

Wiswell Short

Circular (1hr

30mins)

Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Route Summary

This walk will take you on tarmac tracks, stone paths and through fields. The climb to/from Wiswell Wireless Station is steep in places and can be challenging terrain when wet so please ensure you wear appropriate footwear.

Route Overview



Category: Hiking

Length: 6.000 km / 3.75 mi

Last Modified: 8th October 2020

Difficulty: Medium

Rating: Unrated

Surface: Moderate

Date Published: 8th October 2020

Description

This short circular from Spring Wood offers an alternative hill-walk to Pendle Hill itself. Offering similar panoramic views without the same length and gradient of climb this route offers views of the Pennines, Longridge Fell and down the Ribble Valley. In addition to beginning and ending at the locally well-loved Spring Wood, the circular takes you through the picturesque village of Wiswell.

Wiswell is a small village in the shadow on Pendle Hill, situated in the Ribble Valley. Thought to be named for a nearby old well known as 'Wise Woman's Well' (Wise-well), the village has won numerous awards and boasts a number of listed buildings.

Additionally, the village is home to a Grade II listed monument called 'The Shay Cross' which has links to some bloody local history surrounding John Paslew (the last Abbot of Whaley Abbey), the Pilgrimage of Grace and a rumoured ghost.

Waypoints

Start - SD 74086 36030

(53.81991; -2.39528)

Starting at Spring Wood car park head up the footpath at the southern border of the wood and the northern border of the Golf Club. Continue up Clerk Hill and through the metal kissing gates before joining the track and bearing right along the track, away from the woods to your left. Cross a timber stile and join a small tarmac track which in turn quickly joins Clerk Hill Road. Turn left onto the road and head north-east, passing Bramley Farm on your left; over to the right you'll have a great view of the Pennines on a clear day. Continue along the road until you come to another house on your left; just beyond this you'll see a kissing gate on the left.

Waypoint 1 - SD 75716 37121

(53.82961; -2.37064)

Heading through the gate, double back along the boundary and through a timber field gate straight ahead. Climb the slope ahead towards the old Wiswell Wireless Station and climb the ladder stile in over the dry stone wall. Head down the hill towards a collapsed stone wall and look north-east for a collection of farm buildings. Head towards these buildings along the well-worn footpath across the ridge and descend to Wiswell Eaves Farm.

Waypoint 2 - SD 75288 37760

(53.83552; -2.37697)

Pass through the field gate to the farm and, after passing two buildings, turn left and proceed down the track. This will lead you to Pendleton road. Taking care to watch for vehicle traffic turn left and follow the road to Wiswell. Proceed through the village and keep an eye out on your left for a road called Moor Lane (not Moor Side Lane, which you will pass earlier). Turn left up Moor Lane and begin a gentle climb up the hill and through a gate into a wooded area. Continue up the slope and over a wooden stile and proceed through the field towards another wooded area, Deer Park Wood.

Waypoint 3 - SD 74697 36943

(53.82814; -2.38600)

Enter the woods over the ladder stile and proceed along the newly-renovated track. Cross the shallow stone ford and head through the field gate on the other side. Emerging from the woods, you'll see the slope which you first climbed up from Spring Wood. Head down the hill and re-trace the path down the hill to complete the circular walk.

