

The Kettlewell Clamber 15 Mile Walk Route Notes Saturday 7th June 2008

KETTLEWELL TO STARBOTTON DISTANCE 2 MILES

Leave the car park crossing the road with care and turn right. Walk past the garage on your left hand side & the pay & display car park (there are public toilets here). Cross the bridge and turn right, half way up this road is Kettlewell Village Hall and the Kettlewell Clamber Walk Base. Please register here and let us know that you have arrived.

After checking in, leave the building and turn right. Head back towards the main road and you will see The Blue Bell Pub to your right. Walk up the side of The Blue Bell Pub on a tarmac road. At the top as the road bends right we carry on straight ahead up a stony track and through your first stile of the day. The stone wall bends around to the left follow this wall and you are now on a distinctive path which you will follow for two miles of delightful walking. There is about eight stiles to cross and some beautiful views to admire.

After about 1.5 miles you will see Starbotton in the distance. At the finger post (in the wall corner) pointing down the field, go through the wooden gate and down the steps. Half way down the field there is another signpost at a metal gate go through this to a second metal gate and out on to a road. Turn right past Foss Gill cottage then left past Low Barn on your right hand side. You are now on the main road of Starrbotton.

**CHECK POINT ONE. – STARBOTTON - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.
DISTANCE SO FAR 2.00 MILES – STILL TO GO 13.00 MILES
STARBOTTON TO BUCKDEN 5.50 MILES (VIA BUCKDEN PIKE 3 MILES UP 2.5 MILES
DOWN)**

Turn Right on the main road and go past the Fox & Hounds pub, turning right up the side of the pub on a tarmac road. On your left, go over a small stone bridge signposted to Walden Head. Take the stony track on your right, quite steep at first. Continue all the way up and climb over the ladder stile. Carry on up this track keeping the wall on your left hand side. Passing a finger post by a wooden gate on route, heading in the Walden Head direction.

Further along the track you go through a disused gate, keep following the track that bends to the left, to the wall corner, then ahead along the rutted track.

When the track passes through a section of a crossing dry stone walls, take the right hand fork, then with the broken wall on your right go ahead ascending the hill passing a Bridle Way finger post on route.

The wall changes over to your left after a gap in the wall, eventually veering to your left up hill. Leave the wall and go ahead to a crossing wall and gate. Go through the gate and

ahead, at the second cairn the path swings around to the left. Still climbing you pass a stone shelter on your left (good sarnie stop).

Go through the gap in the wall, continuing forward with a wall on your right hand side to go through a gate. Turn left and you should have a wall running up the left hand side. If boggy, pick your way through to the top of the hill.

This takes you to the top (yippee) via the Memorial Cross. This was dedicated to the polish airmen who in January 1942 crashed here. Two of them lost there lives, the third survived by following a fox's track through the snow to safety at Starbotton. He returned years later to erect this cross in memory of his friends. You will see a fox's head and a bit of old plain at the base.

Cross the stile you see in the wall, and turn right following the wall until you will see a cairn and white trig point and a signpost reading Buckden Pike National Trust. This is the summit of Buckden Pike.

Have a breather and enjoy the views you have deserved it!

After a little rest, continue ahead with wall on your right on a well maintained path. Following this down hill you should be able to see the hills Ingleborough and Pen-y-ghent in the distance. At the Bridle Way finger post, take the path leading away from the wall. As you continue down the hill the path becomes a little sketchy in places, just carefully pick your way down towards a crossing wall with a gate in it.

When you reach the gate just after the NATIONAL TRUST – UPPER WHARFEDALE sign, go through and head across the field to a corner gate and finger post, following sign through gate to Buckden. The car park and check point will come into view as you descend.

**CHECK POINT TWO – BUCKDEN - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.
DISTANCE SO FAR 7.50 MILES – STILL TO GO 7.50 MILES
BUCKDEN TO KETTLEWELL 7.50 MILES**

There are refreshments and toilets (The Buck Inn is also just around the corner!)

At the village green please check out and carry on along the road heading for Hubberhome, there is a little bit of road walking but this road is not usually busy.

Carry on down the road to a sign which reads Red Mire Farm, walk along this stony track which is signposted Litton. Continue up the track and through a metal gate. At the bridleway signpost turn right heading up hill. Follow this track and the blue marker posts to the top and through the gap in the wall. Now have a rest and admire the views.

Keeping the wall on your right had side, follow the wall past the trig point, which dog legs to the left, until you come to a wooden stile over the wall.

Over the stile turn right still with the wall on your right hand side. Follow this wall over the next wooden ladder stile until you get to a ladder stile on your right. Turn left down the grassy track (both tracks join up) passing a yellow marker post.

The fun bit. Climb down the rocky path to the track below. At the bottom of the track you will see a sign post to Kettlewell. Go through the gate to the road over the river and continue along the track back to Kettlewell.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO CHECK BACK IN AT THE VILLAGE HALL BEFORE YOU LEAVE, SO THAT WE KNOW YOU HAVE ARRIVED BACK SAFELY.

WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THE WALK!!!