

## What you can see

As you skirt the western edge of Lofthouse Moor, look for the earthwork remains of tracks, spoil heaps and quarries

Scar House Reservoir was built in 1921. To the north of it are the remains of the quarry used to build it. If the water in the reservoir is low, you can sometimes see boundary walls of the flooded fields.

South of the reservoir are the remains of the camp used by the navvies who built it. You can still see building platforms. The site was like a small town, with a cinema, school, canteen, reading room, church, hospital, bakery & laundry!

The route runs through moorland, rough pasture and scattered woodlands around the River Nidd and its numerous tributaries.

The marshy ground is important for wading birds such as lapwings and curlews - there are lots of insects here for the chicks to feed on. Listen out for the "pee-wit" call of lapwings, and look out for their tumbling aerobatic display flights in spring. Curlews are easily identified by their distinctive long, curved beak.



## At a glance

How far?	<b>10.3 miles (16.5km)</b>
How hard?	<b>Hard</b>
Which map?	<b>OS Explorer Map No. 298</b>
Starting at?	<b>Lofthouse SE 101 734</b>
Buses?	<b>traveline 0871 2002233</b>
Parking?	<b>Lofthouse</b>
Any facilities?	<b>Lofthouse &amp; Middlesmoor</b>

**A challenging circular off and on road route with good views. Some steep climbs and descents with rough off road technical sections.**

## Contact us

**North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD**  
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# ny rides

Nidderdale Loop



1. From the centre of Lofthouse head past the Crown Hotel, at the T Junction turn right up the road towards Middlesmoor. Cross over the bridge and take the first right, along the road signposted for Middlesmoor. The road gradually climbs and then steepens towards Middlesmoor, continue through the village.
2. Continue straight ahead up the bridleway, Moor Lane (signposted Nidderdale Way) heading towards Scar House Reservoir. The route

gradually climbs on a rough track to the top of In Moor. From the top of the moor on a clear day there are expansive views of Little Whernside and Scar House Reservoir.

3. This is the start of the descent down towards the reservoir. The descent is on a rough track in parts with steep gradients, take care!
4. On reaching the track at the foot of the reservoir, follow the track towards the

reservoir's dam. Turn left and cross over the dam, then continue up the stoned track to your left (signposted Nidderdale Way). After roughly 100m of climbing turn right and follow the Nidderdale Way signposted for Lofthouse along the bridleway. Continue to steadily climb back up the valley on the track, passing through three gates.

5. The track descends steeply for a short distance into Woo Gill, crossing through the ford and over the bridge, then climbs steeply out of Woo Gill. Continue along the well-used track ignoring the bridleway going off to your left.

6. Go straight ahead along the track. On reaching the gate with the wall continue up the track along the side of the wall until reaching grouse butt No 3, at this point go through the gate on your right and continue along the bridleway. Cross through a further gate heading along Dale Edge.

7. At the bridleway crossroads go through the gate and continue straight ahead. The track climbs gradually to the top of Lofthouse Moor. At the top of the moor there are great panoramas down the Nidderdale Valley and back towards Scar House Reservoir. Continue past the shooting lodge then along the bridleway as it turns left and heads down the moor, through a gate towards the road.

8. On reaching the road turn right and descend back down the tarmac road into Lofthouse. This descent is steep in places and quite narrow so be aware of vehicles! Continue along the road back into Lofthouse and the end of this ride.

