

## Route Description: Barnacre Reservoirs and Grizedale Valley

1. There is a car park at Grizedale Bridge (SD53570 49098). From the car park, take the road towards Oakenclough (S), cross Grizedale Bridge & the cattle grid then ascend the hill. At the top, there is a footpath on the R & a stile (SD53559 48253).
2. Cross the stile & follow the farm track alongside the stone wall. The aerial masts come into view as well as the Barnacre reservoirs, Nicky Nook & Morecambe Bay. Pass the aerials & through a gate (SD53098 47554), descend the farm track to a cross roads (SD53020 47335). Turn R (WSW) passing Moor Farm to a stile (SD52652 47257) at Moor House Farm.
3. Follow the grassy lane opposite, passing in front of Moor House Farm. This is a delightful section with wonderful views of the coast. Turn sharp R and Jubilee Cairn and the white trig on Nicky Nook dominate the view, then turn L & descend to a brook and stile (SD52294 47233). Continue along the less distinct farm track, over a stile before descending to Burns Farm (SD51714 47252).
4. At Burns Farm, immediately turn R in front of the farmhouse, continue along the roadway keeping the farm buildings on the L. At the next corner (SD51696 47375), turn R along a concrete road, sheltered by trees, cross the brook & follow the road to the L to a pump house, a covered reservoir & a stile (SD51528 47511). Cross the stile & descend to a brook, continue across the pasture, it can be wet underfoot. The route is defined by marker posts and reaches a kissing gate (SD51234 47743). Enter the woodland and descend the steep ground to Grizedale Brook, use the trees and roots to limit your speed and maintain control, the final section is somewhat easier, it has steps. Cross the footbridge (SD51119 47788) to reach the bridlepath in Grizedale.
5. Turn R (heading NE) along the bridlepath accompanying Grizedale Brook. Its cool and fresh in the wood but soon the valley opens, the steep vegetated sides are more apparent as the gradient increases to reach Grizedale reservoir dam (SD52358 48373). Continue along the bridlepath, soon to reach the path up to Nicky Nook (SD52625 48462) before the junction with the Concessionary Path (SD52668 48650) to the R.
6. Through the gate, its easy walking around the edge of Grizedale reservoir, rhododendrons line the obvious path before reaching the wonderful woodland of Holme Wood. Follow the obvious path, occasionally crossing the brook before emerging from the woodland via a kissing gate. Cross Grizedale Brook and turn R at the junction with the bridlepath (there's a signpost), its a short stretch back to Grizedale Bridge (SD53570 49098) and finish.