

THE TEESDALE WAY – SECTION 6 (PRE-PUBLICATION INSTRUCTIONS)

Distance: 7 km/4 miles

Start & Finish: Barnard Castle (Demesnes CP) (NZ050160) to Whorlton Bridge (NZ106145)

Elevation: 137 m/111 m/-28 m

Terrain: Flat/undulating through lowland pastures and riverside woodland

Surface: Generally firm with muddy sections (weather dependent) on trails, tracks and road

Exposure: Much of the route is sheltered but the section between Mortham Tower and Whorlton Bridge is quite exposed

Navigation: Navigation is generally distinct. The trail leading off the track shortly before Mortham Tower is indistinct but is way-marked. Way-marking is for 'Teesdale Way' (OS Explorer OL31 & 304)

Facilities: Barnard Castle (); Whorlton []

Comments: This section of the route is relatively short and easy and stays very close to the river until Dairy Bridge before rejoining it at the finish at Whorlton Bridge.

Directions: From the CP head downstream alongside the river and join the track through Demesnes Mill Farm (A) – use the signed walker's gate on the R at the end of the buildings. Continue on the trail alongside the river. Approaching Ullathorne's Mill (B), a ruinous building that is now used for cattle, either pass through the gate and go around it, then bear R on the trail and return to the river at the waterworks (C) OR cross the stile in the fence on the R and continue alongside the river on the R. On reaching a point opposite Egglestone Abbey (D) across the river, continue alongside the river to a stile into the wood (don't bear L uphill). Over the stile, continue through the wood to reach the road over Abbey Bridge (F) via a gap in the wall. Turn R and cross the bridge then immediately turn L and continue downhill on the trail through the woods (descending to the river via a couple of hairpin bends). Continue 1.5 km downstream on the trail alongside the river, over Manyfold Beck and passing through a small wood to reach the road at Rokeby. Turn L and continue 1 km on the access road, past the 'Meeting of the Waters' (H) and over Dairy Bridge (J). Shortly before reaching Mortham Tower (K), turn L off the road at a small fenced-off copse on the L (way-marking is on the fence). Bear L across the field towards the gate in the wall (with its adjacent stone stile). Continue 0.5 km on the trail alongside the fence on the R to the stile. Over the stile, continue into the next field then turn L to follow the field boundary past the wood to the wall. Continue on the trail alongside the wall on the L, past the derelict buildings at West Thorpe and into the next field. Continue to the gate in the wall ahead. Go through the gate and bear L on a faint trail diagonally downhill to a stile in the wall 20 m to the L of a gate. Over the stile, turn R on the road and onto Whorlton Bridge.

