

YOUR FREE GUIDE TO 6 OF OUR BEAUTIFUL RESERVOIRS

“AH, BREATHE
IN THAT BRACING
YORKSHIRE
AIR MARY!”



“IT’S PLAYING
HAVOC WITH ME
CURLERS EDNA!”



BROUGHT TO YOU BY
YorkshireWater



ONLY AVAILABLE IN YORKSHIRE

WE LOOK AFTER 72,000 ACRES OF LAND IN YORKSHIRE, SPANNING THE NORTH YORK MOORS, THE WOLDS, AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY AND SOME OF THE BEST NATIONAL PARKS IN THE COUNTRY. AND ALL THIS IS FREE FOR YOU TO ENJOY. HERE'S A TASTER OF SOME OF THE AREAS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TRY.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR EVEN MORE YORKSHIREWATER.COM/RECREATION

OUR WALK DIFFICULTY RATINGS

In this pack you'll find directions to the site, a summary of the walk, a list of facilities available, a detailed route map and route instructions.



These walks are easy to complete and do not require special footwear. Most of the walks are suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.



These walks are mainly flat and on surfaced paths, however they can become muddy in wet weather.



These walks include rough terrain and steeper gradients, making them unsuitable for young children and the infirm.



These walks are for the experienced ramblers, are at high altitudes and require good compass reading skills. Walking boots, food and drink and appropriate clothing and waterproofs are essential.



Podcasts are available for walks featuring this symbol, just visit the recreation section on the Yorkshire Water website and click on the podcast link.

Visit the easy access page for a choice of more areas, all of which are suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.



Great care has been taken to ensure that the information in our activity packs (or other information made available) is accurate. However, we accept no liability for any claim, loss, damage or injury (howsoever arising) incurred by those using the information provided in activity packs or by Yorkshire Water generally.

AREAS TO EXPLORE IN NORTH YORKSHIRE & EAST RIDING

1 SCAR HOUSE & ANGRAM (4 MILES) (EASY ACCESS 3.7 MILES)

NEAR MIDDLESMOOR IN NIDDERDALE, NORTH OF PATELEY BRIDGE.



2 SWINSTY (3 MILES) (EASY ACCESS 3 MILES)

NEAR FEWSTON, OFF THE A59 HARROGATE / SKIPTON ROAD AT BLUBBERHOUSES.



3 GRIMWITH (4.5 MILES)

OFF THE B6265 PATELEY BRIDGE / GRASSINGTON ROAD NEAR DIBBLES BRIDGE.



4 THRUSCROSS (4.5 MILES)

NORTH OF BLUBBERHOUSES WHICH IS SITUATED ON THE A59 HARROGATE/SKIPTON ROAD.



5 TOPHILL LOW (3 MILES)

IN THE PARISH OF WATTON, EAST OF HUTTON, CRANSWICK.



6 EMBSAY (1 MILE)

EMBSAY MOOR, 1 MILE NORTH OF SKIPTON, NORTH YORKSHIRE.



Difficulty:     



Difficulty:   



Scar House & Angram

Description

Situated at the head of Nidderdale, this often wild yet beautiful area can be explored using the circular route of Scar House Reservoir or for the more adventurous be extended to include a more challenging walk around Angram Reservoir. Both routes include a mixture of tarmac roads, rough tracks and moorland paths with stiles, steps and steep climbs. Boots are recommended and appropriate clothing should be worn as the weather can change quite quickly. The walk is 4 miles long, plus an option to extend to 6.2 miles.

Location

Near Middlesmoor in Nidderdale, north of Pateley Bridge.

Access

From our car park near the end of Scar House dam point 1. This is reached in 3.75 miles by taking our private tarmac access road from the Lofthouse to Middlesmoor Road approximately 100m on the right after Lofthouse village.

Facilities



OS Map: Explorer OL30 - Yorkshire Dales North and Central.



Swinsty

Description

This route around Swinsty Reservoir nestles in the stunning Washburn Valley and provides breathtaking views across the water and the surrounding landscape, especially from the embankment near the River Washburn or various rest points dotted along the walk. The walk is 3 miles long and a podcast is available to accompany the route.

Location

Near Fewston, off the A59 Harrogate / Skipton Road at Blubberhouses.

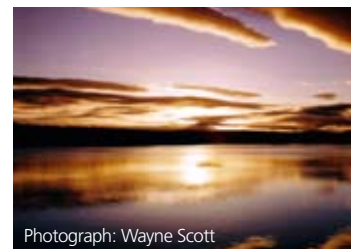
Access

The route can be accessed from our Swinsty Moor car park point 1 at the southern end of the Fewston Reservoir Embankment. Please note that there is a 2.2m height barrier.

Facilities



OS Map: Explorer map 297



Photograph: Wayne Scott



Difficulty:

Grimwith

Description

Lying within the confines of the reservoir boundary wall, this walk provides stunning views of the adjacent moors, the valley and the lower Yorkshire Dales. There are plenty of opportunities for budding photographers to take a snap of the wildlife, rolling hills or sailing boats gliding across the crystal blue waters. The walk is 4.5 miles long.

Location

Off the B6265 Pateley Bridge / Grassington Road near Dibbles Bridge.

Access

Signed from the B6265. Follow the access road to our car park point 1.

Facilities



OS Map: Outdoor Leisure 10 - Yorkshire Dales South.



Difficulty:



Thruscross

Description

A more challenging walk, this route runs from the car park at Thruscross through woodland, rough pastures and moorland alongside the edge of the reservoir. The surrounding scenery is beautiful with an array of interesting geographical features including crags, ghylls, streams and the River Washburn. Some parts of the route are rocky and muddy so boots are recommended. Yorkshire writer Peter Robinson is renowned for lacing his work with Dales settings and our land and reservoirs have played a significant role in his stories, including In A Dry Season - a story inspired by the summer when the waters of Thruscross receded enough for the ruins of the sunken village of West End to emerge from the deep for the first time in decades.

Location

North of Blubberhouses which is situated on the A59 Harrogate/Skipton Road.

Access

From our car park at the western end of Thruscross Dam, point 1, where there is a 2.2 metre height barrier.

Facilities



OS Map: Explorer map 297



Difficulty:   



Difficulty:  

Tophill Low

Description

Tophill Low Nature Reserve is a haven for thousands of birds, butterflies, dragonflies, amphibians and even the occasional grass snake. There are 12 hides at the reserve all with unique vantage points over ponds, marshes and reservoirs. The two reservoirs have been declared as Sites of Special Scientific Interest and are nationally important for birds. There is an information centre on site where you can learn more about the wildlife in this area. Please feel free to pop in and pick up one of our visitor guides.

Location

In the parish of Watton, east of Hutton, Cranswick.

Access

From the A164 Beverley to Driffield Road. Leave the A164 at Watton, sign posted Tophill Low Pumping Station and follow the brown tourist signs along unclassified road for 6.5km/4 miles. Turn right at the main gates and follow the road round to the car park. Open Wednesday to Sunday 9am – 6pm during the summer months, and 9am – 4pm during the winter. The reserve is normally closed Mondays and Tuesdays, but is open on Bank Holiday Mondays. There is a small permit charge for access to this site.

Facilities



OS Map: Explorer 295 Driffield, Hornsea



Embsay

Description

Near the market town of Skipton, on the outskirts of the village of Embsay this short circular walk around the Embsay Moor Reservoir gives wide views over the surrounding fields and moorland edge including Embsay Crag. The walk is 1 mile long.

Location

Embsay Moor, 1 mile north of Skipton, North Yorkshire

Access

Access to the reservoir is via Pasture Road from the village of Embsay. This is the only road to the reservoir out of the village and it's narrow, so be careful. From the village square (Elm Tree Square) turn off Main Street and onto Pasture Road by the Elm Tree Pub. Follow the road uphill into our car park at the reservoir (approximately 1 mile from the village).

Facilities



OS Map: Explorer 290 York – Selby

