

A 10 km round walk from Bamford Railway Station

This walk starts and finishes at Bamford Station (Grid Ref: SK20808249) and takes around 2½ - 3 hours.

It is level for the most part with just some moderate gradients in a few places. The walk, which can be enjoyed at any time of the year, goes through the countryside surrounding Bamford as well as coming into the village itself. It can all be accomplished using Ordnance Survey Explorer, *Dark Peak* OL1 and/or the sketch map shown below.

Exit Bamford Station by the steps up to the main road. Turn left and cross the A6013 (care – fast moving traffic) to the Toll Gate monument. Passing the bus stop on the left, walk to the end of Mytham Bridge road. Turn right onto the footbridge across the River Derwent then follow Hope Road for about 50 m before turning right into the first entrance to the Hope Valley Garden Centre. Continue through the garden centre past The Bike Garage (Cycle hire and repair, closed on Thursdays), The Wild Kettle café (open daily) and public toilets on the right. On exiting the garden centre turn right back onto Hope Road and after about 50m turn right again through a wooden gate and onto a rough track. You have now joined the Derwent Valley Heritage Way, an 82km long distance footpath. This footpath starts at Ladybower reservoir and continues south to the River Trent

Just beyond the garden centre, which is now on your right, you pass underneath a railway bridge. Turn left immediately after the railway bridge and go through a narrow gate into a field. Follow along the edge of the field, initially with the railway to your left, and superb views of Bamford Edge in the distance on your right. Exit the field through a style in front of the Head Quarters of the former (1899 – 1974) Derwent Water Board. This building is currently a Quaker Community Centre.

Turn left in front of the building and after about 20m turn right onto the Thornhill Trail (still on the Derwent Valley Heritage Way). This trail follows the course of an abandoned narrow-gauge railway used in the construction of Ladybower, Derwent and Howden dams.



Clockwise from top left:

Derwent Valley Water Board HQ, 1899 – 1974, now Quaker Community Centre

The Thornhill Trail

The descent from Thornhill Trail towards Bamford Mill: Bamford Edge in the background

Bamford Edge from the Thornhill Trail

Continue on the Thornhill Trail for about 2km again with magnificent views to the east (on a clear day at least) across the valley to Bamford Edge. The trail gradually rises until it emerges at Ladybower Reservoir. Coming off the Thornhill Trail, turn right through a black wrought iron gate and walk along a path on top of the Dam with the reservoir on the left and a view down over the Derwent valley to the right.

At the end of the reservoir's walkway is the Ashopton Road (A6013). Immediately on the right is a sign post indicating a footpath downhill, to Win Hill. This takes you on a descent back southwards into the Derwent Valley to emerge, after about ½ km, onto Lydgate Lane. Immediately to the right there is the historic and picturesque Yorkshire Bridge over the River Derwent. To continue the walk, turn back up Lydgate Lane and cross Ashopton Road bearing slightly to the left to join New Road. Note: The walk may be slightly shortened by staying on the A6013 (Ashopton Road) at Ladybower and walking directly to New Road passed the Yorkshire Bridge Inn (accommodation and meals, open daily) on your right.

Whether staying on Ashopton Road or coming up Lydgate Lane, continue up New Road for about ½ km. Climb over a stile next to the footpath sign on the right (set back from the road so easily missed). This takes you east along a path across fields and into Bamford Village. The path emerges, between a row of houses back onto Ashopton Road (A6013). Turn left and after about 100m you arrive at the Anglers Rest, Bamford's community owned pub, café, restaurant and post office. The café is open daily throughout the year.

On leaving The Anglers Rest, walk through Coronation Gardens immediately in front of the building. At the end of the gardens, cross the A6013 (care –fast moving traffic) opposite the Bamford Institute. Follow the road downhill and, just opposite Fiddlers Close, turn right down a rough track called The Hollow. After about 400m The Hollow merges into a narrow tarmac road where there is both a left fork (Mill Lane) and a cul de sac to the right. Take this right turn and, with houses to the left and a grass embankment to the right, turn left after about 50m onto a stony foot path which leads to the River Derwent. Here the river may be crossed by stepping stones (can be impassable after prolonged rainfall) and a wooden footbridge. To the right of the stepping stones and footbridge is a weir which used to provide water power to the old, cotton spinning, Bamford Mill. The Mill lies immediately to the left of the stepping stones but it has been converted into residential accommodation.

On the other side of the river is a foot path leading across fields and back to the Thornhill Trail. To continue the circular walk however, retrace your steps back to Mill Lane. Walk along Mill Lane until it merges with Station Road (A6013) which after about a further ½ km passes Bamford railway station. Note: The walk may be slightly shortened still further by staying on the A6013 (Ashopton Road) at The Hollow and continuing directly along this road to Bamford railway station.



Clockwise from top left:

Ladybower Reservoir

The Yorkshire Bridge over the River Derwent

The Anglers Rest in Bamford: a community owned pub, café, restaurant and post office

The weir across the River Derwent at Bamford Mill

By train to/from Bamford:

Bamford is on the Hope Valley Line between Manchester (Piccadilly) and Sheffield. Northern Railways operate hourly services to/from Bamford: journey time from Sheffield, 22 minutes, from Manchester (Piccadilly), 55 minutes. For details of train times contact National Rail, tel. 03457 484950.

Friends of Bamford Station, July 2021.

Note: while every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the route description, Friends of Bamford Station cannot be held liable for any errors it may contain.

