

Trip Report: Dark Peak

Date: 13th September 2025

Group: Jim G, Mike W, David B, Lesley, Ann, Janet

Route: Wyming Brook & Stanage Edge

Total Distance: 11.7 miles

Total Ascent: 1565 ft

Weather: Warm sunny spells, squally wind, brief shower

A small group of five set off in my Tesla, early start at 7.30am. We arranged to meet Janet at the start point, Redmires Reservoir car park. Drive was an uneventful 1hr 45 mins and Janet arrived at the rendezvous right on time.

The walk starts across Hallam Moors before crossing a bridge over a water conduit. The route takes you past a large stone pillar which was used for sighting a tunnel beneath the moors which at 7km long claims to be the longest in England!, it delivers water from Howden Reservoir to a collection tank at the foot of Wyming Brook. Our route proceeds down through the forest until we reach a broad track, turning right we head up to a small car park by Wyming Brook Farm.

We head down the narrow path alongside Wyming Brook, which is crossed several times, maybe one of the prettiest river walks in the country, we stop about halfway down for a well-earned coffee break.

The path continues down to a broad track which we follow until we turn off onto a narrow path through the forest, cross some fields until we emerge onto a well paved tarmac road, we proceed along this for 3km and reach Moscar Cross Farm turning left to descend to the very busy A57.

We cross here and follow the well-marked path towards Stanage End, looking for some shelter from the strong wind for a lunch stop. We eventually find a nice sheltered area where lunch is taken, we are looking nervously at the squally rain showers all around. Sure enough it starts to rain and there is much debate about the donning of waterproof trousers, apart from Janet, who has forgotten hers! We agree that if we put them on it will almost certainly stop raining, we put them on and set off towards High Neb and sure enough after about 10 minutes it stops raining! We can still see it raining in all the hills around but we are spared.

We reach High Neb trig point (458m) where the customary team photo is taken. We continue along Stanage Edge before turning off left onto Long Causeway towards Stanedge Pole. Long Causeway was used to transport goods from Hathersage to South Yorkshire and back, the route was paved with Gritstone slabs along most of its length, most of which are now covered over to protect them.

We reach Stanedge Pole where we stop to remove our waterproofs (faffing as it is generally known) as the warm sunshine is causing overheating problems. We continue down the track to reach the road to return to the car park.

The journey home takes slightly longer at 2 hours but we have our usual rehydration in the Dysart, joined by the usual suspects apart from Colin! (we think about mobilising a search party but CBA)

Jim G