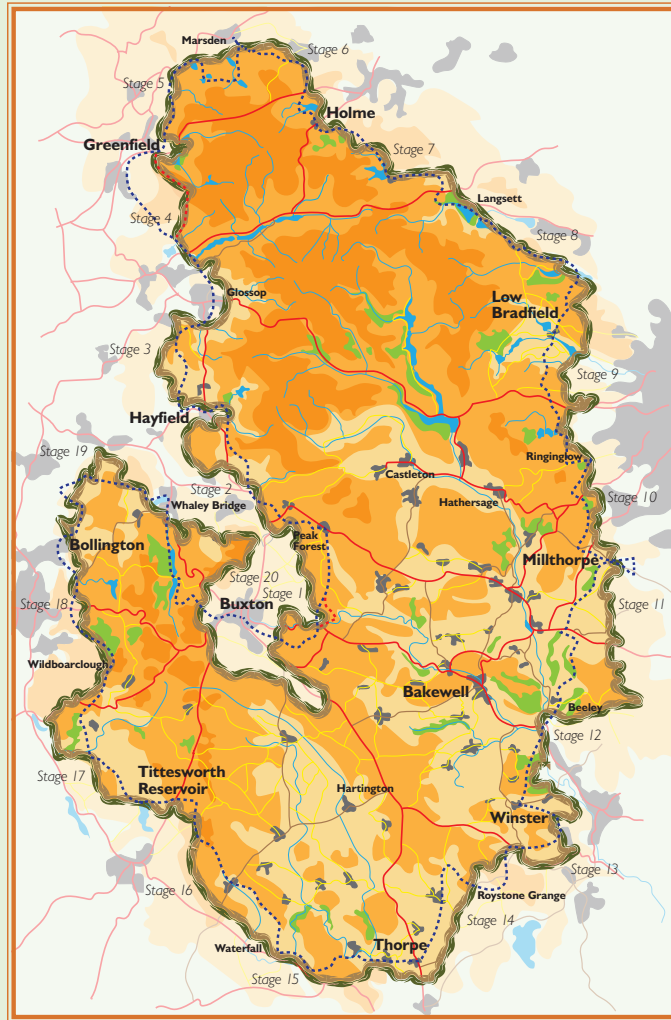


# Peak District Boundary Walk



200 miles around the edge of the national park



## Stage 2

## Peak Forest to Hayfield

**1** Leave Peak Forest crossroads on the A623 towards Sparrowpit for 200m. To avoid the main road, walk around Chambers Farm. Take the footpath on the left and cross three fields diagonally right (no visible walked route). At the top right hand corner of the third field there is a narrow corridor field passing in front of Chamber Farm on your right. Keep close to the wall on your right and continue through several fields. When a grassy track comes in from the left, turn right through a gateway in the wall, heading down towards a small building by the road. Look out for an easily-missed step stile on the left.

**2** Now gently climb through successive fields, where disused pits are an indication of previous open-cast mining, while ahead is the steep-sided Bolt Edge. Finally when you are in line with a group of trees, pick up a hardened track downhill to a T-junction.

**3** Turn left and on along the track to Middle Barmoor Farm. Turn right over the stile (to the left of the farmyard gate). Keep the farmhouse to your left and cross another stile before reaching the road.

**4** At the road, turn left and cross (with care) to a stile on the right. Head downhill, cross a stream in a ditch, then uphill, towards a clump of trees. Veer left through gorse to small gate at top. Keep close to wall on left and after sharp left turn take stile in wall ahead. Continue through more fields, to a signpost with four directions on it, including straight on for Blackbrook. Follow this track dropping down towards Blackbrook, until it runs into a better road, briefly running alongside the A6 for a short stretch. At a tarmac lane walk through the hamlet of Blackbrook to the end of Blackbrook Lane. If you want to visit Chapel-en-le-Frith turn left, under the A6 flyover. Otherwise turn right.

**5** Walk 30m up the road until you reach a signposted footpath up steps on the left, (opposite prominent steps on the right). Cross the field, go diagonally right to cross a wooden footbridge and turn right. At the track turn left to reach a road. Turn left down the road and immediately take a signposted footpath over a wooden stile on the right. Cross the field to the right of the wood where there's a gate and follow the footpath sign to Wash, past the rear of Bowden Hall.

**6** At the road turn right and follow it up the hill as far as Bowden Head Farm. At the T-junction cross the road, go through a gate and continue along a path to another gate. Follow the path through a plantation of trees. At the end of the trees go through a gap and walk downhill close to a fence on the right of the field. Walk to the bottom of the field and cross a footbridge over a stream. Follow a track diagonally left uphill to reach a gate and short path to the road. Turn right and walk uphill past Roych Farm.

**7** At the footpath sign on the left of the road, go through two gates to reach a grassy track down to the railway line. Cross the bridge, go through a gate and walk uphill diagonally right to the corner of the wall. Continue up the hill, past Shireoaks Farm, with the wall on your left.

**8** When you reach the Pennine Bridleway turn left and walk this route along to South Head (you can make a detour onto South Head itself) and Mount Famine. Continue on the bridleway through a gate and continue to walk downhill. Go through a set of three gates and continue ahead on the bridleway.

**9** At a crossroads with a signpost to Kinder Valley, turn right and walk along the bridleway. Go through two gates and walk downhill to a

metalled track at the bottom. Turn left and follow the track until you join a road at a cattle grid. Go left, downhill, on the road to a stream and crossroads, then turn left and follow the stream towards Hayfield.

**10** Walk into the campsite along the drive, then go to the right of the campsite along the banks of the river onto Valley Road. At the end turn right onto the main street of Hayfield.



**Start:** Peak Forest (GR SK 113793)

**Finish:** Hayfield (SK 036869)

**OS map:** Explorer OL 1 Peak District – Dark Peak Area and OL 24 Peak District – White Peak Area

**Distance:** 9.7 miles/15.6km **Ascent:** 1,326ft/404m

[www.friendsofthepeak.org.uk/boundary-walk](http://www.friendsofthepeak.org.uk/boundary-walk)