



Route Fact File	
Location:	Less than 10 miles west of Harrogate and north of Otley, just off the A59
Difficulty:	One Boot
Route Length:	4 Miles / 6.5 Kilometres
Walking Time:	2 Hours
Terrain & Gradient:	Mostly wide and well surfaced, however there are some short sections of path with fairly steep gradients and larger stones (over 30mm). there are no steps, stiles or gates on this route.
How To Get There:	This route starts at our free Swinsty Moor car park (LS21 2NP) at the southern end of the Fewston Reservoir Embankment. Please note that there is a 2.2m height barrier. Alternative parking is available at Blubberhouses car park (LS21 2NY) where there is a 2.1m height barrier across the entrance to the car park.
	<b>By car:</b> From Harrogate, head North on the A61 Ripon Road towards Ripley. Shortly after leaving Harrogate, take the A59 at the roundabout heading towards Skipton. Follow the A59 for 8 miles. Fewston Reservoir car park is on your left heading towards Skipton.
	<b>By public transport:</b> 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. For up to date travel information from any location visit google maps to search directions.
Facilities:	
OS Map:	Explorer 297 – Ilkley and Otley

A relatively gentle walk, this route encircles the beautiful Fewston Reservoir in the charming Washburn Valley. Crossing over Fewston embankment, you're spoilt for choice as you're presented with spectacular views over Fewston Reservoir and down the valley across Swinsty Reservoir.

Why not make a day of it! You can extend your walk by exploring some of the other nearby routes (Fewston and Timble Ings), which can be found in our online walking guide section. You can also access the start of our Swinsty Reservoir walk from Swinsty Moor car park.

## **Route Description:**

Starting at Swinsty Moor car park (**point 1**), at the southern end of Fewston Reservoir dam, leave the car park by the main entrance. Cross the road into the wood and take the left-hand path downhill to the path running along the western shore of the reservoir. This path is well defined and easy to follow and, for most of its length, is within a few metres of the water.

Follow the path around the reservoir keeping the reservoir on your right. At **point 2** bear left, then continue following the path past **point 3** and through the woodland. Shortly afterwards, the path veers right down a slope towards the reservoir and then bears left across a bridge over Thackray Beck.

Continue on the path, keeping the reservoir on your right, until you reach Blubberhouses car park (**point 4**). Follow the path on the right-hand edge of the car park to the steps and ramp leading up to the main road (A59). At the top of the steps / ramp, turn right on the pavement alongside the A59 for approximately 80 metres, then turn right at point 5 through a gap in the fence to return towards the reservoir via a ramped path. Follow the well-defined footpath, keeping the reservoir on your right. At **point 6**, bear left through the gap in the wall, where there is a wooden gate to your right. Continue along the well-defined footpath through the woodland to **point 7**.

At **point 7**, you can either bear right and head down the steep, stone steps or continue straight on and follow the ramped path. Both routes lead to the same entrance to the road – please be aware of moving traffic at this point. Turn right along the pavement, following the road past the reservoir house, and then keeping Fewston reservoir on your right.

At the southern end of the embankment, cross over the road at **point 8** and take the footway on the opposite side of the road. Follow the path uphill towards the entrance to Swinsty Moor car park (**point 1**).

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.