

# 1 - Ladybower to Hollow Meadows Lane --- 8.82 miles

1. *From the Coach Parking area of the car park take the path leading downhill to exit the car park. On reaching the road turn right. We advise crossing the road at this point as there is no walkway further on.*
2. *Having crossed the low bridge you will meet some traffic lights at a road junction. Turn right to walk along the right hand side of the road (A57). You are now walking slightly uphill road to your left, balance of reservoir to your right. 300 metres on you will see the Ladybower Inn to your left and its' car park on your right. Once you reach the end of the car park turn left to cross the road and, once over take the track to the right of the inn signposted "Cutthroat bridge and Ashopton" which rises steeply.*
3. *100 metres along the track you will see a fingerpost at a point where a track "doubles back" on itself. Take the path signposted for Ashopton (doubling back). This path becomes quite a wide path and runs to the rear of the Ladybower Inn. Soon after the inn the path becomes "walled" on your left, passes through a gate then starts to rise steeply. This will give you splendid views over the reservoir and beyond. The reservoir hides a village below its depths and, when the water levels were low, you could still see the old church steeple. This was removed in 2003 when an H&SE ruling declared it dangerous as rowing boats kept "running into the steeple when water levels were low.*
4. *This path, having rose steeply, now descends to reach a gate. Pass through the gate and after 15 metres you meet a fingerpost. Turn right here to pass through the gate and take the path to the left which starts to rise steeply (use the power lines as your guide). 250 meters on the path levels out at a point where a wall joins on the left side. After a short while this path passes through a gate then begins to rise again. Looking upwards (and slightly right) you can see an outcrop of rocks perched on the hill. The path is heading in their general direction. As the path approaches a wall it starts to swing to the right and climbs severely.*
5. *Once at the top of the severe climb you will meet a series of paths (3 in actual fact). This area is known as Whinstone Lee Fields. You continue onwards bearing slightly left and CLIMBING UPHILL towards the rock outcrop mentioned earlier....DO NOT TURN LEFT TO FOLLOW THE BRIDLEWAY continue climbing up to the rocks. Once at the top of this hill you will see the path turns 45° right and starts to rise gently. You are now heading onto Derwent Edge and will follow the main path for 2 miles passing several distinctive rock outcrops which you will use as a guide. The first outcrop you can see are the Hurkling Stones.*
6. *At the Hurkling Stones you will see the path bears left. You are now heading for the Wheel stones. Stay on the main path. After ¼ mile you meet a path Junction, continue straight ahead. Observe to you right a mound for grouse shooters.*
7. *The path runs to the left side of the impressive outcrop known as the Wheel Stones. Once past these you are now heading towards another outcrop called White Tor. This being perched precariously on the end of Derwent Edge.*
8. *The path runs to the right side of the White Tor rock outcrop and you have a small scramble to reach the top of it. Once passed this outcrop you head for another known as the Salt Cellars ½ mile ahead of you.*

9. *The path runs to the right side of the Salt Cellars and continues towards a rather imposing and impressive outcrop known as Dovestone Tor ½ mile ahead. Just past the Salt Cellars the path becomes “flag stoned” in an attempt to save the area from further erosion.*
10. *On reaching Dovestone Tor you find you have a nasty little climb but are aided by stone steps. The path running mainly to the right of the Tor. Once at the top of the climb you see the path runs towards another Tor known as Back Tor ½ mile ahead (Back Tor is punctuated by a white trig point on its’ peak). However, ¼ mile ahead, and off to the right of the main path, you will see 3 sets of oddly placed rocks. These are known as “The Cakes of Bread”. **Follow the main path towards Back Tor.** Halfway between the Cakes of Bread and Back Tor the path dips slightly before starting to rise to the Tor. Approx halfway up this “climb” you will see a large vertically placed stone. This stone marks the crossroads of paths. **Here turn 90° right to take the path heading across the moor.** This path starts to descend and soon becomes quite a wide path.*
11. *This path descends for 1 mile to a point where it meets a tarmac road just past a cottage perched up to your right. On meeting this road **turn left and continue downhill to the gates. Pass through (cattle grid) and continue downhill.** Straight ahead of you is a woodland plantation and to your left is an area that has recently been cleared of trees. After 400 meters the road swings sharply right continuing its downhill trait through an area of “logging activity” and eventually meets a gate. Pass through to meet the road.*
12. ***At the road turn left to walk along the road.** It, soon, passes over a small bridge before swinging to the right and starts to rise gently for a few metres before levelling out. After 300 metres the road swings left and starts to climb again. After a further 250 metre you will see a metal “public bridleway” sign just at a point where woodland starts.*
13. *At this point **turn right to walk down the lane** leading to Stubbing House Farm. The lane heads downhill and, after a short while, swings to the left. The track begins to level out at a point where you see a farm building on your right.*
14. *Immediately after the farm building **turn right** then, after 40 paces, and at a point punctuated by a power line pole **turn 90° left** to walk down the paved path that leads down to a stile. **Cross the stile and continue straight ahead along the obvious path** heading down to woodland. **Cross the stile to enter the wood and take the path that bears 45° right** passing into the woodland. Passing the apex of a wall the path continues through the wood, slightly downhill, leading to a wooden bridge over a stream. Cross the bridge and then **TURN RIGHT** as indicated by the yellow arrow on the waymarker post. At the next post follow the yellow arrow which leads the path to a stile in a wall.*
15. ***Cross the wall stile and continue uphill and slightly right** to reach a gap in the wall halfway up the hill. **Pass through and continue straight ahead.** On meeting the small stream, **cross over and continue straight ahead.** The path bends to the left after a few metres to head up to another wall and a waymarker arrow on a stone slab. At this arrow **continue straight ahead** the path now climbing towards a wall. On reaching the wall the path swings round left to walk with the wall on your immediate right heading uphill. After a few metres the wall swings 90° right as does the path. At a point where you are almost level with the damn wall (look right) **the path turns 45° left and goes uphill.** Keeping the tower almost straight in front of you **use the yellow arrows on the***

**waymarker posts to guide you across the quite boggy land. On reaching, what appears to be, open land opposite the tower the path turns 90° left and goes uphill.**

16. *At the apex of this hill you will see a rather fine property ahead of you called Sugworth Hall. This is guarded by a wall. In the top, left hand edge, of the wall you will see, what appears to be, a gap in the wall. **Head for this gap** (ignore tractor tracks on you left). On reaching the gap you will see it is actually a “kissing gate”. **Pass through, cross over the stile and walk down the path** which is in a sort of “hedgerow tunnel”. When you meet the gate **turn 90° left** is indicated by the footpath sign and in a few paces the path swings **90° right** and then **right again** where you will have a wire fence on your left.*
17. *On emerging from the hedgerow the path turns left to head uphill and soon meets the tarmac road. **Continue uphill along the road** until you meet the gated entrance to Sugworth Hall. To the right of the gates **pass through the kissing gate** then **climb the steps** to take you through the wall and onto the road. **At the road turn right.***
18. *After 200 metres you will see, on your left, a public footpath post with the number 88 upon it. **Turn left here, climb over the stile in the wall and walk, straight ahead, up the field.** It is not an obvious path but keep the wall to your right about 15 metres away you will be heading in the right direction. At the next fence, **cross over the stile to the right of the gate and continue straight ahead** still climbing slightly. At the next fence, **cross over the stile to the left of the gate and continue straight ahead.***
19. *On reaching the wall, **cross over a stone slab** leading you to a stile in the corner, **cross over the stile and onto the track.** Turn left to follow this track for 1/3 mile until it meets a road. At the road **turn left** to walk into the Checkpoint.*

## ***THIS IS CHECKPOINT 1***

***YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE HARDES PART OF THE WALK....THE REST IS SOMEWHAT EASIER***