

# 153 YHA Slaidburn Stocks Reservoir

## Forest and reservoir walk

**Distance:** 11.1 miles (17.8km) **Ascent:** 334m (1,096ft)

**Time:** Allow 4h 30m to 7h 45m

**Map:** OS Explorer 1:25k (OL41) Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale

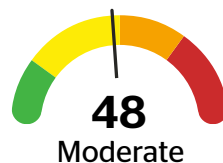
**Start/Finish:** OS Locate SD 711 523 **what3words** ///remove.middle.scorpions

A pleasant walk through farmland and around Stocks Reservoir. Turn right from the hostel and left into The Skaithe. Cross the river and take the footpath on the right, cross the river and continue to Hammerton Hall where there are two gates. Neither are signposted as paths, take the right gate and follow the path to the minor road. Turn left, pass Cocklet Hill picnic spot and take the track on the right. Turn left across the forest to cross the causeway. Pass through Stocks Reservoir Car Park and take the path alongside the reservoir and the River Hodder. Cross the river, head along Copped Hill Clough and turn left towards the reservoir. Follow around the reservoir, cross the dam and bear right to the path at Hammerton Hall. Retrace your steps to Slaidburn.

## Hazards

Caution required on the road sections, with no pavements. Parts of the route are not well walked, signage is poor and there is little or no path to follow in these places. Limited mobile signal.

This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.



## Accessibility

There are stiles on the route, gates and paths less than one metre wide and areas of rough ground. Some of the paths around Gisburn Forest and Stocks reservoir are suitable for some wheelchairs and pushchairs. The café at Gisburn Forest is accessible and has accessible toilets.

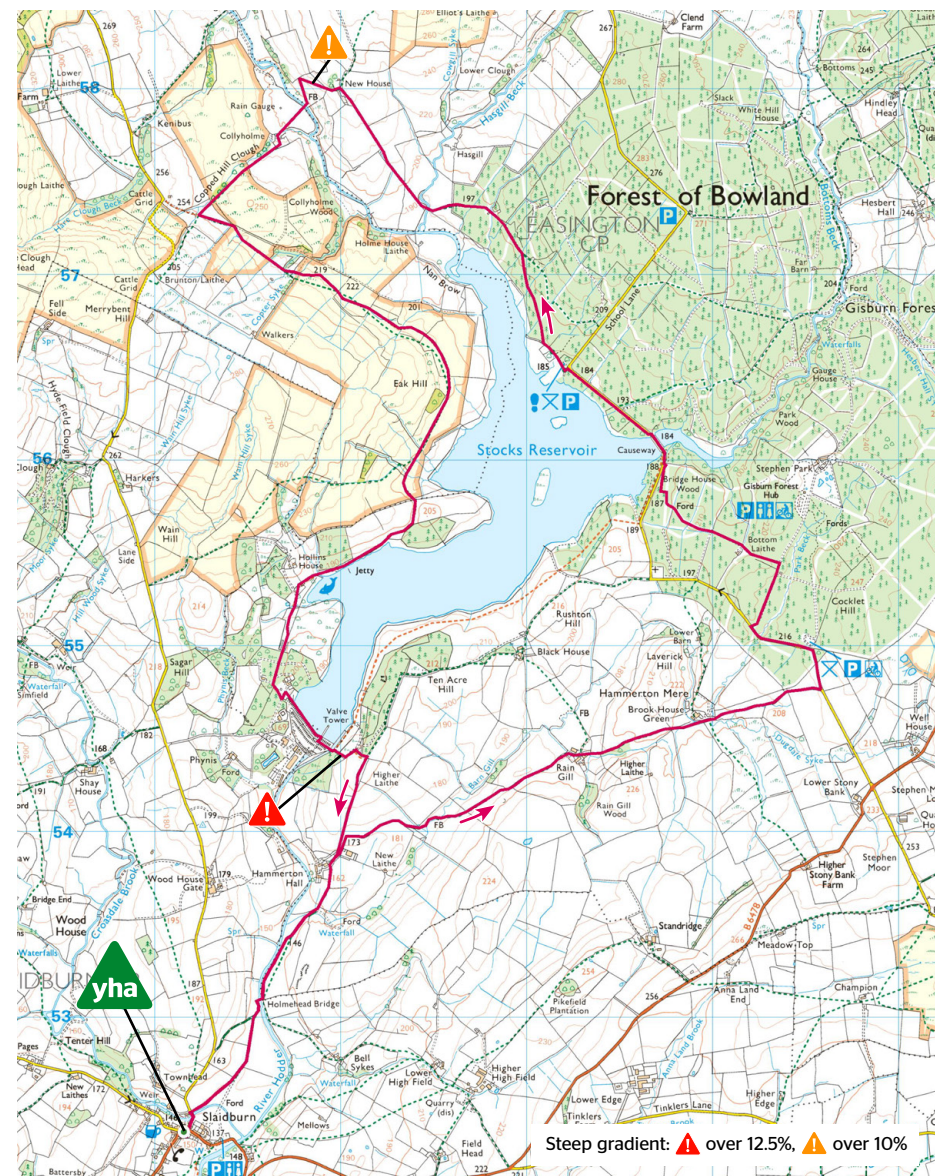
## Points of interest

Gisburn Forest and Stocks Reservoir are part of Forest of Bowland AONB, a protected area with marked trails for walking and cycling. Information board about 'The Lost Village' flooded by the reservoir. Many species of wildfowl and birdwatching hides.

## Facilities

Toilets, shops, food and drink are available in Slaidburn. Picnic spots at Cocklet Hill and Stocks Reservoir. Toilets and café at Gisburn Forest Hub.

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





Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.  
We hope you have a great time.

Walking in the national landscapes of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. With hostels on National Trails, in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, YHA plays a unique role in the nation's walking community.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – an easy, moderate, and more challenging option. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

### Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast ([metoffice.gov.uk](https://www.metoffice.gov.uk)).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes ([tidetimes.org.uk](https://www.tidetimes.org.uk)).
- Get the right clothing, footwear and kit for the route and weather.
- Ensure you have enough time to complete the route before dark.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Contact 999 by SMS text (must pre register by texting 'register' to 999) ([relayuk.bt.com/emercencysms](https://relayuk.bt.com/emercencysms)).
- Plan your walk by completing the YHA route notification card it helps Emergency Services if you get into difficulties or fail to return from your walk when anticipated ([yha.org.uk/route-card](https://yha.org.uk/route-card)).
- Ensure your entire group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.
- For further information on how to stay safe visit [adventuresmart.uk](https://adventuresmart.uk)

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

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



Scan or click to shop  
for OS maps online  
[osmaps.com/yha](https://osmaps.com/yha)

Share your walks



## What to wear

- Base layer and mid layer.
- Walking trousers.
- Warm jacket(s).
- Take extra layer(s).
- Hat, gloves and neck gaiter.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning walking socks.
- Walking shoes or boots.

## Kit

- Map, compass and GPS device or OS Map app on your phone.
- Water, lunch and high energy snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Head torch, spare batteries.
- Watch.
- Whistle and survival bag.
- Rucksack, with waterproof cover or a dry bag or plastic bag inside.
- Medicines or toiletries you would usually use.

## You might also want to take

- Spare socks, hat, gloves.
- Balaclava.
- Leg gaiters.
- Waterproof baseball cap (handy if you wear glasses).
- Walking poles.

- Bivi bag or group shelter.
- Spare food and hot drink.
- Duct tape (handy for fixing things).
- Penknife or multitool.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.
- Plastic bags to take away your rubbish or dog poo.

## In case of emergency

- Call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and ask for the Police.
- Use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.
- If you need to attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash your torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location (grid reference), number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.
- Help could be some time coming so whilst waiting make the casualty comfortable.
- Keep the casualty warm and dry using spare clothing. Use coats or rucksacks to insulate them from the ground.
- Remember the rest of the group could be getting cold whilst waiting. Use an emergency shelter or find a sheltered location.