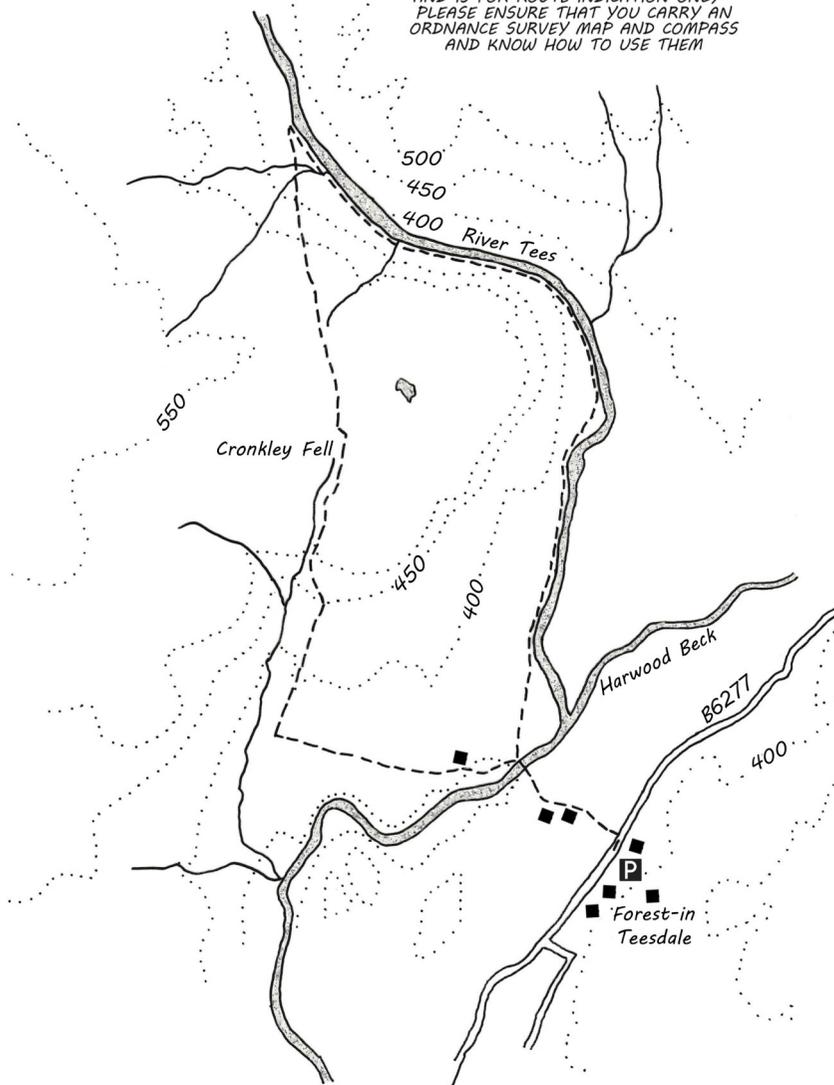


“Cronkley Fell”

NOTE: THIS SKETCH MAP IS NOT TO SCALE
AND IS FOR ROUTE INDICATION ONLY.
PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU CARRY AN
ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP AND COMPASS
AND KNOW HOW TO USE THEM



Cronkley Fell

A circular walk from Forest-in-Teesdale

Terrain: generally good paths which can be wet in places

Start/Finish: Hanging Shaw Picnic Area (NY867298)

Distance: 6½ miles/10.4 Km

Climb: 850 feet/260 metres

Time: allow 3 hours 45 minutes

Maps: Ordnance Survey 1:25K OL31, OS 1:50K Landranger 92

Refreshments: The Langdon Beck Hotel



A strenuous but rewarding walk over Cronkley Fell with great panoramic views of Upper Teesdale from the summit. This walk is best done during the Spring/Summer months when the enclosures are full of the rare flowering plants that make this part of Teesdale so special.

From the car park, head west along the B6277 for a short distance until the track leading to Birk Rigg is reached, cross the road and go along the track towards the buildings. Keep to the right of the buildings to reach a stile beside a stream. Go through this and cross the pasture, keeping left of the barn and then go right through two gates. After the second gate go left and follow the fence, then go downhill and across a boggy section to reach a track. Join the track and walk towards the bridge over the River Tees. Cross this and keep left along the track towards Cronkley Farm, as you reach the farm entrance the path goes right over a stile and behind the barn to reach the foot of a rocky outcrop. Follow the path up through the rocks going right over a stile at the top, then left along a paved section heading for Bracken Rigg.

On the summit of Bracken Rigg, turn right and follow the path heading down to a gate in the corner, go through this and continue in the same direction until a broad grassy track 'The Green Trod' an old drovers road is reached. Go right and follow this as it climbs up Cronkley Fell. As the path steepens keep an eye open over to your left for White Force, a waterfall which is almost hidden from view behind the rocks. Eventually you will reach the first of several fenced enclosures, these are there to stop the sheep/rabbits from damaging the rare alpine plants like the Spring Gentians and Birds Eye Primroses that grow there.

Continue over Cronkley Fell passing more enclosures until White well is reached, this is a natural spring where crystal clear water trickles out from the limestone rocks. There are great views over Cow Green Reservoir towards the distant Cross Fell and the radar station on top of Great Dun Fell. The path now becomes a little boggier as it makes its way to the large cairn at Man Gate, where the descent down to the river begins. At the bottom the path cuts across a very wet section before reaching the banks of the River Tees. Turn right and follow the river downstream to reach a gate, this marks the start of the awkward section beneath the slopes of Raven Scar. There's a bit of boulder hopping and duck boards to negotiate, also if the river was in flood this section could be impassable in places. As you draw level with Widdybank Farm, on the other side of the river another gate is reached and the walking becomes easier again. Continue down stream across several rough pastures until a gate is reached near to a barn, pass to the right of the barn and then keep right across the field heading for a second barn where a track is joined, go left along this to reach a gate beside Cronkley Bridge. Cross this and retrace your outward route back to the car park.

Designed and produced by Gary Richardson
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email: gary@garyrichardson.me tel: 01325 247767/07583 242904