks rejoin the longer one here.

Continue to a wall stile on the left of little High House farm, **cross** the small fields ahead, using the wall stiles, with more fine views of Upper Wharfedale, before following the path downhill, **between fences and walls**, with the buildings of High and Low Brocka Banks to the right. Take care on this often muddy, downhill stretch, at the bottom of which **turn left** over the cattle-grid.

Cross Cocking Lane down to Gildersber Farm and follow the track round to the **left**, then go **right** through the waymarked gate, across a small paddock to another stile on the right, in the corner behind the square cottage and round to the right to another wall stile before going straight across the farmyard (which can be mucky!) through three gates. **Follow the track** downhill to **cross** the grassy Roman Road to the bypass.

Cross over the bypass, go **through** a gate into the Southfield and at the bottom of the field **turn right** along a deep hollow lane running west to east, a continuation of Southfield Lane which connects this big open field with the main village.

The route for this walk, however, **goes left** through the crooked stile beside a large oak tree and down the field, then across the Town Beck footbridge to emerge onto Main Street. **Continuing** down Main Street, the walk finishes back at the **Memorial Hall**.