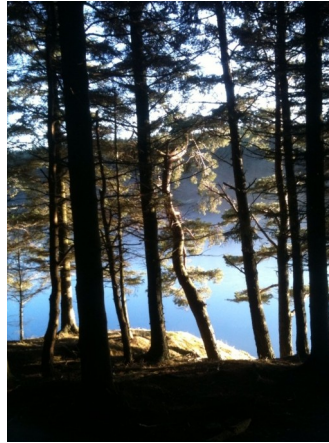


Weardale Lanes



Burnhope Reservoir in winter

This cycle route covers the undiscovered roads of Upper Weardale that run parallel to the main valley road. A good introductory route to cycling in Weardale.

This circuit on quiet roads is quite testing as it takes in a number of short sharp climbs and descents. Avoiding the main road the cyclist gains a different view of the Wear Valley. Discover the small picturesque old lead mining villages and hamlets overlooking the valley and the reservoir at Burnhope.

Undiscovered Weardale 30 miles

- 1 Leaving the Dales Centre at Stanhope turn RIGHT onto the A689 main valley road.
- 2 Turn RIGHT after 0.7 mile to road sign posted Rookhope (*Brandon Walls & Hill Top*)
- 3 After leaving Rookhope village turn left at Lintzgarth Arch
- 4 Stay on local roads climbing over Lintzgarth Common and Middlehope Bank descending Well Bank into the village of New House
- 5 Bear RIGHT at junction then after 100yds take the first RIGHT in New House towards Cowshill
- 6 In Cowshill at junction with main valley road turn RIGHT then after 20yds turn LEFT into Cowshill village
- 7 After 100yds turn sharp LEFT towards Burnhope Reservoir
- 8 At the summit of the climb bear RIGHT along the top of the reservoir and up the sharp climb.
- 9 Dismount and go through the small access gate and over the fell track until the junction of Causeway Bank.
- 10 After going through the large gate turn LEFT down the Causeway into Ireshopeburn
- 11 Turn RIGHT on A689

12 After 50yds turn sharp RIGHT on local road up the short sharp climb, after 200 yds bear left and proceed to the T junction on Harthope Moor.

13 Turn LEFT towards St John's Chapel, at the junction of the A689 in St John's Chapel turn RIGHT towards Daddry Shield.

14 In Daddry Shield turn right towards Brotherlee and continue on local roads to Stanhope.

15 At Junction of A689 turn RIGHT onto main valley road through Stanhope.

16 After Weardale Motors Garage on leaving Stanhope turn RIGHT onto local road

17 Stay on local roads to Frosterley, at T junction turn left to join A689

18 Turn LEFT on main valley road back to Stanhope

The Hills

Brandon Walls & Hill Top

Height approx 1570ft

Length approx 2 miles

Steepest section 1 in 7

After leaving Stanhope there is a right hand turn marked Rookhope. The road climbs steeply from the start over the hills in short sharp climbs to Hill Top before descending into Rookhope.

Middlehope Bank

Height 2000 ft

Length: Quarter of a mile

Steepest section 1 in 4

From the top of Scarsike Head the view of this hill looks really daunting. The climb is short and steep with a section at 1 in 4. A real leg breaker straight after climbing Lintzgarth Common.