

## Your Adventure Your Way

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Scan to download the app:



YHA Members: Head to the member benefits area at [yha.org.uk/walk-os](https://yha.org.uk/walk-os) to find your discount code for an OS Maps Premium subscription

### Hazards

Some walking on lanes and narrow roads without pavements. May be sheep and cattle on the route. Patches of rocky ground, some cliff edges to be aware of and ground which may be muddy and slippery after rain. Deep water. Do not walk alongside the rivers if they are flooded.

### Accessibility

There are stiles and steps on the route and gates and paths less than one metre wide. Many good paths and tracks, some rough ground with ruts or stones greater than 10cm and some rights of way across fields. Will be muddy in places after rain. There is an alternative climb to the steep path after Ilam Rock at 16 or avoid the ascent altogether by crossing the footbridge at Ilam Rock and returning along Dove Dale.

### Facilities

Café and toilets in Ilam Park. Food and drink available at the Isaak Walton Hotel in Ilam. Toilets, water tap and food van at the Dovedale carpark. Toilets in Milldale and Alstonefield. Seasonal takeaway in Milldale. Pub in Alstonefield.

### Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast and whether there is enough daylight to complete the walk ([metoffice.gov.uk](https://metoffice.gov.uk)).
- Ensure you are wearing suitable clothing and footwear for the route and weather, and that you take the right kit – learn more at [yha.org.uk/walk-skills](https://yha.org.uk/walk-skills).
- Download the OS Maps and what3words apps to your phone.
- To be able to contact emergency services by text visit [relayuk.bt.com/emercencysms](https://relayuk.bt.com/emercencysms) or text 'register' to 999.
- For more information on staying safe in the outdoors visit [adventuresmart.uk](https://adventuresmart.uk).
- Complete a route notification card ([yha.org.uk/route-card](https://yha.org.uk/route-card)) to provide essential information for the Emergency Services if you do not return when expected.
- Check all members of the group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.

### In case of emergency:

- Contact 999 and use OS Maps or what3words to help pinpoint your location.
- To attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash a torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location, number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.

For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to [yha.org.uk/map-guidance](https://yha.org.uk/map-guidance)

If you encounter problems with this route contact [walking@yha.org.uk](mailto:walking@yha.org.uk)

Walking has been at the heart of YHA since 1930, helping people access the great outdoors. Today, YHA continues to make adventures possible with mapped routes and affordable hostel stays across England and Wales. Our hostels are ideal for walkers, with drying rooms, self-catering kitchens, and great trails from the doorstep. We're committed to making adventure accessible to everyone, with walks for all abilities and guided walking events that connect people to nature, heritage, and each other.

Supported by

Share your walks



Produced by Matt Overd (<https://walkingpace.uk>). Contributions from Julia Raksimowicz & Simon Ainley. Designed by HeylinSmith.com. Cover image: david hughes/AdobeStock



# Dove Dale, Wolfscote Dale and Hall Dale walk



200

**YHA Ilam Hall**

Book your stay now [yha.org.uk/stay-200](https://yha.org.uk/stay-200)

### Riverside and dale walk

A great walk through the dales of the White Peak with stunning views, beautiful flora and fauna and interesting caves and rock features.

**Distance:** 14.4 miles (23.1km)

**Ascent:** 570m (1,870ft)

**Time:** Allow 6h 45m to 10h 45m



Challenging

Partnered with





## Route directions

**Map:** OS Explorer 1:25k (OL24) Peak District – White Peak area

**Start/Finish:** Grid ref SK 131 506

**what3words** ///mysteries.approach.snuck

- 1 From the hostel front door turn right and pass the church onto a small road.
- 2 At the gate turn right, walk alongside the village road and turn left at the memorial.
- 3 Turn left onto the footpath signposted Bunster Hill and head up the steps, then follow signs and trodden paths across fields and through trees.
- 4 From the car park follow the road into Dovedale and continue to the stepping stones.
- 5 Cross the stepping stones, turn left and follow the path alongside the river.
- 6 At Milldale cross the bridge and bear right to continue following the river.
- 7 Cross Lode Lane and continue alongside the river.
- 8 At the end of Wolfscote Dale turn left to cross the footbridge and follow the track.
- 9 At the junction turn left and follow the path through fields past How Narrowdale.
- 10 Follow the path around to the right, then turn sharp left to head around Low Plantation and through fields to Alstonefield.
- 11 At the road bear left and take the narrow path on the right just before the toilets.
- 12 At the road turn left, pass the village hall and road junction then bear left onto the track.
- 13 When the track bends to the right continue ahead and through fields. Cross the road at Dale Bottom and continue to the road at Grove Farm.
- 14 At the junction bear left, then turn left onto the track (Pasture Lane). Cross the stile on the right, head across fields and into Hall Dale.
- 15 At the river turn right.
- 16 For Ilam Rock go straight ahead. Turn right after the rock and head very steeply uphill, then follow the path around Dovedale Wood. Or, for an easier path with steps, turn right at the sign to Ilam and pick up the path on the edge of the woods.
- 17 Follow the path around to the right to pass Air Cottage and turn left before Ilamtops Farm.
- 18 Head around to the right of Bunster Hill.
- 19 Take the steps down to the road, then retrace the route to the hostel.

Scan this link to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX

