

SWINSTY

Key:

Road 

Path 

Route 

River 


Woodlands 

Disabled toilets 


Toilets 

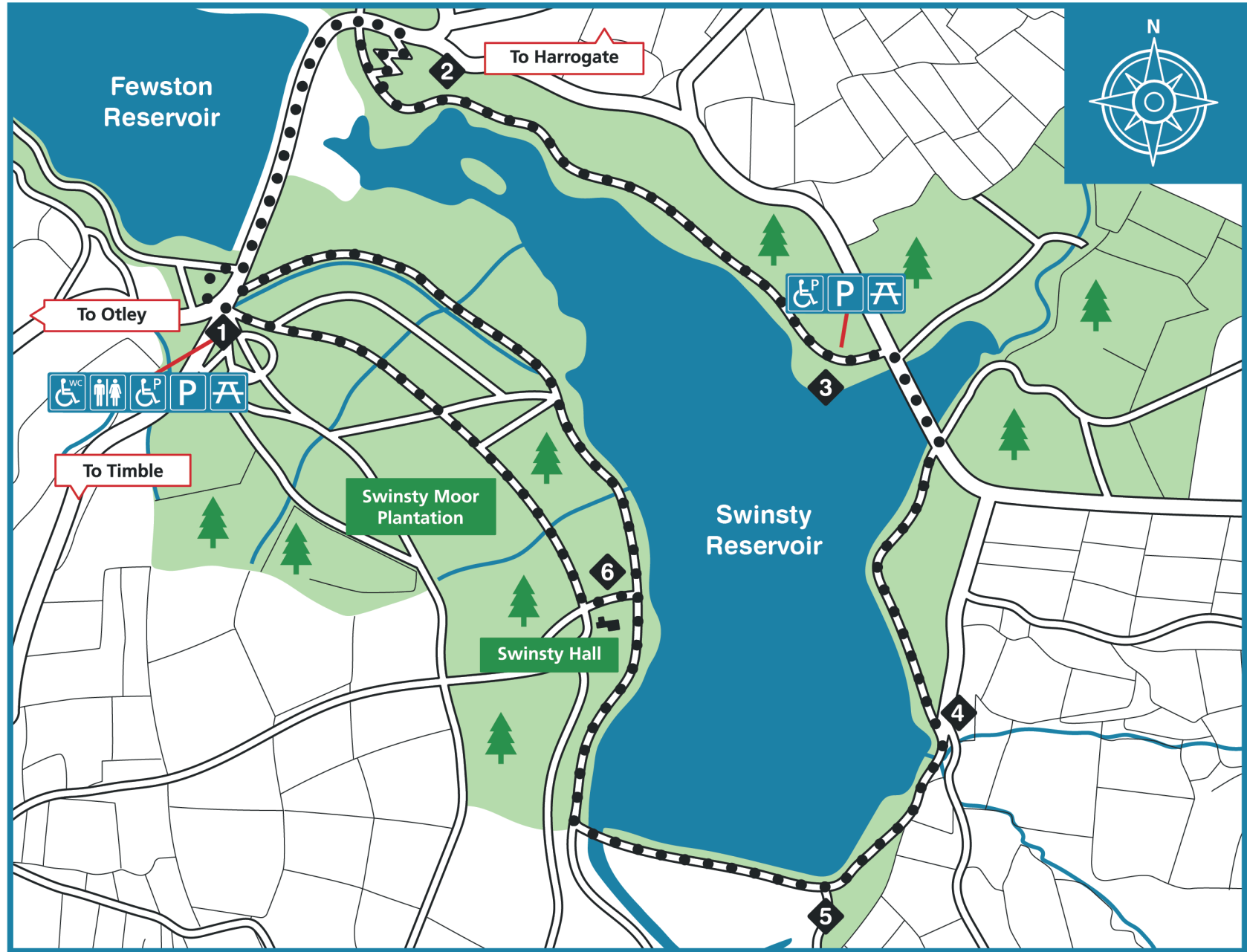
Disabled parking 





Parking 

Picnic area 

Building 

200m 



| Route Fact File | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Location: | Less than 10 miles west of Harrogate and north of Otley, just off the A59 |
| Difficulty: | One Boot |
| Route Length: | 3 Miles / 5 Kilometres |
| Walking Time: | 1½ Hours |
| Terrain & Gradient: | Footpaths are consistently wide and well-surfaced. Mostly flat or gently undulating. The steepest section of the path can be avoided via an alternative route (near point 2; details in text description of route). There are no steps, stiles or gates on this route. |
| How To Get There: | <p>By car: The route starts at Swinsty Moor and Fewston Reservoir car park (LS21 2NP) (point 1) at the southern end of the Fewston Reservoir Embankment. Alternative parking is available at Stack Point car park (HG3 1SU), along the eastern edge of Swinsty Reservoir. Please note that both have a height barrier.</p> <p>From Harrogate: take the A59 heading west. Before you reach Blubbershouses, turn left at the roundabout onto the B6451. Take the second right onto Wydra Lane, which becomes Back Lane and takes you across Fewston Reservoir Embankment. Shortly afterwards you will reach Swinsty Moor and Fewston Reservoir car park.</p> <p>By public transport: DalesBus services 820 and 821 run to Fewston every hour on summer Sundays and bank holidays from Otley and links from Keighley, Shipley, and Guiseley.</p> |
| Facilities: |      |
| OS Map: | Explorer Map 297 |

- 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 roughly 3 miles long.
- Why not make a day of it! You can also access the start of our Fewston Reservoir walk from Swinsty Moor and Fewston Reservoir car park. Check out the Fewston route in our online walking guide section.

Route Description:

From Swinsty Moor and Fewston Reservoir car park (**point 1**), leave by the main entrance and follow the black way mark arrows. Cross the road and go through the gap in the stone wall opposite to enter the woodland on the corner of Fewston Reservoir. Immediately turn right and follow the path down to the public road (either via the steps or the access ramp). Turn left and walk along the road over Fewston Dam, where you will have an excellent vantage point to see across Fewston Reservoir to your left and Swinsty Reservoir to your right.

At the far end, you will pass a house on the corner where the road bends to the right. Shortly afterwards, cross the road to enter the wood around Swinsty Reservoir via the gap in the wall opposite a set of steps. Either turn left to follow the zig zag route through the woods or turn right to take the shorter path around the edge of the wood, which meets the end of the zig zag path at **point 2**. Please note, the shorter path around the woods is relatively steep.

Please take extra care as you cross the road. The path now leads downhill through the woods towards the reservoir shore (**point 2**).

Follow the path around the perimeter of the reservoir. There are seats at intervals with excellent

views across the water. After about 1 kilometre you will pass Stack Point car park and picnic area and meet the public road that crosses an inlet of the reservoir at **point 3**.

Turn right on the road (there is no pavement so caution is necessary) and when you get to the other side of the inlet, turn right through the gap in the wall next to a gate back into the grounds of Swinsty Reservoir. Continue your journey around the edge of the reservoir to meet a tarmac access road at **point 4**.

Turn right on the road, past a house on the left. Cross Swinsty Reservoir Embankment (**point 5**), using the level path on the left-hand side of the road. There are excellent views down the valley and across Swinsty Reservoir from here. At the end of the embankment turn right up the lane, passing Swinsty Hall on the left at **point 6**. At Swinsty Hall there's a choice; either turn left following the path through the woods back to **point 1** at the car park (please note that the section of path alongside Swinsty Hall is quite steep), or continue along the lane to the main entrance to the car park.

Great care has been taken to ensure that the information in our route guides (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.

The postcodes provided in these guides are the closest that are available for the location to which they refer, however, Yorkshire Water accepts no responsibility for any occurrence of navigational errors associated with this information.

Yorkshire Water encourages responsible dog ownership. We request that dogs are kept on leads, especially during bird breeding and lambing season. Please clean up all dog foul and dispose of responsibly.

Please respect the Countryside Code.