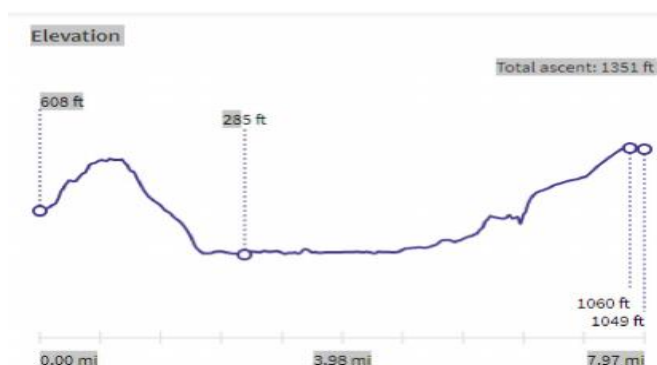


## Section 1 – Bonsall to Flash Lane – 7.96 miles w3w = treat.horns.ballooned



Starting point is Fountain on The Dale in Bonsall. There are public toilets at this location.

### VILLAGE LOCATION – 4am – PLEASE BE QUIET

- 1) From starting point walk up Yeoman Street. On reaching the Cross go straight ahead and take restricted byway, Limestone Way. (You will be following the Limestone Way to Matlock).
- 2) Once on restricted byway, path rises steeply. Keep left and ignore other paths going off and stick to the Limestone Way. At a point where the path drops down to the left you bear right to take the “top path”. As you approach the top of the hill you will have to cross a stile to the right of a wooden gate. The path is now bounded on either side by hedges.
- 3) As path becomes a lane you will come to a gate which may be open or closed. Do not pass through this gateway but look for a small pedestrian gate on your right, marked Limestone Way. Pass through the gate and turn 45 degrees left. Walk across the field passing to the right hand side of a stone barn. Proceed with stone wall on your right heading for a stone stile in a wall. Pass through and go straight across the next field. Pass through gap in hedge and down stone steps/stile.
- 4) Cross over small lane and over small stone stile directly in front of you. Then walk diagonally to your right for 50 metres to reach a small wooden gate. The opposite side is marked Limestone Way. Pass through gate and turn left. Walk downhill following the path. Pass through gap in an old hedge and then at next field boundary pass through a metal kissing gate onto a lane, (wooden bench on your right).
- 5) Turn right and walk along the lane for just 20 metres then turn left and over a wooden stile to walk downhill with a large hedge on your left and fields on right. You now have views of Riber Castle to the right. Pass over wooden stile to the right of a metal gate. Walk diagonally to your right across a small field to a small wooden gate in the corner. Cross over the lane and through another small wooden gate.
- 6) Carry on downhill with large hedge on your left. At the bottom of this field pass through tumbled down stone squeezer stile and wooden gate. Carry on downhill with hedge on your right. As you pass under power lines go over small stone stile marked Limestone Way. Carry on downhill to a small wooden gate. Pass through into another field and continue downhill with hedge on your right.
- 7) At bottom right hand corner of field pass through stone squeezer stile & wooden gate onto path with hedges either side. Path becomes narrow and takes you through & under holly bushes. Pass through a squeezer stile and cross next field with a hedge on your right. Pass over a wooden stile with a dog gate and turn right.

- 8) Follow the path through the bushes then over a lane and through another squeezer stile. Carry on downhill with bushes on your right. At the bottom of the hill go through the squeezer stile with a metal gate and down the steps onto the lane. Walk down this steep lane to the road where you will turn right.
- 9) Walk down this road for a short distance until you pass around the stone pillars which used to be the entrance to RBS Bank. **NEXT 2 SECTIONS ARE A DIVERSION FROM MAPS PUBLISHED DUE TO FLOOD DEFENCE WORK.** At this point (Opposite Dale Opticians) turn left passing the red pillar box and walk with the Flood Defence workings on your right, wall on your left. At a "path junction" keep right. This path swings left and leads into the bus station (**TOILETS MAY BE AVAILABLE**). Pass through the bus station and into the car park. Bearing 30° right walk towards the yellow car park entrance frame. Pass under the frame and turn left to walk along the road.
- 10) On reaching the traffic lights, cross straight over and continue along the road for 120mts. Here the road swings right towards a roundabout. But, at this point, continue straight ahead down the tarmac path (beginning of railway on your left). At the path junction bear right down to the riverside and continue along with river on your right.
- 11) Follow this path for some distance with the river on your right. Pass under road bridge, pass under rail bridge. Continue on path as it rises slightly. You will now have green chain link fence on your left. Fence on left becomes metal palisade fence and then you are passing derelict industrial buildings on your left. As palisade fence on your left runs out keep straight ahead. Pass over wooden stile.
- 12) Continue ahead on footpath keeping the river on your right. Cross a field and pass through a stone squeezer stile and gate. Cross the next field towards a wooden hand gate. Once you have passed through this continue straight ahead with river on your right. Cross this field to pass through a small squeezer stile at the side of a large tree. Cross a small stone slab bridge and second small squeezer stile. Continue on the path with hedges on either side.
- 13) Shortly you arrive at a tarmacked lane opposite a bungalow called The Firs. Turn right along the lane and follow it as it turns to the left. Ignore the footpath to the right. Stay on the lane. Pass a run down small barn on the left. The lane bends to the right. Cross a small stile at the side of a metal gate with a marker arrow.
- 14) This path is marked The Derwent Valley Heritage Way. You are now on a narrow tarmacked lane. Pass through a metal gate and continue ahead. Pass stone houses and cottages on either side. Keep ahead on the tarmacked lane. Pass allotments on your left and then shortly a small water works building on your left.
- 15) Very soon you reach Main Road. Cross over this road to the pavement on the other side then turn right to walk over the bridge over The Derwent. Just before the Square & Compass pub turn right and pass through the left hand of a pair of stone squeezer stiles. Then turn left and follow the path across the grass fields.
- 16) Pass through a number of small gates or stiles in fence subdividing the grazing land. Continue until you pass through a small wooden gate then up some steps to go through a gap in hedge and onto a road. Cross the road and turn right. Proceed along the pavement.
- 17) Continue until the DFS sign then turn left at the footpath marker. Walk along in front of the DFS building. After 100 metres pass over a small stone bridge, through a small gate and continue with hedge on right. Pass over a stile and onto a road. **BEWARE – MAJOR ROAD.** Cross the road and through a small squeezer stile directly in front of you.

- 18) Continue along the path with hedges & trees either side. Pass through a stone squeezer stile, cross a lane and another squeezer stile and then continue on the tarmacked footpath. After 50 metres pass through one and then another wooden pedestrian gate then turn to your left and cross the small field heading for a gap in the hedge at the far side. You will be walking with fencing along either side of you. Do not continue up the path towards the school sign but pass through a squeezer stile in the hedge then walk slightly diagonally to the right along the bordered path heading towards the stone cottages in front of you.
- 19) Pass through a rather tight squeezer stile and continue straight ahead along a "driveway" passing to the left of the stone cottages. The driveway turns into a lane and descends to meet a road. The entrance to Holt House on your right. At this road turn right to walk up the road. After 125m, where the road swings slightly right you meet a fork in the road. Take the RIGHT fork (private road) and follow this slightly uphill. You will pass, on your left, some industrial units including a storage unit resembling a rather tall "Dutch barn". Just after the barn head for a pathway which is on the right and just after the "Old Mill House".
- 20) Pass through the 2 large stones onto this path. The path swings gently to the left. When you meet the gate pass through, continue straight ahead for 10ish metres bear right onto the wide path that runs to the right of a river. The start of this path is punctuated by an old, disused bench.
- 21) Take this path which rises, at some points steeply, passing a small waterfall followed by ponds on your left. After 310mts you are joined by a path from the right. At this point continue ahead (slightly left) on the narrow path with ground falling steeply away on your left side.
- 22) 400mts on and after reaching a second and larger waterfall that can be seen to your left bear right and "scramble" up the banking towards a finger post at the top of the scramble.
- 23) At this post bear left to walk with low stone wall on your left and water down below (**STEEP DROP – TAKE CARE**). After 250mts you meet a bridge over the stream cross over then up some steep steps. Cross a small field towards a stone wall and pass through a squeezer stile with a fingerpost. Continue across next field heading towards farm buildings.
- 24) Pass through small wooden gate and continue directly on heading towards left hand side of old metal barn. Pass along a sort of passageway between a wall and the barn to come out through a gate onto a busy road. Turn left to walk along the road – **BEWARE – NARROW PATH ON THE LEFT SIDE – VERY BUSY ROAD**.
- 25) At brow of "hill" (150 metres along the road) cross the road to walk up a lane with a sign for Upperwood Boarding Kennels. At the T junction turn right and continue along the tarmacked lane through Woodside Farm, after which the lane becomes a track.
- 26) Follow this track for some distance (approx 1.5km) as it passes through a wooded area. At the end of this track as it reaches a road there is a small layby on the left.

This is **CHECKPOINT 1**.

**w3w location = nightfall.bikes.detonated**