

## Leap in the Park: Radholme Circular

Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



### Route Summary

Parking at start point SD 6687 4669 lay-by at Hall Hill. Use of a map for this walk is essential, please use OS Explorer OL41

### Route Overview



Category: Walking  
Length: 9.680 km / 6.05 mi  
Last Modified: 3rd September 2020  
Difficulty: Medium  
Rating: ★★☆☆☆  
Surface: Moderate  
Date Published: 9th April 2019

### Description

The boundary of the deer park at Radholme is just under 10km in perimeter, and we believe that much of the boundary of this was provided by the River Hodder, running between Burholme and Lillyholme. The rest of the boundary was a pale - the bank and ditch which shows up clearly in some places. The pale is likely to have been a wall on the high ground across Burholme Moor, and a fence on the lower lying land between Park Gate and Ing Wood. For further information about A Leap in the Park Project visit [www.forestofbowland.com/aleapinthepark](http://www.forestofbowland.com/aleapinthepark)

The Inn at Whitewell - In the 1300s the Inn at Whitewell was just a small manor house, lived in by the keepers of the Royal Forest. The Royal connection still remains as the Inn forms part of the Duchy of Lancaster Estate. It was not until comparatively recently, during the 1700s that the building was transformed into a resting place where travellers en route to or from Lancaster could safely stay before continuing their perilous journey. Today the Inn at Whitewell is an old fashioned rural Inn, welcoming to all, providing 23 bedrooms and serving fantastic local ingredients, the perfect spot to take a break during your walk. For more information visit [www.innatwhitewell.com](http://www.innatwhitewell.com)

### Waypoints

**1** SD 6687 4669  
(53.91451; -2.50600)

With the lay-by on your left follow the road uphill and take a footpath sign on the right through a metal gate, continue left towards a barn in the distance. Go over the stile in the kissing gate by the barn, and turn left and through the next kissing gate. These metal gates were installed by Matthew Brown, a brewer from Blackburn, who farmed here in the mid 19th Century, you will see more of them during the walk. Follow the path straight ahead, keeping the wall to your left downhill into the farmyard.

## 2 SD 6664 4584

(53.90799; -2.50954)

Pass the farm house, keeping it to your left, and leave the farmyard through the metal gate ahead. Keep straight ahead and then look for a metal gate half way along the right wall. Through the gate and left to the field corner keeping the wall close, then go right at the top and continue to follow the wall, skirting the wood as it bears left and cross the wooden stile in the field corner.

## 3 SD 6669 4538

(53.90359; -2.50858)

You are now leaving the park boundary - look over to the right and you will see the pale snaking across the land towards the River Hodder and we will meet it again at Ings Wood, waypoint 6.

Once over the stile, keep straight ahead and when you reach the telegraph pole near the bottom of the slope begin bearing right to reach a wooden stile at the other side of the field.

Bear right towards the right edge of the field, joining a track (you will join this track just in front of a line of trees).

Continue straight ahead along the tree-lined track to a metal gate at Higher Lees Farm. Continue straight ahead past the farm, then over a stile and follow the right field edge until the path drops into a dip. (SD 6636 4477).

Take care going down, go over the water and back up the other side towards a barn. With the barn on your right continue ahead and then bear left in front of the line of trees down towards the brook, do not cross but go right and over a wooden plank and stile. Once over the stile keep to the left field edge, cut the corner slightly to head for another wooden stile and follow the river edge. Head left and go across the footbridge and up the other side over a wooden stile and onto the road by Middle Lees. Take care on the roadsides, turn right onto the road and then left at the junction and then turn immediately right along the footpath.

## 4 SD 6608 4432

(53.89396; -2.51809)

Continue along a fenced path beside the wood. Go through a gate next to the stream but don't cross it, instead turn left up the hill to a wooden kissing gate in the middle of the fence (not the gate in the right corner) and through the next gate. Continue ahead following the right fence edge, past Lees Cottage and then join the farm access road to the junction. Turn right on the road towards Lower Lees Farm and then turn first left before the barn and continue along a track. This soon becomes a footpath again, follow this to the right field corner and go over a wooden stile. Continue ahead, then bear left to cross a ford in the top left corner and then straight ahead to join another farm road.

### 5 SD 6511 4376

(53.88879; -2.53250)

At this point you can continue straight ahead down the farm road to visit Stakes Farm. From there it is possible to go across stepping stones to join the Leagram Walk or you can retrace your steps and continue on this walk.

### 6 SD 6465 4369

(53.88840; -2.53816)

From Stakes retrace your steps back up to the junction at point 5 (SD 6511 4376). Go back over the stile and take the path to the left which dips downhill. At the bottom of the hill begin bearing right towards a kissing gate in the middle of the fence. Continue straight ahead to a wooden kissing gate, then ahead through a kissing gate and across a stream, and through the next field. Walk uphill along the limestone knots overlooking the River Hodder, keeping the tree to your left (SD 6533 4456) and look across to the Wild Boar Park. Continue straight ahead and between the last two telegraph poles to reach a wooden stile beside the road.

### 7 SD 6582 4518

(53.90177; -2.52146)

Turn left onto the road, taking extra care, and then take a right through a big metal gate opposite (there is a stile but it isn't useable). Notice Matthew Brown's gates: you are now back in the deer park!

Turn left in the field and go through another metal gate, and then continue straight to go through a kissing gate in the wall ahead, slightly to the right. Continue straight ahead climbing and keeping to the right of the field edge. Keep ahead and through a metal gate, then head for a stile in the middle of the field, and then to a final Matthew Brown metal kissing gate. Continue ahead, then turn left through the metal gate and bear right down a grassy track to Seed Hill. By the house join a track to the left and soon after bear left off it to reach a wooden gate and some steps down to the road. Turn left to go downhill to the Inn at Whitewell.

### 8 SD 6591 4688

(53.91646; -2.51864)

On leaving the Inn re-trace your steps uphill past the social club and to the steps and a wooden gate on your right. Go through the gate, up the track and turn right and then left to walk along the back of Seed Hill House. Follow the track between a line of trees and up the hill and through the metal gate.

### 9 SD 6627 4677

(53.91597; -2.51434)

Continue uphill, keeping the knoll to your left and join a rough track to the brow of the hill. Curve around the right side of the knoll noticing the quarrying and large lime kiln on your left. Head through a metal gate which brings you out on to the road, turn left to get back to the lay-by.

