

Owens Walks

Route Description: Around the villages of Barley and Newchurch, Pendle.

1. There's good parking by the river in Barley (SD82301 40311). Leave the car park heading E alongside the stream (Pendle Water). After 50m, take the bridleway passing Narrowgates Mill, it has a square chimney stack on your L. Continue along the cobblestones between the quant mill cottages to reach a wooden gate.
2. Continue along the bridleway (alongside the stream) to a 2nd farm gate across the bridleway (SD83051 40333). Ahead is the hamlet of White Hough.
3. Continue along the bridleway by the stream, pass the stone cottages of White Hough. Continue beyond the ford to cross the bridge, ascend the road to the Barley-Roughlee road. Cross the road, through the gate (SD83251 40128), ascend the steep pasture to Heys Lane (an ancient route), cross Heys Lane and climb the good path by a wall to reach Heys Lane Plantation. At the fork, keep L over the stile and continue up the hill, the path is luxurious grass, notice the stone mullion windows of the old properties across the valley. Cross the stone stile and head L into the beech and sycamore woodland. Leave the shade of the woodland and descend the pasture to a stile (SD82377 39456) & stone steps at Jinny Lane in Newchurch. Turn R to reach a T-junction (SD82305 39448), public toilets opposite. Turn L for St. Marys Church, where you will find the family grave of Alice Nutter, incidentally half the population of Clitheroe claim to be a descendant of Alice, and it's probably true!
4. L of the toilet block is a path, climb the steps to a gate onto farmland, climb to the marker post (SD82197 39491), there's a large cross on the skyline, keep R to reach a wall, then follow the wall uphill to a gate and stile (SD81837 39522). Look back over the route to Barley village before walking to the corner of Fell Wood. Over the stile (SD81583 39522), descend the path to a stile and path into Fell Wood. Follow the excellent woodland path, descending to the footbridge (SD81203 39847) between the Ogden reservoirs. Cross the stream, turn R to reach the road serving the reservoirs and farms.
5. Turn L and walk up the road for a close encounter with the spectacular dam of Upper Ogden reservoir.
6. Re-trace the steps along the road to (5). Continue along the road, past Lower Ogden reservoir before passing the old mill buildings to reach Barley Green, just opposite the car park to the finish of the walk.