

# Goyt Valley 21K

IF YOU DROP OUT AT ANY POINT ALONG THE ROUTE IT IS ESSENTIALLY THAT YOU REPORT TO THE CHURCH SO WE KNOW YOU ARE SAFELY BACK HOME.

## Starts from Taxal Church

Leave the church gate by the toilet and turn left down the road. After 50 yards immediately after the old rectory and opposite the second house on the left turn right onto a footpath marked by a big green sign. Follow this footpath uphill across three fields and over two ladder stiles onto the tarmac road below Taxal Moor.

**(0.6Km)**

Turn left and walk along the road for 130yds and, just before a tree that grows right on the right hand verge, turn off to the right and follow a path going uphill at about 45 degrees to the road.

**(0.8Km)**

Almost as soon as it starts, this path splits into two tracks made by vehicles that are removing the rhododendrons, the footpath is along the uphill side of the lower track.

Follow path uphill bending round to the right between a single tree and a signpost and then curving back as you cross over the hill and come to a stone wall.

**(1.2Km)**

Turn left along the wall. Do not go through the gate or over the stile! Follow the footpath with the wall to your right along the ridge for 700 yards until you go downhill, veer slightly away from the wall you've been following, and meet another track. You need to bear right here and head back towards the wall. Do not cross the wall. Follow it to the corner and climb the stile over the wooden fence into the woods.

**(2Km)**

Follow the path downhill between the wall and a wire fence and continue following the fence when it turns left and away from the wall. After about 300 yards, at the other side of the wood, when you meet another stone wall, turn left over a stile and follow the wall for another 300 yards turning right and uphill for the last 50 yards.

**(2.5Km)**

Turn left after the gate and follow the broad path between the top of Windgather and the fence and continue along as it becomes a path along the wall next to the road. After about one mile you pass a small car park and reach the T road junction at Pym's Chair.

**(4.2Km)**

At the T junction turn left, cross the road and follow it about 100 yards just around the corner where you should find a gate with a signpost to Shining Tor. Go through the gate, and keeping the wall on your right, walk along the track for about two miles.

At times the path is stone slabs and at others it is gravel but it climbs steadily past Pym's Chair, Cats Tor and finally, at its highest point, Shining Tor.

Here it makes a right angled bend to the left and descends down the hill and up the other side to a gate. Go through the gate and turn right, following the sign to the Cat and Fiddle. Follow this track, steadily downwards and through a gate, still signed the Cat and Fiddle to another gate and eventually the main road (Buxton to Macclesfield) and the Cat and Fiddle, which is on the left hand side of the road.

**(9.7Km)**

After the Cat and Fiddle continue along the road for about 250 yards and then leave the main road by taking the fork to the left which is signed Derbyshire Bridge.

**(10Km)**

Follow this single track road down into the valley ignoring the road that comes in on the right hand side and continuing downhill to a junction opposite a small building and car park.

**(11.4Km)**

Keep going downhill by turning left across the cattle grid. You now follow this road downhill for nearly 3 miles to Errwood Reservoir. At the far end of the reservoir turn right off this road onto the road that goes across the dam wall.

**(16Km)**

Follow the road across the dam wall bearing left at the end of the dam. Soon after, as the road bends to the right, there is a track down to the left with a double metal gate for vehicles. Walk around this gate and follow this track down to and then along the edge of the next reservoir (Fernilee) for a little over a mile.

**(18.5Km)**

At the far end of Fernilee reservoir go past a parking area and on past the end of the dam wall. The road is straight for another 100 yards and then bends to the right, at this point you should take the other road with a metal barrier across it that goes downhill and to the left.

Go down this hill, through the water treatment buildings, past the storage tank on your right and then along the marked footpath next to the retaining wall. This gravelled path winds along with the stream on your left hand side. You are going to follow this stream, with it always on your left, all the way back to the ford below Taxal church.

Keep on this track until you come to a fence and gate nearer the stream. Go through the gate and continue across the fields.

You then arrive a field gate and a small gate to the left. Go through the gate and across the field. Do not cross the footbridge over the stream.

Pass through the next gate and then keep the stream on your left as you head for another gate, up a steep incline. Cross the next field, still with the stream on your left and through yet another gate.

Keep on the well defined path as it winds through the woods until you come to the next gate with a ford and large footbridge beyond. Walk over the footbridge then up the steep slope to Taxal Church where soup and sandwiches should await.

**(21Km)**

**Well done! We hope you have enjoyed the walk**