

How to get there...

By Car: From Richmond and the A6108 go right onto Hurgill Road and then at the sharp right hand bend follow Clapgate Bank down to the beginning of the walk NZ 10374 00449

Parking: Parking in layby NZ 10374 00449



 **Public footpath** can be used by walkers. Waymarked with a yellow arrow.

 **Public bridleway** can be used by walkers, horse riders and cyclists. Waymarked with a blue arrow.

 **Restricted byway** can be used by walkers, horseriders, cyclists and non motorised vehicles. Waymarked with a purple arrow.

 **Byway open to all traffic (BOAT)** can be used by walkers, horse riders, cyclists and motor vehicles. Waymarked with a red arrow.

Contact us

North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall,
Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD
Our Customer Service Centre is open Monday to
Friday 8.00am - 5.30pm (closed weekends and
bank holidays). Tel: **01609 780 780**
email: paths@northyorks.gov.uk
www.northyorks.gov.uk/paths or you can
access all North Yorkshire County Council
information online at: www.northyorks.gov.uk

If you would like this information in
another language or format such as
Braille, large print or audio, please ask us.
Tel: 01609 780780
Email: communications@northyorks.gov.uk



Always follow *The Countryside Code*

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Keep dogs under close control
- Prevent uncontrolled moorland fires
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Consider other people

North Yorkshire rides

Marske Loop mountain bike ride

About the ride

A circular off and on road ride, mainly on tracks with some steep gradients, across the moors above Swaledale.



Ride overview

Distance: 12 miles (19.3km)

Time: allow 3 hours

Terrain: Mostly tracks with some steep gradients

Map: Explorer OL30

Local facilities: None on route, nearest in Reeth or Grinton

Points of interest

Throughout the ride you will travel through an industrial landscape created by lead mining in the 18th and 19th centuries when lead was needed for roofing, plumbing and glazing in the new towns and industries springing up during the period of industrial expansion. Lead is found in narrow almost vertical veins in rock and accessed by deep shafts with spoil tipped in a characteristic collar on the surface.

This circular ride is produced by North Yorkshire County Council. Find more walks and rides on our website www.northyorks.gov.uk/walks. We welcome any feedback about this ride, contact details can be found on the back page.

Route description

1. From the layby, head up the road for 100 metres and then turn right along Skelton Lane, signposted as a dead end. Continue along the lane past Skelton Hall and the small wooded area on your right.
2. At the Y-junction turn left up the stone-surfaced track just in front of the telegraph pole. Continue to follow the track, gradually climbing onto the moor edge. Continue along the track for 1.7 km (1 mile), passing through two gates. There are panoramic views from here looking back over Marske Moor.
3. Continue to follow the stone track through the gap in the stone wall on your right, heading down the hill towards Helwith. Take care on the descent. At the bottom continue through the gate and across the ford or bridge. Head up the track towards the farm building and then turn left up the tarmac lane in front of the buildings. This climbs steeply towards Holgate Pasture. Continue to follow the road for 1.6 km (1 mile).
4. At the crossroads turn left, heading down the hill. After 600 metres the road turns sharply to the left. Ignore this and continue straight down onto the stone track. Continue to follow the track down the hill and cross the beck by the ford or bridge. The track climbs steeply for a short length. Continue to follow this track along the edge of Shaw Moor. After crossing Skegdale Beck, the track turns to a tarmac lane. Continue to follow this down towards the hamlet of Hurst.
5. On reaching the junction with the road, continue straight ahead, passing the phone box on your left. As you pass through Hurst village, notice the disused mine workings on your left.
6. As you pass through the mine workings, head through the gate on your left opposite Hall Farm on the right. Continue along the stone track for 1.7 km (1 mile) onto the moors through the mine workings.



Route description continued

7. Continue along the track that heads quite steeply down Fremington Edge. As you head down the track, the gradient decreases and the track turns to a tarmac track. There are good views looking down into Swaledale. Head through the gate and continue to follow the narrow lane down the hill into Fremington village.
8. At the T-junction with the road turn left and head along the road back towards Marske. Continue to follow the main road, which has some short steep sections.
9. At the crossroads, continue straight ahead along the road signposted for Marske. Continue along the road for 3.2 km (2 miles) back to the start.

Points of interest continued:

At Hurst you might notice two tall chimneys, Cat Shaft (pictured overleaf) and Browns Engine Shaft, built to serve steam pumping and winding engines in about 1883. Both are listed buildings.