Grizedale and Bleasdale

Start Point

Scorton Picnic Site SD 505 503

Distance/Time

27 miles (43km) I - 2 hours Terrain

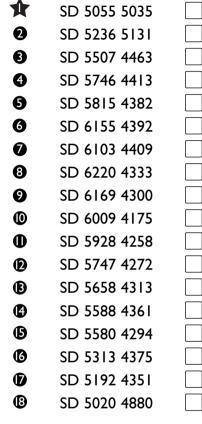
Road, undulating

Key to Facilities

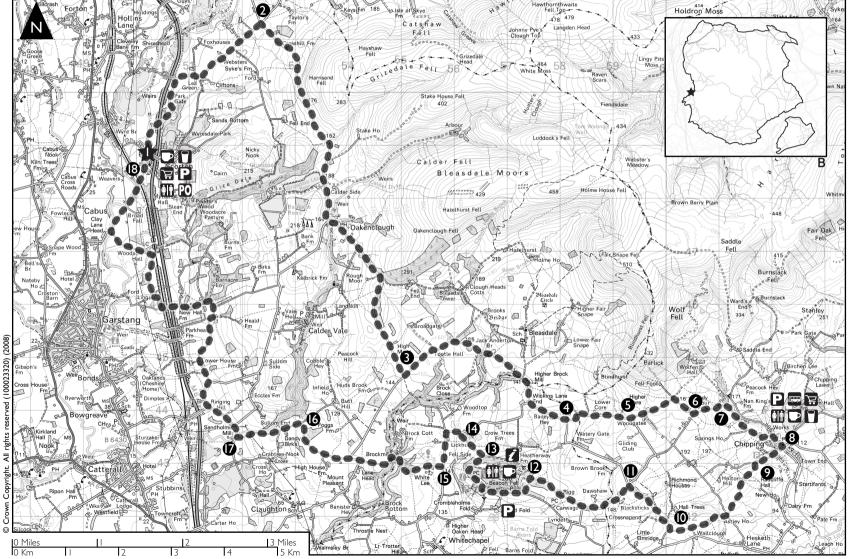
☐ Café, Mi Toilets, PO Post Office,

Pub, Shop, Parking,

Bus Stop, Information



GPS Waypoints (OS grid refs)





Grizedale and Bleasdale

About This Ride

This is a lovely ride around the western edge of the Forest of Bowland, following quiet country lanes and enjoying the unspoilt beauty of Grizedale and Bleasdale. Starting from Scorton, a 16th century village lying on the NCN route 6 from Manchester to Lancaster and Keswick, the ride takes in Oakenclough, a small community centred on an old paper mill powered by the river Calder. It then proceeds past Bleasdale - detour up the lane to visit St Fadmers church - and onto Chipping. Spend a while exploring this ancient village and its environs famous for its chairmakers, cheese manufacturer and wild boar park. Continue along through Beacon Fell country park, managed by Lancashire County Council and with magnificent views of the surrounding fells and Ribble Valley.

Public Transport

Nearest railway stations are at Lancaster, and Preston; or Clitheroe and Blackburn for Chipping.

Arriving by car

Scorton is 4km (2 miles) north of the centre of Garstang, just off the A6 midway between Preston and Lancaster. There is no car park in the village so please park at the picnic site.

Route Description

A lovely ride around the western edge of the Forest of Bowland AONB following quiet country lanes and taking in the unspoilt beauty of Grizedale and Bleasdale.

GPS: SD 5055 5035

Turn left out of Scorton picnic site and left onto the main road (signed cycle route 6).

2 GPS: SD 5236 5131

Turn right (signpost Oakenclough and Chipping) follow this road past Grizedale, Oakenclough and Calder Vale, and down to the crossroads.

3 GPS: SD 5507 4463

Turn left (signpost to Longridge, Chipping and Bleasdale).

4 GPS: SD 5746 4413

Turn left at Wickens Lane End (signpost to Chipping).

5 GPS: SD 5815 4382

Carry straight on where the road bends sharp to the right, and along this designated Ouiet Lane.

6 GPS: SD 6155 4392

Turn left.

7 GPS: SD 6103 4409

Take the right fork.

3 GPS: SD 6220 4333

Turn right at the T-junction by the Church (signpost to Garstang) and into the village of Chipping. Stay a while and enjoy the pubs, shop and café clustered in this little village which takes its name from the market it used to host.

9 GPS: SD 6169 4300

Turn left when leaving the village.

(GPS: SD 6009 4175

Turn right (signpost to Bleasdale).

OPS: SD 5928 4258

Go straight on at a 90° bend into Rigg Lane, go up the hill to Beacon Fell.

P GPS: SD 5747 4272

Turn left and follow the one-way road around Beacon Fell to the Visitor Centre (stop for toilets, information and refreshments).

B GPS: SD 5658 4313

Turn left and down the hill (signpost to Preston & Garstang).

GPS: SD 5588 4361

Turn left (sign post to Waddecar, Preston, Garstang and Inglewhite).

(B) GPS: SD 5580 4294

Turn right after 300m and past a farm on the left (White Lee Lane), and down the hill to cross the river:

6 GPS: SD 5313 4375

Turn left (signpost Garstang).

(7) GPS: SD 5192 4351

Turn right into Sandholme Lane and follow the cycle route 6 signs back to Scorton.

(B) GPS: SD 5020 4880

Arrive back in Scorton and explore the village before returning to the picnic site.

Other Information

Beacon Fell Country Park. Quite distinctive location with 185 acres of extensive conifer woods and moorland. Includes a Visitor Centre, café, picnic areas, forest walks and viewpoints.

Chipping. An attractive large village on the slopes above the River Loud. It is famed for its cheese and chairmaking and is a conservation area.

Oakenclough - a small community, spread on either side of the river valley. The village appears to have developed largely as a result of a paper mill being sited here to make use of the waterpower available from the swiftly flowing River Calder.

Scorton - Although it bears an Anglo-Saxon name the village only dates back to 16th century. The name means "farmstead near a ditch or ravine".