

Black Moss

Start Point

Barley Green
Car Park

★ SD 823 402

Distance/Time

3.2 Miles
1 Hr
15 Mins

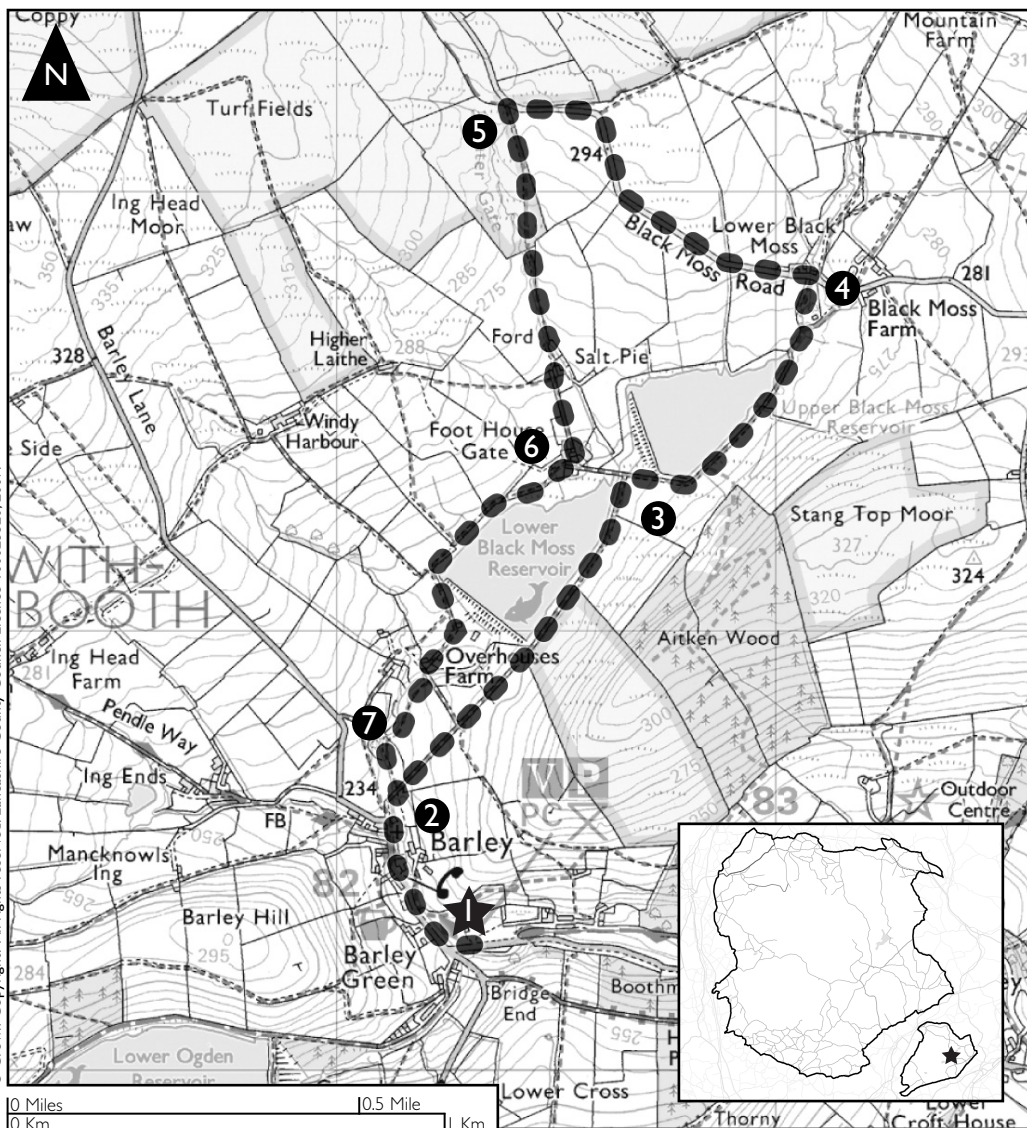
Terrain

Roads, tracks and fields. Some stiles. Can be wet underfoot.

OS Explorer

OL41

'Forest of Bowland and Ribblesdale'



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Walk Description

There are no steep gradients on the walk and much of the walk is on hard surfaced tracks or tarmac road. However, the return leg of the route crosses fields, which may become muddy in wet weather. The middle section of the walk is along a country lane and care should be taken to ensure you are visible to drivers using the road. There are several gates and kissing gates to negotiate but, at the time of writing, no stiles.

- 1★ On leaving the car park, walk through the picnic area and the village.
- 2 Take the second track on the right past the Methodist Church sign-posted 'private road' which leads to Black Moss Reservoirs.
- 3 At the junction turn right and follow the path to Black Moss Road.
- 4 At the road turn left and continue along the road to the signpost on the left hand side, by a field gate. Take care on the road.
- 5 Turn left through the gate and follow the track, passing Salt Pie Farm, to Foot House Gate Farm.
- 6 At the farm, pass through the gate on the right. Take the path skirting the reservoir.
- 7 Follow the track past Over Houses, go over the bridge, and pass through the small gate on the right and back to Barley.

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About This Walk

The reservoir history

Both Upper and Lower Black Moss Reservoirs provide drinking water to Nelson when needed. Upper Black Moss, completed in 1894, can hold 204,568 cubic meters (45 million gallons), has a surface area of 5.17 hectares (12.78 acres) and is 9.45m (31ft) deep. The lower reservoir was completed in 1903 and can hold 295,487 cubic meters (65 million gallons), is 11.8m (41ft) deep with a surface area of 7.23 hectares (17.87 acres).

The plantations

37 hectares (91 acres) of forest around the reservoirs were planted before 1935. Part of Whitehough forest was planted in 1901 with Sycamore trees - the remainder, planted in 1935 with Sitka Spruce, Norway Spruce and Scots Pine. Slacks Wood and Heys Lane were planted in 1900 with Beech and Sycamore. Heys Lane was replanted in 1981.

Sustainable Tourism

The Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a protected landscape that has international importance for its heather moorland, blanket bog and rare birds. In 2005 the AONB became the first protected area in England to be awarded the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas, joining just 30 other areas across Europe. The Charter is awarded to protected areas that are delivering tourism that is both nature and landscape friendly and which contributes to the economic development of the region. The Charter approach ensures that organisations, local people and businesses are working together to protect the area, whilst at the same time increasing opportunities for visitors to discover and enjoy its special qualities.

You can contribute to sustainable tourism by:

- Leaving the car at home and using public transport instead
- Purchasing local products, including food and drink
- Making a donation to the Bowland Tourism Environment Fund through donation boxes at participating businesses in the area.

Countryside / Moorland Code



From a gentle stroll or relaxing picnic, to a long-distance walk or heart-pumping adventure, the countryside provides every opportunity for enjoyment and relaxation. If you follow the Countryside Code wherever you go, you'll get the best enjoyment possible and you'll help to protect our open spaces now and for future generations.

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

Safety

If you are going for a walk, it is strongly recommended that you:

- Dress appropriately - avoid wearing denim and any other clothing, which doesn't dry quickly. It is better to wear lots of lighter layers, which can be easily removed or added. Sturdy footwear and waterproofs are also a must.
- Carry the right equipment - including an Ordnance Survey Map (OS Explorer OL41); compass; small first aid kit; high energy snack; something to drink; mobile phone (be aware that coverage can be patchy); whistle.
- Always let someone know where you're going and what time you expect to be back.
- Do not take any unnecessary risks.

If you are in difficulty or see someone in difficulty, please dial **999** and ask for **Mountain Rescue**.

To report any other incident contact:

- **Countryside Service** - **01772 534 709**, open 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday
- **Lancashire Constabulary** - **0845 1 25 35 45** or **999** for emergencies