

# Owens Walks

Route Description: Parlick, Fair Snape Fell & Saddle Fell from Fell Foot, near Chipping

1. Limited roadside parking can be found on the road to Fell Foot (SD602442). Walk up the road to Fell Foot, through the gate onto 'Access Land'. Follow the steep obvious track to the summit of Parlick Pike (SD596450). On the summit is an ancient cairn dating back to pre-historic times, good views extend to the south and across the Fylde coast. In poor weather, the summit of Parlick can be avoided using the paths that circumnavigate the summit, at about 400m ASL.

2. From the summit of Parlick, continue north, along the fence-line to the col (SD597455). The route to Fair Snape is very obvious and the summit cairn is in view all the way. From the col, enjoy the gently rising gradient along a turf covered track that seldom ventures far from the wall until the final approach to the summit cairn of Fair Snape Fell, 510m ASL (SD591468). The path becomes stonier near the summit due to erosion, the extent of erosion can be seen in the summit peat hags. The view from here is one of the best in Lancashire, from the Fylde and the coast to the high ground of Longridge Fell, Pendle Hill and into Yorkshire.

3. From the summit, head E along an obvious track finding its way through the peat hags and bog - in the driest weather there is always some water here, in wet weather, it is very wet. The cairn (and gates) at spot height 520m (NGR SD597473), close to the meeting of three fences are visible in good weather.

4. Through the gates, take the path heading E, it seems better on the south side of the fence, continue E towards Saddle Fell. The upper moorland is drained by a number of cloughs, the largest and most defined is White Stone Clough to the south east of the summit plateau, it drains into Chipping Brook and eventually the River Hodder. This section of the walk is easy in summer, Totridge is the highest fell along the ridge but we don't go that far. Along this section there is a great sense of remoteness and it can be a little more difficult in winter or in mist when you will need to exercise your navigation skills, but keep by the fence. Eventually, you will reach another fence line and a gate (SD608472), this is the route where we descend from the ridge of Saddle Fell. Should you continue along the original fence line, you will reach the Boundary Stone shown on the map (BS) at SD61046 47310 but you should return to the gate.

5. From the gate (SD608472), follow the good path down the ridge to Saddle End Farm (SD614451) bypassing the top of Wards End before reaching the farm. There are good views to Wolf Fell and Parlick as well as evidence of the WWII marker post reminding us this area was a military training ground.

6. Pass through Saddle End farm and turn immediately right, up a few steps and over a stile to gain the footpath towards Wolfen Hall. Eventually, a footbridge (SD609449) crosses Chipping Brook before Wolfen Hall.

7. Continue on the marked footpaths around Wolfen Hall, cross the road by the cattle grid to the ruins of Wildcock House (SD602446) before turning SE through the meadow to the asphalt road that returns to the public road near Fell Foot.