

11. Head back into Bouthwaite across several fields then along a track with several gates on it, the route becomes steeper and rockier as you descend and it is quite challenging at speed.

12. On reaching Bouthwaite, continue straight along the road to reach Ramsgill. Turn left at the road bridge then first right past a village green just before Yorke Arms pub.

13. There is wooden bridleway sign indicating The Nidderdale Way as the route heads along a track between two houses. Follow this along a track as it continues across several fields, be careful not to follow the track up to Grindstone Hill House. The path heads through several gates and then climbs up to West House Farm.

14. Head through the farm yard following the blue waymarks and continue along a rough track through a couple of gates and across fields to join a track. Continue ahead on the track, passing a wood until you reach a T junction. Descend steeply to the right towards the campsite (Studfold Farm) and turn left.

15. Take the first right over the bridge and continue to the road junction. Turn right back into Lofthouse then left back up the short hill to the car park.

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



How to get there...

By Car: From Pateley
Bridge follow the B6265,
turn right onto Low Wath
Road and continue to
Lofthouse.

Parking: Free parking at
Lofthouse Car park,
postcode HG3 5RZ

Bus: Limited bus service
from Pateley Bridge
(www.dalesbus.org).

Photo credit: Mike Gurney

North Yorkshire rides

Nidderdale Loop Bike Ride

About the ride

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



Ride overview

Distance: 15 miles (24 km)

Time: 4.5 hours

Gates: 10

Terrain: Uneven surfaces with
some steep inclines

Map: OS Explorer Map 298

Local facilities: Facilities in
Lofthouse and Middlesmoor

Points of interest

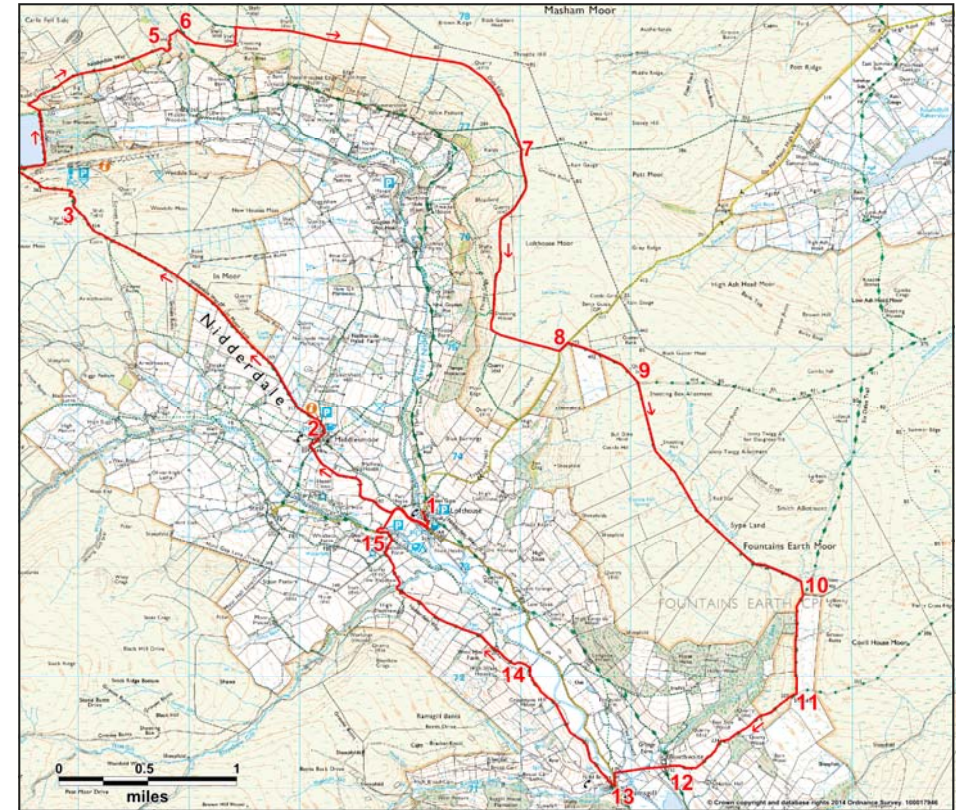
Scar House Reservoir was built in 1921. To the north are the remains of the quarry used to build it. If the water in the reservoir is low, you can sometimes see boundary walls of the flooded fields. South of the reservoir are the remains of the camp used by the navvies who built it. The site was like a small town, with a cinema, school, canteen, reading room, church, hospital, bakery and laundry.

This circular walk 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 walk, contact details can be found on the back page.

Business and Environmental Services

Route description

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 byway, In 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 next to 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 over the bridge, then climbs steeply out of Woo Gill. Continue along the well-used track.
6. Go straight ahead along the track. On reaching the gate with the wall, proceed through it and follow the grass track to the left to join a surfaced track 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.



Route description continued

8. Here you can turn right and descend back down the tarmac road into Lofthouse or for a longer ride, turn left and then take the first right up a track.
9. Proceed along the track through a timber gate to where the path splits, bear right keeping the dry stone wall on your right and descend down the track with Sypeland Crags to your left across the moor. This is a fast fun section and there are lots of humps that drain water off the track.
10. The track exits through a gate. Continue with the wall on your right past a plantation until you reach a T junction of tracks. There is a signpost for The 6 Dales Trail pointing down towards Bouthwaite.