

Introduction

The network of bridleways around the Sheffield Moors provides fantastic access for everyone who wants to come and experience the landscape. Many of the tracks on the moorland that we can ride today were put in by the Duke of Rutland in the early 1800s for his own private enjoyment. Back then, access to the land was very much by invitation only, however, today, everyone can enjoy access to these moors via these tracks.

Keep an eye out for the bridleway gates and waymarkers, and please take note of our *Please Dismount* signs, which help keep our paths safe for everyone.

Enjoy your ride!

Longshaw Lodge

The lodge was built in the 1820s to accommodate the 5th Duke of Rutland's shooting party guests. It was used as a convalescent hospital in World War I and has since been converted to residential flats.



Next to the Lodge is the Longshaw Visitor Centre, a hub for the moors, which welcomes cyclists and is a great place to refuel!

Sharing the Trails

The Sheffield Moors Partnership recognises the importance of having safe and accessible places to ride your bike or horse, and so, since the beginning of 2014, some paths, including those running through the main Longshaw Estate, have been upgraded to permissive bridleways so that the trails can be enjoyed by everyone. At times, the trails will be busy, so please slow down and follow the Peak Bike Code so everyone can enjoy our fabulous countryside.

PEAK BIKE CODE

PROTECT THE TRAIL
KEEP SINGLETRACK SINGLE!
ENJOY YOUR RIDE
THE PEAK IS FOR EVERYONE!
ABIDE BY THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE
LEAVE NO TRACE, LEAVE GATES AS YOU FIND THEM, PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT!
KEEP SMILING!
ALWAYS GIVE WAY, CHAT TO EVERYONE!

RIDE SHEFFIELD
WWW.RIDESHEFFIELD.ORG.UK
VP
WWW.V-PUBLISHING.CO.UK
WWW.EASTERNMOORS.ORG.UK

Mountain Bike Route Grading

Our routes are graded in a similar system to that used at mountain biking trail centres around the UK.

Green = easy | **Blue** = medium | **Red** = hard | **Black** = extreme

The grades are based on average conditions – good weather and not too wet and muddy. In a drought the routes will feel easier, in the depths of winter, harder. Grades consider distance, technicality, climbs, navigation and remoteness. And remember these grades are subjective: how you find a particular route will be dictated by your own level of fitness and skill. For your own enjoyment and safety, please ride within your own limits and the limits of your equipment.

Be prepared!

Before setting out, make sure you're well prepared. Depending on the weather or season, it might be worth carrying an extra layer or waterproof jacket. If you're on your bike and embarking on one of the longer rides, we recommend carrying some spares (at least a spare inner tube, pump and multi-tool) and some food and drink. Make sure your mobile phone battery is charged too, but bear in mind you may not get good reception up on the moors, or down in valleys or woodland.

Directions & Accuracy

While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy within the directions in this leaflet, things change and we are unable to guarantee that every detail will be correct. Please treat stated distances as guidelines. Please exercise caution if a direction appears at odds with the route on the ground. A comparison between direction and map should see you on the right track.

The inclusion of a track or path as part of a route, or otherwise recommended, in this leaflet does not guarantee that the track or path will remain a Right of Way. If conflict with landowners arises we advise that you act politely and leave by the shortest route available. If the matter needs to be taken further then please take it up with the relevant authority. PLEASE GIVE WAY TO HORSES AND PEDESTRIANS.



Supported by the Peak District National Park Grants Scheme

Plants

Look out for purple moor grass, common cotton grass and dwarf shrubs such as crowberry, heather, cross-leaved heath and bilberry.



Photos: National Trust Images/ Joe Cornish

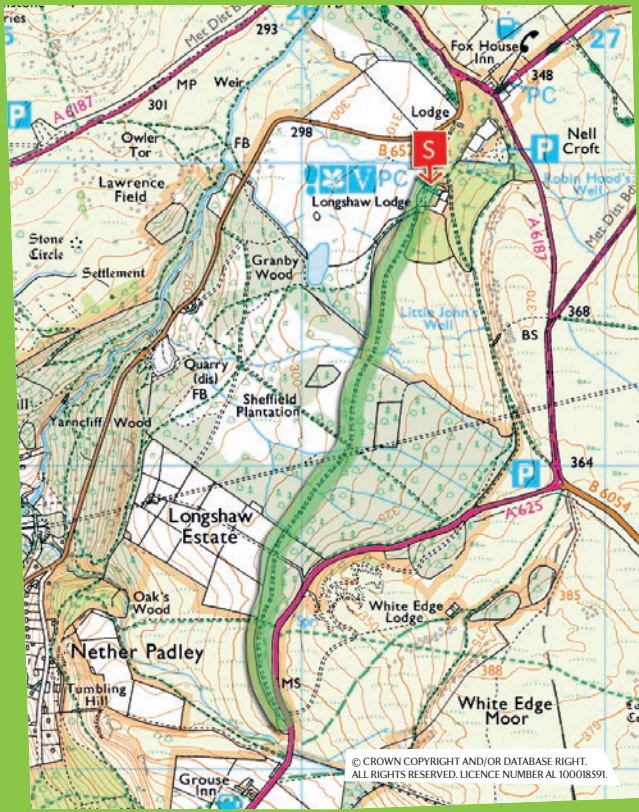
1 Duke's Drive

Distance: 4km | **Ascent:** 40m | **Grade:** Green
Time: 0.5–1 hours | **Start/finish:** Longshaw Estate Visitor Centre
Car Park: National Trust Woodcroft

A flat, out-and-back route taking in the sights of the Longshaw Estate. Suitable for families and riders of all ages. Please be aware that throughout the summer months there may be cattle on the route.

Directions

S Start in front of the Visitor Centre and **walk** with your bike down the path. Go through the gate and **bear L** through a second gate. You are now on the bridleway! Enjoy a gentle bike ride and take in the spectacular scenery. Keep an eye out for a set of stone gateposts, there you will find the companion stone. Look through the hole in the gatepost on your right and you will see the guidestoop. When you reach a large white gate near the main road, turn around and delight in the ride back to the Visitor Centre.



Guidestoops and companion stone

Guidestoops were used in the 18th century as route markers to travellers over the once treacherous moors. Paired with the guidestoops are companion stones – modern sculptures that bear inscriptions that point not to places, but to the future.



Photos: John Coe field

White Edge Lodge

The Lodge used to be one of the Duke of Rutland's gamekeeper's cottages, and is now one of the National Trust's holiday cottages.



Photos: National Trust Images/Robert Morris

2 White Edge Loop

Distance: 4.5km | **Ascent:** 80m | **Grade:** Blue
Time: 0.5–1.5 hours | **Start/finish:** Longshaw Estate Visitor Centre
Car Park: National Trust Woodcroft

This route has one ascent and one descent of medium difficulty and is otherwise pretty much flat. Please note that this route has two road crossings. It takes you out from the Longshaw Visitor Centre, past White Edge Lodge and back through the main Longshaw Estate where you can re-fuel at the cafe!

Directions

S Start in front of the Visitor Centre looking out over the moorland. Follow the road **R** and turn **R** past the den building area. Bear **R** and follow the bridleway up through the beech wood towards a gate. Follow the path enjoying views over the Hope Valley. Where the path splits, bear **L** up the incline. Stop and dismount at the gate.

2 ROAD CROSSING. Please take care crossing the road. Go through the gate and cross the busy road onto the traffic island. Cross the road again, heading towards the gate. Follow the path up towards White Edge Lodge. Skirt around the far side of the Lodge, bear slightly **R** and head down the path towards the road.

3 ROAD CROSSING. Please take care crossing the road. Cross the road, go through the gate opposite and follow the bridleway back towards the Visitor Centre. Keep an eye out for a set of stone gate posts, there you will find the companion stone. Look through the hole in the gate post on your left and you will see the guidestoop.



3 Rumble on the Jumble

Distance: 12km | **Ascent:** 240m | **Grade:** Blue–Red
Time: 1–2 hours | **Start/finish:** Longshaw Estate Visitor Centre
Car Park: National Trust Woodcroft

The first of three more adventurous routes which tackles the bridleways and byways of Totley, Blacka and Houndkirk Moors. The track from the visitor centre up towards Wooden Pole provides a steady warm up, before the broad track of Moss Road over Totley Moor: flat to begin with, it transforms into a broad, rocky descent to Wimble Holme Hill. Traverse this on singletrack before climbing to the swoopy permissive bridleway through Blacka Moor which is managed by our friends at the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust. A short section on the A625 leads to a climb and descent on the old road over Houndkirk Moor, the high point of the ride, and a spin back down the road to Longshaw.

Directions

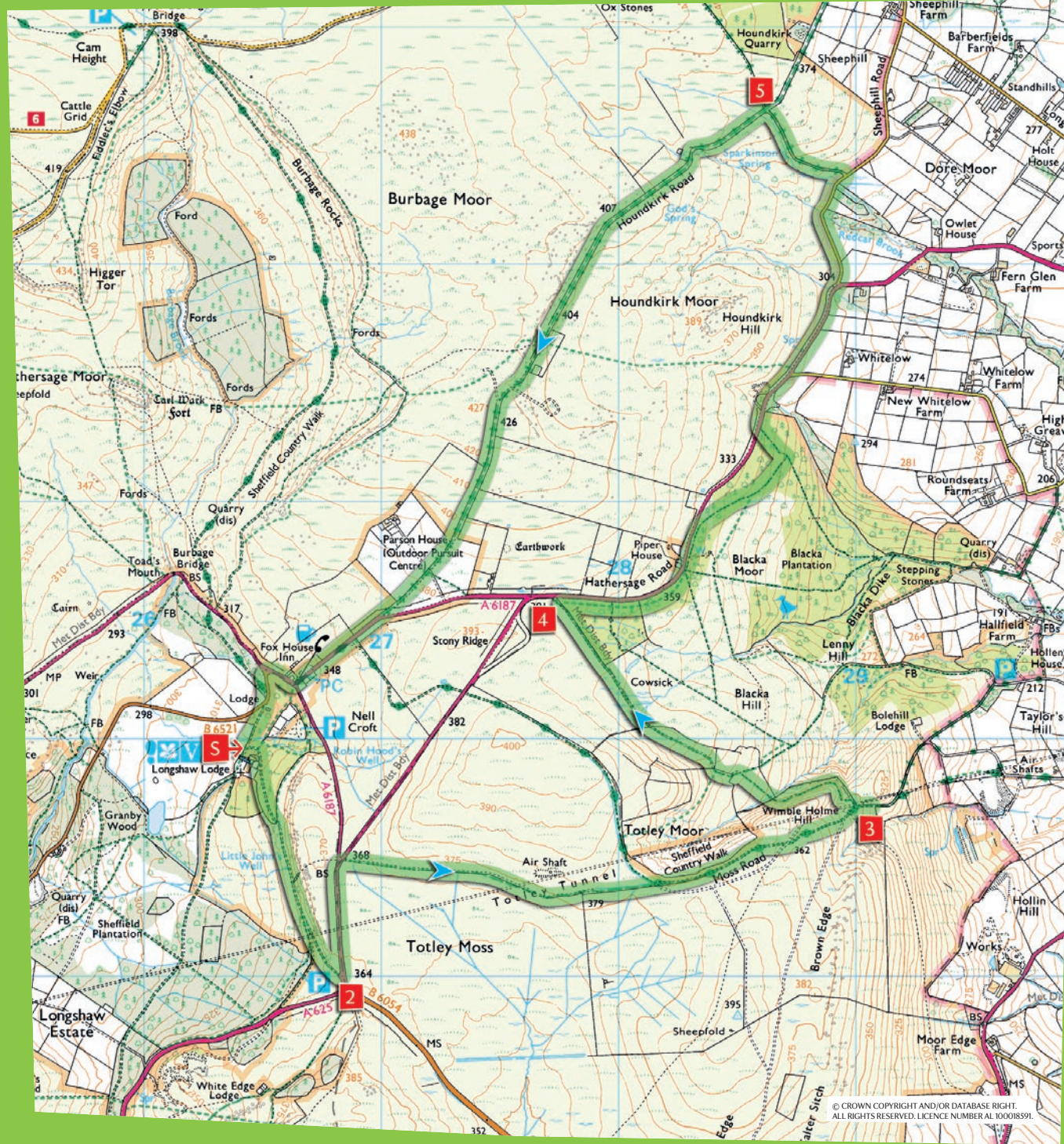
S Start in front of the Visitor Centre looking out over the moorland. Follow the road **R** and turn **R** past the den building area, signed *Estate Office*. Follow this for about 1km; where the path splits, bear left up the incline. Stop and dismount at the gate.

2 Turn **L** in the direction of Fox House/Sheffield. After 500m, turn **R**, signed *Sheffield*, and then turn immediately **R** through a gate onto a bridleway. Follow this for just over 2km, ignoring junctions, level at first and eventually descending fast and rocky to meet a gate at a wall.

3 Turn around and ride back up the way you came for approx. 100m (you could have stopped on the way down, but why would you?) and go through the gate on the right. Splash through the stream and then contour around Wimble Holme Hill on singletrack to a gate. Go through the gate and ride diagonally **L** uphill across the field, joining a wider, grassy track. Keep climbing on this main track, which becomes more defined and passes through gates, eventually emerging at the small Blacka Moor car park by the A625. (Watch out for red deer on Blacka Moor.)

4 Do not join the road, but instead go **R** through the gap in the wall into the woods on the permissive bridleway. Keep straight ahead, parallel with the road, passing through several gates. The path eventually descends, joining another path at a T-junction – turn **L** uphill to the A625. Turn **R** down the road, and then **L** after approx. 800m onto Sheephill Road. Watch out for a byway through a gate on the **L** after 500m – take this and climb the rocky track (Jumble Road) to a track crossroads.

5 Turn **L** over Houndkirk Road for over 2km, descending to meet the A6187 road. Turn **R** (effectively straight ahead) down the road. Keep **R** on the road at the Fox House Inn, and then turn almost immediately **L** signed *Grindleford*. Turn **L** again after 100m back into Longshaw and the Visitor Centre.



Five off-road routes between 4km and 33km



Bridleways on the Sheffield Moors

Explore



For alternative formats, please call us on 01433 637904 or email peakdistrict@nationaltrust.org.uk

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw

Compiled by

National Trust

on behalf of the Sheffield Moors Partnership.
For more details go to: www.sheffieldmoors.co.uk

Sheffield Moors Partnership

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4

Eastern Moors Expedition

Distance: 20km | Ascent: 380m | Grade: Blue-Red
Time: 2-4 hours | Start/finish: Longshaw Estate Visitor Centre
Car Park: National Trust Woodcroft

This is a fairly zippy ride, without too much in the way of ascent and descent, but it is a great ride, passing over lovely moorland and along the fine gritstone trail above Curbar and Froggatt Edges – recently upgraded to bridleway status by the Eastern Moors Partnership (National Trust and RSPB). From the Longshaw Woodcroft car park, head over Totley Moor before cruising south down the tranquil Barbrook Valley. Whizz briefly on the road and head over to Baslow where the crag-top path leads to Curbar Gap. Pass over the Gap onto the Curbar crag-top path and cruise along, with fun jumps along the way. The drop from Curbar to Froggatt provides the ride's technical interest, before more cruising back to the A625 and a final off-road section past White Edge Lodge.

Directions

S Start in front of the Visitor Centre looking out over the moorland. Follow the road **R** and turn **R** past the den building area. Follow the bridleway up through the beech wood towards a gate. Follow this for about 1km; where the path splits, bear left up the incline. Stop and dismount at the gate. Turn **L** in the direction of *Fox House/Sheffield*. After 500m, turn **R**, signed *Sheffield*, and then turn immediately **R** through a gate onto a bridleway. Follow this for just over 2km, ignoring junctions, level at first and eventually descending fast and rocky to meet a gate at a wall.



2 Turn around and ride back up the way you came for approx. 100m (you could have stopped on the way down, but why would you?) and take a grassy path forking slightly **L** uphill just after passing a gate on the right. The path climbs and then levels after approx. 800m. Keep straight ahead, joining a double-track, and continue straight ahead to meet the B6054 road by a building.

3 ROAD CROSSING. Go straight ahead over the road, and through a gap in the wall at the left-hand end of the lay-by. Turn **R** through the gate and ride alongside the wall, on a mix of grassy singletack and surfaced trail. After about 400m, just before a wide gate in the wall on the right, turn **L** on to a wide grassy track and follow the Eastern Moors bridleway markers. Fork **R** after 500m to meet a tarmac lane and turn **R** on to this towards the house. Turn **L** onto the Barbrook Valley bridleway and follow this for over 2km to meet the A621. (Watch out for adders basking in the sun beside the track.) ROAD CROSSING: Carefully cross the A621, go through the gate opposite and follow the trail around Ramsley Moor. Watch out for a marker pointing **R** and follow this down to the road. Turn **R** down the road and then **L** at the A621 for a couple of hundred metres.

4 Turn **R** at the crossroads and then **L** onto a signed byway at the top of the small hill. Follow this for 1.5km towards Baslow Edge. Turn **R** shortly after Wellington's Monument along the broad track above Baslow Edge for 1km to join the Curbar Gap road. Drop to the road on the track, cross the road and climb up the track opposite to a gate. Pass through this and onto the Curbar-Froggatt bridleway. After about 1.2km, keep **R** as it descends towards Froggatt. Keep straight ahead above Froggatt, through a gate, towards the A625 road. Keep your eyes out for a bridleway on the **R** (if you meet the road you've gone too far); follow the markers until you get to a gate at a farm track. Cross the track, and carry on along the bridleway until you reach the road. Carefully turn **R** onto the road and climb up the hill past the Grouse Inn.

5 Take the second bridleway on the **R**, just after the bend. Climb steadily on a grassy trail heading for White Edge Lodge. Pass to the right of the lodge, onto the drive and take this to meet the road at the junction of the A625 and B6054. Carefully cross the roads at the junction, and turn immediately **L** after the junction through the gate and rejoin the outward route back into Longshaw.

Wooden Pole

Wooden Pole is a waymarker for the old pack horse routes and also marks the boundary between the townships of Hathersage and Holmesfield. The nearby stone is inscribed with 'T 1778' which is thought to mark the date of the riding of the bounds; a formal procession to familiarise residents with the parish boundaries before maps became commonplace.



Stone Circles

There are two stone circles, just off-route in the Barbrook Valley on routes 4 and 5, which are thought to date back to the Bronze Age.



Ground nesting birds

Birds such as curlews, lapwings and skylarks all use our land to nest from the beginning of March through to the end of August. Please keep to the marked routes; if you come off them, it may disturb the birds and reduce their chances of successfully breeding.



Wildlife

Watch out for meadow pipit, short-eared owl, whinchat, stonechat, skylark, curlew, and grouse. Catch a glimpse of wild red deer on Big Moor, or during the summer you may be lucky enough to spot an adder basking on the track.



5

The Sheffield Moors Loop

Distance: 33km | Ascent: 600m | Grade: Red-Black
Time: 3-5 hours | Start/finish: Curbar Gap
Car Park: Eastern Moors Curbar Gap

A varied and fun route, taking in one of the best descents in Sheffield, and some of the best views in the Peak District. The Blacka Moor section includes some gruelling (but relatively short) climbs, which are rewarded with excellent descents. The Eastern Moors section is much more mellow in gradient but takes in huge sweeps of Peak District moorland and crosses the beautiful Curbar and Froggatt edges.

Directions

S Turn **R** out of the car park and roll down the road for 50m. Turn **R** up a track and climb to a gate. Pass through this and onto the Curbar-Froggatt bridleway. Ride along the bridleway along Curbar and Froggatt Edges, keeping **R** on the signed, grassy track as things get rocky on the drop from Curbar to Froggatt Edge. Keep your eyes out for a bridleway on the **R** (if you meet the road you've gone too far); follow the markers until you get to a gate at a farm track. Cross the track, and carry on along the bridleway until you reach the road. Turn **R** and ride up the road past the Grouse Inn. After the pub, ignore the first gate on your **L**, but go through the second, into the Longshaw Estate. Ride along the bridleway until you reach the Longshaw Visitor Centre and cafe. Continue along the drive to the road, turn **R**, **R** again at the T-junction and **R** again at the Fox House. Ride up the hill, passing the NT Longshaw Woodcroft car park on your right.

2 Take the first **L** along Stony Ridge Road and ride along it for 800m until you reach a bridleway on the **R**. Go through the gate and follow the bridleway over Totley Moor. Keep **L** as it merges with another track (Moss Road). As the descent becomes steep and rocky, look out for a gate to your **L**, leading down the hill. Go through this gate and then ride along the lovely piece of singletack with a hair-raising drop to your right, until you reach a gate. Go through the gate, over a small bridge, and then head slightly **L** up the field. Turn **L** at the top of the field along the obvious bridleway. Pass through two stone gateposts, and later on through a gate, riding gently up hill until you reach a small car park.

3 Turn **L** on to the A625, and look out for a track on the **R** after 500m – take this. Turn **R** onto another track after 100m and follow this for over 3km over Houndkirk Moor, passing a crossroads after 2.5km. Track eventually joins woodland on the left – watch out for a bridleway signed into the woods on the **L**, just before the small car park. Take this and climb steadily through Lady Canning's Plantation on a good track.

Emerge from the woods at a gate and turn **L** onto the track. Descend this, past a crossroads, increasingly rocky, for 1.5km. Go through a gate and turn **R** on to Sheephill Road, then **R** again on to the A625. Watch out for a bridleway on the **L**, just after the Peak District National Park stone sign, as the woodland starts. Take this descent – the classic Devil's Elbow – and hop rocks and roots for almost a kilometre, until it joins another track after a small wooden bridge.

4 Turn **L** after the small wooden bridge. After 50m, you will see a ford on the **R** with a set of stepping stones. Get into a low gear, ford the stream and climb steeply. The hill relents briefly, pass through a gate and then the hill gets even steeper, until you reach a clearing with a welcome bench. Turn **L** here and descend the bridleway, which flattens out and you reach a gate. Go through the gate and into a small car park. Turn up the public byway signposted on the **R**.

5 Climb steeply for almost 1km until you meet a gate in a wall. Go through this and carry on up the hill. After 100m, take the vague, grassy **L** fork across heather and bracken moorland. Pass an enormous cairn on your left. Carry straight on across the moor, joining a doubletrack, and as you start to descend you will see stunning views over the Derwent Valley and Big Moor, which you are about to cross. Meet the B6054 road by a building.

6 ROAD CROSSING. Go straight ahead over the road, and through a gap in the wall at the left-hand end of the lay-by opposite. Turn **R** and ride along the wooden-sided track which hugs the wall and the road. When you reach the end turn sharp **L** downhill across the moor. Pass a few hawthorn trees until you reach a fork. Fork **R** and continue down to a tarmac track. Turn **R** along this for a few hundred metres. Just before you reach a gate and a house, turn **L** on a track through the Barbrook Valley; go through a gate and over a bridge. (As you pass Barbrook Reservoir look out for dragonflies and adders! It's a lovely spot to stop and enjoy the calm emptiness and feeling of isolation.) Continue along the track until you reach the road. ROAD CROSSING: Carefully cross the A621, go through the gate opposite and follow the trail around Ramsley Moor. Watch out for a marker pointing right and follow this down to the road. Turn **R** down the road and then **L** at the A621 for a couple of hundred metres. Turn **R** at the crossroads and then **L** onto a signed byway at the top of the small hill. Follow this for 1.5km towards Baslow Edge. Pass Wellington's Monument on the left and the edge-top track on the right and admire the views of Chatsworth Park to the left, before descending **L** on the broad rocky track.

7 EASY-TO-MISS: Descend past a bench, and turn **R** shortly after the bench, through a small quarry and drop fast below Baslow Edge. After 500m, turn **R** at a signed junction onto the bridleway below Baslow Edge. Follow this, technical and/or boggy in places, depending on time of year, through a couple of gates, to join the Curbar Gap road. Turn **R** up this and then **L** back into the car park.

