

# Owens Walks

Route Description: Totridge from Langden Castle and Bleadale

1. There's roadside parking at Langden (SD63308 51146).

Walk up the lane towards the water works at Langden and follow the good estate road, (there is an option to walk alongside Langden Brook but the ground can be very wet & passage is quite difficult where the riverbank is eroded), there's a fell road junction (SD60991 50593) where we take the left fork & continue up the valley to Langden Castle (SD60613 50267).

2. From Langden Castle, head S across wet ground & two streams. My advice is: bare feet from the Castle, putting your boots back on by the gate on the path! Your reward is almost instant. Follow a good path up Bleadale valley, its marked by wooden posts at regular intervals, the path picks a route among the trees & rocks & the cascading water is a joy - there's not many valleys in Lancashire as good as this. The track splits at a gate (SD61064 49243), take the R fork to stay with the stream, continue past a beautiful small waterfall & rocky cascades. As height is gained, we emerge on the peaty summit plateau, but keep heading S to reach the boundary fence (SD61315 47422). For information, the Boundary Stone is at SD61041 47317, but we turn L (east).

3. At the fence, turn L (east), most importantly, remember your sense of humour as you find your way through the peat hags, keeping the fence in sight for navigation purposes. At a junction in the fence (SD62356 47488), we keep L heading for the high ground of Totridge. The worst of the peat hags is soon over, Ingleborough & Whernside come into view, as do Pen Y Ghent and Fountains Fell. Keep making progress to a corner of two stone walls (SD63015 48138).

4. Follow the wall, ascending to the trig point & summit of Totridge (SD63476 48736).

5. Leave the summit following the same line, along a narrow path descending to a wooden post (SD63562 49050) & small cairn. Follow the path as it descends the steep flank, a zig, a zag & another zig to a second post, the descent is now direct to a third post, then a stile (SD63995 49344). Descend the pasture by the fence/wall & a short climb leftwards reaches a stile (SD64326 49753) and the bridleway. Turn L along the grassy bridleway, descending to the farm road at Hareden Farm.

6. Turn R along the farm road, between the farm buildings, before reaching the main road, cross Hareden Brook using the small bridge on the L, then cross the field diagonally to a stile by the riverbank. Head upstream along Langden Brook to reach the car park at Langden.