



The Peak District Boundary Walk

The Peak District Boundary Walk is a new long-distance trail encompassing the entire Peak District National Park. Envisioned by The Friends of The Peak District, the walk is an exhilarating celebration of our First National Park. Throughout its journey it displays a wonderful mix of Peak District landscapes – crags, cloughs, moors and dales together with working landscapes, woodland and heritage. We take you around the Southern and Western aspects of the trail from Thorpe to Buxton to discover quiet corners and hidden gems, high hills and lovely valleys offering a variety of stunning views.

Trail Grading



This Guided Walking/Hiking Trail is graded 3, which involves walks/hikes primarily on well-defined paths and trails, travelling through a variety of landscapes that are often in hilly or moorland areas. These may be rough and steep in sections and will require a good level of fitness. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the relevant fitness and equipment required to join this holiday.

Fitness

We want you to be confident that you can meet the demands of each walking day and get the most out of your holiday. Please be sure you can manage the mileage and ascent detailed in the daily itineraries. It is important for your own enjoyment, and that of your fellow guests that you can maintain the pace.

It makes a lot of sense to spend time getting some additional exercise before your holiday. We suggest that you try to fit in a number of longer walks, including some on hilly terrain. Other exercises such as cycling, jogging and swimming are also excellent for developing increased stamina.

All walking days listed below involve minibus or local transport between the walking route and your accommodation and this is included in the price of your holiday.

Planned Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival Day

Your leader will give an introductory talk about the holiday.

Day 2; Thorpe to Waterfall

Descending to Coldwall Bridge we are at the Southernmost point of the entire Boundary Walk. We turn upstream to the fascinating village of Ilam and cross the Manifold river before ascending the steep flank of Musden Low. Passing through Calton village we descend into the Hamps Valley and follow the trail to the settlement of Waterhouses. Veering north we end the day in the picturesque hamlet of Waterfall. 8 miles (13km) with 1,100 feet (340m) of ascent.

Day 3: Waterfall to Tittesworth Reservoir

From Waterfall we head north west into the upper Hamps Valley and the hamlet of Ford. On to Onecote and its lovely grade 2 listed Church we gradually ascend for our first taste of the Staffordshire Moorlands on The Morridge. Our elevation gives glorious views across to the Roaches and beyond, before descending the moor to reach the reservoir. 11½ miles (18½ km) with 1,100 feet (340m) of ascent.

Day 4: Tittesworth Reservoir to Wildboarclough

The 5 clouds of the Roaches escarpment provide a fine backdrop as we pass over the reservoir to Meerbrook village and ascend the slopes of Gun hill. We walk over the top, in and out of the lovely Dane Valley and into the equally lovely Greasley Hollow where we turn north east and cross some undulating moorland before dropping into the steep sided Clough Brook Valley to finish in



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Wildboarclough. 10 miles (16km) with 1,150 feet (360m) of ascent.

Day 5: Wildboarclough to Bollington

An ascent of Shutlingsloe 'The Cheshire Matterhorn' giving fine views to Axe Edge along the summit ridge, before descending to the tree lined reservoirs in the Macclesfield Forest. Picking up the Gritstone Trail we enter Tegg's Nose Country Park with its industrial heritage and sweeping views. Heading North towards Rainow we ascend the splendid little ridge of The Saddle of Kerridge up to the viewpoint of 'White Nancy' and dropping quickly to finish in Bollington. 8½ miles (13.5 km) with 1,550ft (480m) of ascent.

Day 6: Bollington to Whaley Bridge

Leaving Bollington via the beautifully named Pott Shrigley we cross little Bakestonedale Moor and descend briefly to the Macclesfield Canal. Here we 'turn the corner' of the boundary and enter the stunning Lyme Park with its centrepiece the magnificent Lyme House. Leaving the park via Whaley Moor we descend to the historic transport hub of Whaley Bridge 'Gateway to The Goyt Valley'. 9½ miles (15.5km) with 1,350ft (420m) of ascent.

Day 7: Whaley Bridge to Buxton

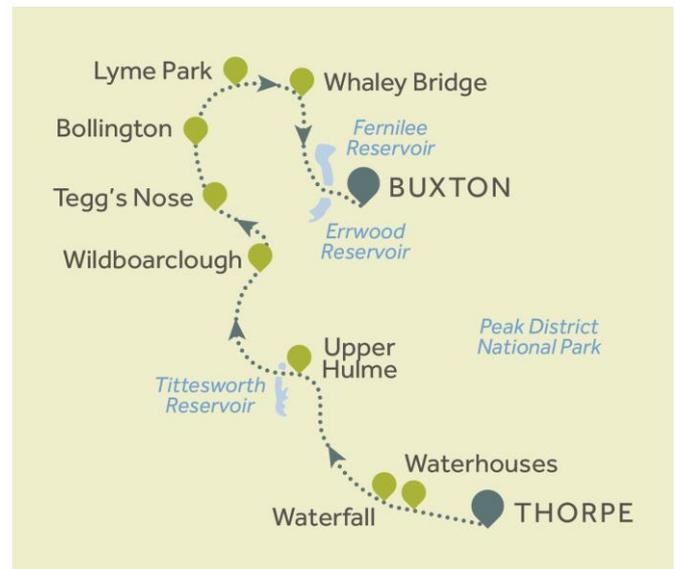
Our last leg takes us into the Goyt Valley beneath the iconic ridge of Windgather Rocks, Pym's Chair and Shining Tor. Crossing between the Fernilee and Errwood reservoirs we ascend the glorious Wild Moor accompanied by the cry of the Curlew. Tremendous panoramic views open out as we begin our final long descent to the Victorian splendour of Buxton. (Perchance to the King's Head Pub – birthplace of The Peak District Boundary Walk). 9 miles (15km) with 1,200 feet (380m) of ascent.

Day 8: Departure Day

In the evenings

After a sociable evening meal, you can join in an organised activity such as a quiz or a talk about the local area, relax in the bar or use the Country House facilities.

The itinerary may be subject to change at the discretion of the leader with regard to the weather and other external factors



Trail Leader

Our experienced and knowledgeable volunteer leaders undergo a thorough assessment to lead you on your Guided Walking/Hiking Trail and will also be delighted to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with you.

What to wear

To enjoy walking/hiking comfortably and safely, footwear, clothing and equipment needs to be suitable for the conditions. Safety is our priority and Britain is famous for its changeable weather, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities. Footwear with a good grip on the sole (e.g. Vibram sole) is the key to avoiding accidents. Walking/hiking boots providing ankle support



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and good grip are recommended (ideally worn in), and specialist walking socks to avoid blisters. Several layers of clothing, which can be added or removed, are better than a single layer (include spares). Fabrics (lightweight and fast drying) designed for the outdoors are recommended. Waterproof jacket and waterproof over trousers are essential and a warm hat and gloves are useful additions. Gaiters are an optional but useful extra. Denim jeans and capes are not suitable on any walks.

What to bring

Rucksack with a waterproof liner, thermos flask for hot drink, water bottle (at least 1 litre) and spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar. Small torch (particularly in spring, autumn and winter) and first aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed). Walking poles are useful, particularly for descents. Insect repellent, sun hat, sunglasses and protection cream and camera are all optional extras you may choose to bring.

Ticks

Ticks are tiny creatures that live in vegetation and can attach themselves to passing animals or walkers and may carry a risk of Lyme Disease. Please refer to NHS advice and guidelines for information prior to your holiday.

Please ensure you complete and hand in your registration form on arrival and let the leader know about any medical problems you may have. This may be useful in the event of a problem on the walk and will be treated confidentially by the leader.

On the walk

We try to create a relaxed atmosphere on the walk/hike but please listen to safety instructions from your leader. Keep members of the group in view especially when weather or visibility is poor. If you leave the group,

then your leader will no longer have responsibility for you. Our leaders consider the safety of the group as a whole and are likely to be more cautious over potential risks such as bad weather.

In the event of a problem

If you become separated from the party, please stay where you are. Your leader will retrace their steps to find you. All our leaders carry a mobile phone, group shelter, spare maps and a compass. In the unlikely event your leader is incapacitated, please use any emergency kit in their rucksack. Call the emergency services (call 999 in the UK, or 112 overseas). Please then try to call the hotel where you are staying to let them know there is a problem.

Maps and Guides

Your trail leader will carry all the necessary maps and guides. For your own interest you may consider looking at the following:

www.friendsofthepeak.org.uk/boundary-walk/boundary-walk-stages (The website of The Friends of The Peak District)

Guide Book: Peak District Boundary Walk (190 miles around the edge of the National Park). Edited by Andrew McCloy. Contains detailed route maps, directions and several insightful articles.

Explorer Maps OL 1, OL24 & OL259

Accommodation

The Peveril of the Peak

Thorpe
Dovedale
Ashbourne
Derbyshire
DE6 2AW
Tel: +44 (0)1335 350396
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Email: dovedale@hfolidays.co.uk
Grid Reference: SK 157 505



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Your room will be ready from 2.30pm onwards (1pm for Better & Best rooms). Afternoon tea will be provided on all arrival days, so you can meet with your fellow guests. If you need assistance carrying your luggage to your room, please speak to the House Manager when you arrive for this to be arranged.

Facilities

The bedrooms all have their individual layout and character and you'll find a TV with digital radio, hair dryer, towels and tea and coffee making facilities. On your departure day kindly vacate your bedroom by 10am. There are spacious public rooms at the Peveril of the Peak including a lounge and newly refurbished dining room. There's also a licensed bar, open throughout your stay, opening onto the terrace which enjoys delightful views of the surrounding countryside. The boot and drying room is available to store your boots and to dry wet outdoor clothing. Secure cycle storage is also available. WiFi is accessible in all public areas of the house. Due to the area in which the house is located, the mobile phone signal is patchy.

Fabulous food

All holidays at our Country Houses are full board, from evening meal on arrival to breakfast on the day of your departure. There's a vegetarian option at all meals and we cater for gluten-free diets. For this and any other dietary requirements, please speak to the House Manager on your arrival.

Travel

By car to the Peveril of the Peak

For those with satellite navigation, enter the postcode DE6 2AW.

From the south: leave the M1 at Junction 24 and head to Ashbourne via the A50 and A515. Continue north on the A515 heading towards Buxton. 1 mile north of Ashbourne turn left, signposted to Thorpe, Dovedale and

Ilam. After a further 2 miles the road bends sharp left by The Old Dog. The Peveril of the Peak lies ahead at the bottom of the hill.

From Buxton take the A515 south towards Ashbourne. After 17 miles turn right at a crossroads following signs to Thorpe, Ilam and Dovedale. After 1 mile turn right by The Old Dog pub and follow the road around the sharp left hand bend. The Peveril of the Peak lies ahead at the bottom of the hill.

From the west: leave the M6 at junction 15 and head via the A50, Cheadle (A521) and Oakamoor (A5417) to the A52. At the junction of the A52 and the A523 take the minor road signposted Ilam. After 1½ miles turn left and descend the hill. Cross the bridge at Ilam, turn right and follow the road up a steep hill and onwards through Dovedale and Thorpe village. The Peveril of the Peak is on the left hand side at the end of the village. Visit your holiday page on our website for a map.

By rail

The nearest railway stations to the Peveril of the Peak are Buxton or Derby. For train times and route planning by train visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or phone 03457 48 49 50.

Station transfer by taxi:

The 17mile journey from Derby Station takes approximately 40 minutes. Ashbourne Taxis will charge you £32 per taxi for this journey. The 19mile journey from Buxton station takes approximately 35 minutes. Ashbourne Taxis will charge you £38 per taxi for this journey. They will arrange shared taxis wherever possible. To book a transfer please contact

Ashbourne Taxis

Tel: +44 (0) 1335 345 198

Email: ashbourne-taxis@hotmail.co.uk

Station transfer by bus:

There is a bus service as far as Ashbourne, about 3 miles from our country house. From



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Buxton take the 442 service or from Derby catch the SW1 to Ashbourne. From Ashbourne complete your journey by taxi, or use the Derbyshire Connect Service. This service must be booked at least 48 hours in advance by calling 01335 342951 or visiting Derbyshire.gov.uk.

For details of bus times from Buxton or Derby visit www.travelineeastmidlands.co.uk

Car parking

Parking is available in the grounds. No responsibility can be accepted for loss or damage to guests' property or vehicles. We advise not to leave valuables in cars.

Travel Insurance

Travel and any other personal insurance relevant to your holiday is recommended to all our guests.

While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the information in this guide may change after it has been printed. For the most up-to-date information please see our website or use the contacts below.

Enquiries

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